Telling Our Stories, Finding Our Roots

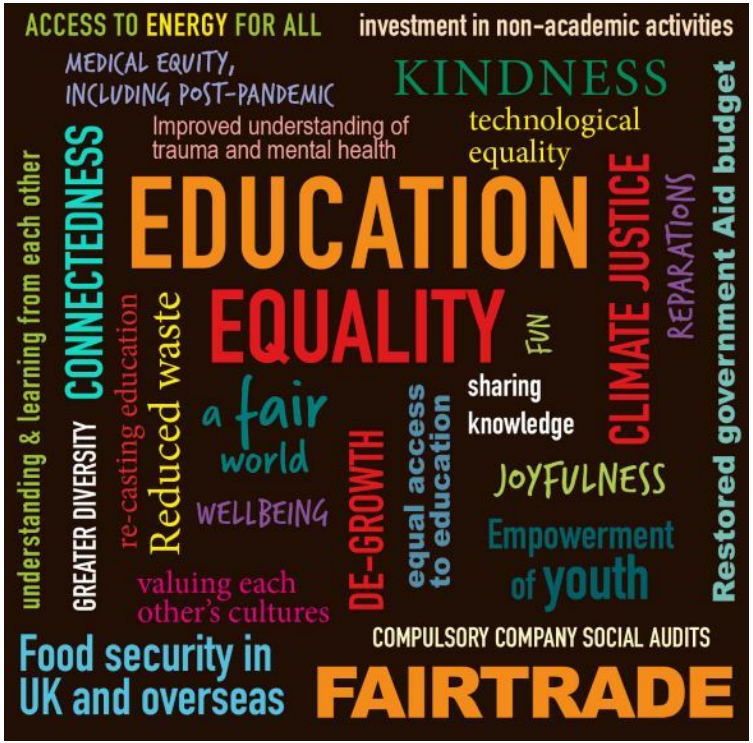
Putting Ilfracombe and its people at the Centre

Image: Ilfracombe Harbour © 2023 Drone Adventure

Devon development education

Who Are We?

- Devon Development Education (DDE) has existed for over 20 years.
- We support local populations, communities and businesses via projects and providing resources.
- We help connect people to previously unknown parts of their culture and local history.
- We help students understand sustainability, wider global events and how they may be impacted by them.
- One of the many aims of the DDE is promote diversity in communities and giving voices to other/minority cultures.



Devon development education

What is the “Telling Our Stories” Project?

- **A Project that focuses on the untold stories of residents, both past and present.**
- **Uses archival research and oral history.**
- **Aims to reveal the diverse history of areas, working alongside teams of volunteers to do so.**
- **Successful past projects were completed in Exeter (2012 - 2013), Bideford (2019 - 2020), Okehampton (2019 - 2020) and Tiverton (2019 - 2020). The current project will be running in Ilfracombe and Honiton.**

Image: "Ilfracombe, Devon, England, ca. 1895" by trialsanderrors is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Devon development education

Why Ilfracombe?
An Example: North Devon Jewish Pioneer Corps

Around 3000 Jewish and Anti-Nazi troops enlisted in the British Army. The majority were sent to Ilfracombe to train.

Many were intellectuals and musicians. They set up a mini university and gave specialist lectures to each other and locals. Amongst them were Martin Freud - eldest son of Sigmund Freud - and Ken Adam, who after the war became a production designer for over 70 films - including 7 James Bond movies.

They formed an army orchestra, putting on concerts and plays around Ilfracombe to the locals and raised over £3000 for the war effort in 1940, the equivalent of around £215,000 today.

Image: 249 Company, Pioneer Corps, Ilfracombe © Courtesy of Dr Helen Fry.

Devon development education

We need your help!

Do you have connections to any of the following groups?

- **Community Groups**
- **Clubs and Societies**
- **Unions**
- **Youth groups**
- **Local Businesses**
- **Immigrant groups**
- **Religious leaders**
- **Schools and colleges**
- **Training organisations**
- **Co-working spaces**
- **Social Media**

Devon development education

Thank you for listening.
Image: Ilfracombe Harbour © 2023 Drone Adventure
Devon development education