

Uncovering LETCHWORTH



Uncovering Letchworth was a two-year project run by the Garden City Collection (Letchworth's ACE accredited museum service).

Thanks to a National Lottery Heritage Fund *Dynamic Collections* grant, we began a new, co-creative way of working with our collections, enabling them to be more representative and inclusive of our community.

Our ambition is for everyone in Letchworth to see themselves reflected in the objects we care for, and the stories we share.

Garden City
Collection

Letchworth
Garden City
Heritage Foundation



Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**

COLLECTIONS REVIEW

January - April 2024

We conducted a Collections Review which identified the gaps in our archives, and sought to engage with priority groups and individuals across Letchworth Garden City.



Scan to read the
Collections Review



JUNIOR CURATORS

April - June 2024

We worked with 55 Year 6 students in two schools on the Jackmans estate, exploring their lives in Letchworth, their background and identity and their hopes for the future. Working with our project officer and a local artist, they each curated a mini 'museum of me', handled objects from the museum's collections and produced a 'zine' about themselves.

"Making the **zines** made
me feel happy."

Junior Curators participant



Scan to watch the **Young Curators films**

YOUNG CURATORS

March - June 2025

We recruited a collective of young people representing different life experiences, giving them the skills, knowledge and confidence to each produce a short film about their perspectives on Letchworth Garden City.



"**I feel more connected to Letchworth.** Its more than just a hometown or somewhere I've grown up in, as I've learnt more about the town **I feel really proud to be from Letchworth.**"

Young Curators participant

COMMUNITY CURATORS

March 2024 - July 2025

We pro-actively set about capturing stories which addressed the gaps in our collections, recording interviews and accepting new objects into our museum archives - increasing the diversity and representation of our collections.



"I think there's a **stronger sense of community** here and there's a lot that goes on under the surface.
Letchworth just doesn't shout about it."

Community Curator participant



PUB CHATS

Summer 2025

We spoke to people in Letchworth's pubs, offering them a pint for their perspective on living in the town, past and present. Chatting to artist, Dominic From Luton, people shared powerful stories of growing up in Letchworth, moving here, or their life in the town today.



SALON STORIES

January - April 2024

We went to EV-S Salon on the Jackmans estate, with customers opening up to artist Jenny Ayres, as they had a trim, sharing moving memories about life in Letchworth over the last fifty years or more.

"Those I spoke to clearly **enjoyed sharing their insight** and valued the opportunity **for their stories to be listened to** in a relaxed way, with respect, patience and interest."

Jenny Ayres, Artist Facilitator

OUT & ABOUT



"This is the first time **our community** has really felt part of **the town's life.**"

*Participant from
Hong Kong community*

Our roving Outdoor Museum at Skate Jam on Norton Common, and at the Hong Kong Community's vibrant Lion Dancing event as it opened Letchworth Festival 2025!

Uncovering More of Letchworth...

Thank you to everyone who helped make *Uncovering Letchworth* possible. We've loved capturing and celebrating your stories, and we're excited to do even more.

Heading forward, we're committed to embracing co-creation and putting people at the heart of everything we do. Join us by sharing your story or becoming one of our Community Curators.

Explore more: watch our video, discover stories, and find out how you can get involved by visiting the *Uncovering Letchworth* web page:

discoverletchworth.co.uk/uncovering-leitchworth



Scan to view the
Uncovering Letchworth
web page



Email us: **uncovering@letchworth.com**

  **@uncoveringletchworth** + #uncoveringletchworth

Thank You to the
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Uncovering Letchworth