



LEEDS IRISH HEALTH & HOMES

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Mr Tony Murray  
Smurfit Archive of the Irish in Britain  
University of North London  
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29<sup>th</sup> May 2003

Dear Tony,

My name is Anna Dunne and I am the Communications and Fundraising Officer for Leeds Irish Health and Homes.

I hope you received the last edition of the 'Irish in Leeds' newsletter; I enclose a copy for your records in case you did not. I also enclose a copy of our latest Annual Report.

I am writing to you today with regards to the Leeds Irish Heritage Project that we are developing at the present time. I realise you have already given us a letter of support but thought you might be able to help in sourcing extra funding required.

We have received £43,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a Community Archive documenting the emigration experience of the Irish Community in Leeds, as well as the impact and experiences on their families as second/third generation Irish. The total project costs are approximately £100,000 so we have to find matched funding for this before we can start the project. We already have support from various Irish groups including Harehills Irish Music Project, Leeds Metropolitan Irish Studies Course, Mount St Marys Historical Group and Smurfit Media Archive.

The brief outline of the project is as follows:

This arts project will be split into 3 main areas.

**Children Of Ireland** - This will involve workshops on photography (including digital cameras), creative writing workshops and ultimately the publication of second generation children's own web pages. We will be interacting with children of Irish descent so they can express through a variety of media their experiences of growing up in the Irish culture.

**The older generation** - Through a series of meetings the older generation will be encouraged to express their experiences of emigration to Leeds through creative writing, poetry and song. They will be guided by a Community Worker to record these experiences. Following on from this they will be integral to the making of a photographic portrait of themselves. They will decide how they want to be portrayed and where.

**Exhibition, Book, Website and CD Rom.** – This will be the final stage of the project whereby all the arts based work will be drawn together to produce an exhibition, book, website and interactive CD Rom to be used in schools. Ultimately after exhibiting the work it will be stored in an accessible archive with West Yorkshire Archive Service.

**So what is in it for me I hear you ask?**

If your company decides to sponsor this project numerous advertising opportunities will be made available to you.

- You could choose to sponsor a particular panel of the exhibition that promotes your community aims as an organisation, or agree to have your logo on a sponsor panel at the end of the exhibition. The exhibition will show at various venues around Leeds including Leeds Irish Centre and Leeds Metropolitan University.
- You will be automatically mentioned in any press releases concerning the project.
- Your company logo will be advertised on the website as a sponsor of the project.
- Your company name will be associated with this community project for the foreseeable future, as all the information will be archived as an information resource for future Irish generations.
- You will also receive the chance to include your experience in the exhibition if you would like to do so or contribute old photographs about your company, if applicable.

**What do I need to do next to get involved in this project?**

An ideal partnership would be for 9 key businesses to sponsor the project with £5,000 each. This would then allow the project to go ahead as soon as possible. Alternatively you may be able to support this project in another way.

If you are interested in sponsoring or supporting this project and would like a copy of the full project proposal please contact Anna Dunne at Leeds Irish Health and Homes on 0113 240 1130. Please also contact Anna Dunne if you would like an informal chat about the project.

I am happy to come and visit you at your organisation to discuss the project and your involvement more closely.

I will call you within the next week to talk further about this proposal.

Yours sincerely

*Anna*

Anna Dunne  
Communications and Fundraising Officer  
Leeds Irish Health and Homes