Potential Shared Learning Project   U3A SEL

We are in an early stage of discussing a potential Shared Learning Project which may come to fruition later in 2025.

For members who are not aware of the concept of Shared Learning Projects it does what it says in the name. In effect a group of U3A members work together to research a project for an external client. The client would normally be a charity that may not have the necessary volunteers to carry out the project themselves. Projects are normally time limited, so they are not a long-term commitment.

We are investigating a possible SLP with the Lewisham Local History Society . The LLHS has a collection of historic artifacts which are currently in storage. These are in a basement in New Cross and are not available to researchers or members of the public. There are a very large number of items ranging from ephemera, packaging, domestic items, books and artifacts found by mudlarks in the river. A virtual cross section of items used in everyday life during the past 200 years. An indication of the size of the project can be gauged by a sub set of the postcard collection that has more than 6,000, items all of which need recording both as to the, the date and the written comments themselves, that are part of the historical record.

Some general photographs of a small part of the collection

The collection is currently being managed by Dr John Price, who with a small group of volunteers are currently working one day a week to record and archive the items and entering them into a database and digital museum, which can be viewed on their website About the Museum – Museum of Everyday Life.

We are looking at the possibility of forming a SLP to tackle one of the collections of objects. The work might involve identifying and researching each object, digitally photographing each item writing up a description to be up loaded to the Museum website. It is early stage yet so we are considering the best way of tackling the project. It might be we form small teams with a variety of skills i.e. photography, computer skills and research experience. If you would like to be kept in touch with the project and feel that you might be interested in taking part contact Roger Mead (rogermead2021@gmail.com)