

 Content archived on 2024-06-18



Britons and their Pasts

Fact Sheet

Project Information

BATP

Grant agreement ID: 205289

Project closed

Start date

1 March 2008

End date

28 February 2010



Funded under

Specific programme "People" implementing the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007 to 2013)

Total cost

€ 50 000,00

EU contribution

€ 50 000,00

Coordinated by

THE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

 United Kingdom

This project is featured in...

**Energy and resources:
alternatives, renewables,
generation,
distribution...efficiency all
the way!**

Objective

This project builds upon international research exploring the ways people connect with the past, for example through family history, hobbies or visits to museums. Based upon a series of national surveys, this previous research showed that family history and museums were identified as the most trusted forms of historical information. However, the methodologies employed in the national surveys limited the extent to which researchers could discover what information about the past participants were receiving from these trusted sources, or the uses to which this information was being put by individuals. Through a random sample of thirty-six in-depth oral history interviews, across three generational cohorts, this project will investigate the ways in which family histories, museum exhibitions and audio-visual media frame popular understandings of the past. The construction of family history in memory, and the role family narrative plays in shaping the individual's 'historical consciousness' - the ways in which the past, present and future are cognitively and symbolically linked - will be a major focus of the project. In a context where history is an integral component of contemporary political debates but adults recall their alienation from history as a subject at school, the wider questions that animate this study are relevant and timely. To what extent do family counter-narratives shape historical consciousness among the population at large, and what role do these counter narratives play in contemporary political perspectives? And secondly, is it possible to build a more participatory historical culture than exists at present, one that attracts popular interest while engaging with the past in a critical and constructive way? This research is intended as a pilot project for a larger national survey and oral history of historical consciousness

Fields of science (EuroSciVoc)

[humanities](#) > [history and archaeology](#) > [history](#)

Keywords

[Humanities](#)

[Oral history](#)

[audio-visual media](#)

[family](#)

[historical consciousness](#)

[memory](#)

[museums](#)

[narrative](#)

[public history](#)

Programme(s)

[FP7-PEOPLE - Specific programme "People" implementing the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities \(2007 to 2013\)](#)

Topic(s)

[PEOPLE-2007-4-3.IRG - Marie Curie Action: "International Reintegration Grants"](#)

Call for proposal

FP7-PEOPLE-2007-4-3-IRG
[See other projects for this call](#)

Funding Scheme

[MC-IRG - International Re-integration Grants \(IRG\)](#)

Coordinator



THE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

EU contribution

€ 50 000,00

Total cost

No data

Address

THE QUEEN'S DRIVE NORTHCOTE HOUSE

EX4 4QJ Exeter

United Kingdom

Region

South West (England) > Devon > Devon CC

Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Links

[Contact the organisation](#)  [Website](#) 

[Participation in EU R&I programmes](#) 

[HORIZON collaboration network](#) 

Last update: 16 July 2019

Permalink: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/205289>

European Union, 2025