ICE COOL: GRIMSBY’S ON THE WATCH

Alongside the CBA’s own nomination, we supported Grimsby Ice Factory’s nomination for the World Monuments Watch: and both have made it!

The Grimsby Ice Factory and Kasbah success gives the CBA an unprecedented amount of involvement in the World Monuments Fund’s heritage list this year, but more importantly, it gives the local group, Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust (GGIFT), an international platform to drive forward regeneration of the once bustling fishery into a new town hub with facilities including a cinema, climbing wall and art gallery.

Advertised as the largest ice factory in the world, the factory once facilitated the freshest fish, but now stands neglected and deteriorating.

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The CBA will host a one-day conference in Spring 2014 and produce a report reviewing current trends and future directions in the development and dissemination of information used to promote understanding and management of the historic environment. The purpose of the event is to consult a wide range of stakeholders to develop a collaborative research agenda and strategy for UK historic environment information management, and to provide on-going support and development opportunities for those seeking to improve their understanding of historic environment information systems and associated technologies. The event will be organised in collaboration with English Heritage, the Forum on Information Standards in Heritage (FISH) and the Historic Environment Information Resource Network (HEIRNET) with support from the IFA Information Management Special Interest Group (IMSIG).

The Grimsby Ice Factory

View from Grimsby Ice Factory towards the Kasbah

INFORMATION STANDARDS EVENT SUCCESS

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Dr Tegwen Roberts

Building blocks for protecting our local heritage

The CBA is launching a groundbreaking new programme to kickstart and support the development of a UK-wide Local Heritage Engagement Network – advocates who can speak up for their historic environment and help to protect it on the ground.

The four-year project, funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, will provide a ‘toolkit’ of guidance and support to help communities understand how to better defend the local services they have, or to find out where they can access local advice where this is lacking.

Dr Tegwen Roberts, the project’s Local Heritage Coordinator, tells us more: ‘The CBA knows from our previous community work that for engagement to be effective, local people need to have access to local advice. They need an understanding of their immediate surroundings and what makes them special, and guidance on working with the local processes that will enable them to best protect their local heritage.

The severe cuts we are seeing in local government mean that there are increasingly fewer specialist archaeology and heritage advisers, and many local authorities have cut their community services altogether. That is why we need to be more proactive, and work with local advocates on the ground.

Through the project, I’m hoping to build connections with local groups and societies, many of whom are organisational members of the CBA, working with the regional CBA Groups network, to make the case for archaeology at the local level.’

Mike Neveill, Chair of CBA North West also believes that local action can make a difference: ‘Without a functioning archaeology planning service, supported by an accessible Historic Environment Record, local buildings and sites can be lost or damaged without any record. In Merseyside both services were closed.

CBA North West has been helping members of the public and local archaeology and history groups concerned about the erosion of their past lobby for their re-instatement. So far this has been successful in re-opening the HER to the public and funding a staff post.’

‘Despite the challenges ahead, local groups and voters can have an impact,’ Tegwen emphasises. ‘By bringing everyone who cares about heritage together we can create stronger support networks for local people. By giving community groups the right building blocks to be successful and sustainable in the long term, they can continue to play a crucial role in caring for and protecting their local heritage assets. To get involved in the project, contact Tegwen at the CBA.'