

Advisory panel

Who is who

Laura McCrorie

Conservation and Biodiversity Manager, North Lanarkshire Council

Specialism

I have worked at North Lanarkshire Council since 2005. Before then I worked as a Biodiversity Officer in Wales. Previous to that I worked in research at the Institute of Zoology in London. My degree is in Conservation Management. My specialisms are in the conservation of priority species and habitats, most of my practical experience of this is in central Scotland. In the development and implementation of projects I will involve the local community as far as possible and find that this makes for a more successful, valuable, and interesting project.

What I will gain from the project

I think I will learn more about other aspects of heritage projects.

What I contribute to the project

I hope to be able to provide project development and implementation and natural heritage input through my experience.

Catherine Mills

Environmental Historian, University of Stirling

Specialism

I am a 'community facing' environmental historian at the University of Stirling with a long standing interest in the history of British mining with a particular emphasis on the social, ecological and cultural values of post extractive landscapes. I am project lead on the Landscape Legacies of Coal initiative. This is an expanding series of co-produced local heritage walks on a free to download mobile phone app that narrate the story of coal and the communities that depended on it through the physical remains of the industry.

What I will gain from the project

Stronger engagement with, and wider knowledge of the mining communities and their local landscapes in the project area. (Hopefully include a local walking route on the app).

What I contribute to the project

I can bring expertise in the history of one of the project areas industries i.e. coal mining both deep and open cast, I have previous experience in engaging community groups and individuals. At a practical level 'doing' historical research, navigating archives/copyright, and using historic maps.

Mike Batley

Development Officer, Green Action Trust

Specialism

25+ years of experience working in North Lanarkshire on environmental regeneration projects, with particular emphasis on the following generic areas of work:

- Project Development
- Community Development
- Vacant and Derelict Land
- Active Travel

What I will gain from the project

- A greater association with NL's rural communities as my work often has a more urban focus
- Developing contacts from within the Advisory Panel and across a range of sectors

What I contribute to the project

- A range of contact points through my own network
- Good analytical skills to ensure project viability and sustainability
- Introduction to Green Action Trust if we can assist with project development or delivery
- A range of environmental project skills to assist with the formulation of ideas
- Good listening skills

Rosie Wylie

Communities Engagement Manager, Historic Environment Scotland

Specialism

- Development of public engagement programmes at a local and national level.
- Collaboration and partnership development within and across sectors.
- Volunteer programme development.
- Event and conference delivery (digital and physical).
- Team leadership and management.
- Cross organisational partnership working.

What I will gain from the project

Part of my role within Historic Environment Scotland is to facilitate ways for HES to support groups and organisations on their journey to build connections and work together when planning and delivering community engagement. By participating on the panel I will be helping to deliver this element of my role for North Lanarkshire rural communities.

What I contribute to the project

I work from an individual and professional values based approach of fairness, openness, respect, adaptability, quality & collaboration. I will engage with an energetic and motivated work ethic and will contribute my experience of delivering local and national community engagement programmes and activities, governance compliance and development of cross organisational and external collaborations to facilitate, promote and enhance engagement.

I am fair, polite, reasonable, open and see opportunity where others may not. I respect the rich experience of others to achieve co-production and partnerships to keep motivations interesting.

Clare Weir

Collections and Exhibitions Manager, North Lanarkshire Council (formally CultureNL)

Specialism

Over 20 years' experience working with museum collections in North Lanarkshire. Areas of focus include public programming, collections development, secure external funding to deliver projects to preserve and make museum collections engaging and accessible to the local community.

What I will gain from the project

Increase our work in the community and engage with new groups and localities. Involving local communities in their heritage is a priority and this is a good opportunity for us to be involved and have a wider impact. Establish new contacts and partnership working with all the benefits it brings.

What I contribute to the project

Offer support and advice, help contribute to delivery of activities and projects, access to specialised training eg. oral history and support of curatorial and exhibitions team.

Weibke McGheer

Archivist, North Lanarkshire Council (formally CultureNL)

Specialism

I have been an archivist since 2001 and the archivist for North Lanarkshire Council since 2004. Through this role I have a very good understanding of where the records of the area of North Lanarkshire are kept.

Having studied history, library & information studies and archive administration I am experienced in historical research, cataloguing and information search and retrieval.

What I will gain from the project

I hope that by connecting to local communities I can improve the visibility of the archive as well as learn more about the history of North Lanarkshire.

What I contribute to the project

I hope I will be able to support the local groups in carrying out research for their projects and point them to suitable collections, archives and other resources. I can also assist with organising archival information collected and offer a home to archives collections if requested.

Judith Bremner

Development Officer, Voluntary Action Network North Lanarkshire

Specialism

22 years' experience working in the community and voluntary sector in North Lanarkshire, starting as admin for Monklands Association for Voluntary service (MAVS) and progressing to Information & Support Officer with CVS North Lanarkshire (CVSNL) and currently Development Officer with the Organisational Development Team in Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) working primarily with community and voluntary groups. Specialisms include Governance, start up, governing documents and legal structure advice and support. I am also the locality link for the community and voluntary sector in Airdrie & Villages and involved in a locality team with colleagues from NLC and NHS Lanarkshire. Also previously involved with a number of projects within VANL including the Independent Examination of Accounts Service, community development projects and currently the Syrian Resettlement Programme.

What I will gain from the project

A better understanding of the needs and aspirations of rural communities in North Lanarkshire and a better understanding of the importance of heritage in these communities.

What I contribute to the project

My local knowledge, due my experience of supporting community and voluntary groups and my locality role.

Community Development and Capacity Building

Experience of working with a range of different communities with different needs.