

# STORYTELLING WITH A TWIST

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## CREATIVE REMINISCENCE COLLECTION

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Denise Fox, joined Caroline Twist, founder of 'Storytelling with a Twist', to declare a new Creative Reminiscence Collection "Open!" This collection comprises of ten themed topics boxes of objects from the 1940s and 50s. It has been designed as a lending library for care homes to promote discussion.



Caroline Twist with The Lord Mayor of Sheffield at Montgomery Theatre where the new collection is housed.

## NEWS

At the January event at Montgomery Theatre, Winston Churchill Fellow Caroline Twist marked the opening of the collection in true Churchillian style with a Champagne toast. She also launched her national project 'Stories from a Small Island'.

This new venture, inspired by her Travelling Fellowship project (in which she travelled around the world with her teapot to chat with artists and creative care homes in Europe and South America) will introduce artists to care home settings through the medium of storytelling cafes.

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***“The completion of this creative reminiscence collection for the people of Sheffield, is a marker point in my creative journey to improve care homes in the UK through storytelling and art.”***

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A pilot of the project took place in December 2016 linking a local Sheffield painter, Shirley Miller, with Hallamshire House Care Home in Broomhall. Shirley is in the process of finishing a painting inspired by the stories she heard from the elders, which will be the first piece of many works of art made for the project.



Caroline wants this grass roots project to develop organically, as more organisations and artists hear about the project and get involved. She believes that the best projects are built on the firm foundation of tea and cake, and so will have a ready supply for her UK tour. If you would like to be a volunteer your time as an artist, care organisation or cake baker on the tour then she would love to hear from you...



*The Lord Mayor's Consort, Terry Fox, giving a speech on behalf of the City of Sheffield at the opening ceremony.*

**'WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET, BUT WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE' SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL**

## **MONTGOMERY THEATRE LENDING LIBRARY**

**Montgomery Theatre is located on Surrey Street, next to the town hall, in the heart of Sheffield. It can be accessed Monday to Friday between 9am-4pm. To reserve a box from the collection you can ring 0114 272 0455.**

The themed boxes in the collection are: Women's Beauty; Men's Grooming; Smoking; Films and Music; Wash Day; Childhood Pastimes; Make Do and Mend; Cooking and Rationing; Medicine; Courting and Marriage.

To access this free lending library, care homes and organisations need to become a member of the Montgomery Theatre. This is £20 per organisation, (two named people) and then £5 for every added named person. This fee covers the admin time taken by the theatre to house the resource.

### **Thank You**

**This reminiscence collection has been compiled from donations from many Sheffield families and The Sheffield Heritage Centre. It is a collection FROM the people of Sheffield, FOR the people of Sheffield. This is which makes it a uniquely special resource.**

## **Contact Us**

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## **OTHER NEWS**

**Twinkl** celebrated their 'Elderly Care Resource' 1<sup>st</sup> birthday at the opening. Twinkl is a Sheffield based international online educational resource company. They believe in transforming lives through beautiful design. Caroline has been working with Twinkl to produce an online reminiscence resource based on the collection containing quotes from Sheffield people about the objects and prompt questions.

They awarded thirteen Champion Care Homes in Sheffield with a yearly Twinkl subscription, certificate and travel mug. The care company Sheffcare, was amongst these and has been recognised for its outstanding commitment to providing stimulating and meaningful activities to residents in their care. To find out more about a Twinkl subscription for your care home, visit **[www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk)**



**The Story Retold** spiritual wellbeing project also celebrated its 1<sup>st</sup> year birthday at the event. This project has been set up to look at the ways 'Godly Play', a method of Christian storytelling, can be used to support care home elders in their spirituality. Rev Jeremy Clines, Sheffield University Chaplain and project leader, attended the event and gave a blessing over all the work that is happening to support care homes in Sheffield. To find out more info, visit **[www.godlyplaymutualblessings.wordpress.com](http://www.godlyplaymutualblessings.wordpress.com)**