

# CONNECTINGHISTORIES

## *Information*

### **Learning**

**In this section of the website you will find five learning packages which include materials from the archive and local studies collections at Birmingham Central Library and occasionally elsewhere. The information in these packages is aimed at the general researcher who may not have undertaken much archival research before. The aim is to introduce a wide range of archival sources and discuss some of the issues and skills involved in doing historical research. The different packages are intended as a starting point and we hope that they will encourage and inspire you to visit archive offices and to undertake your own research.**

The histories of Birmingham's various communities include many silenced voices and untold stories. The collections at Birmingham Central Library hold a wealth of documents, photographs, oral history recordings and other sources which can be used to uncover these histories. What we have included in the learning packages is only a very small selection of the available materials. Similarly the case studies and themes covered here are merely a beginning, a few examples of the many histories and the variety of subjects that can be researched, which remain to be uncovered and told.

Accompanying the selection of documents you will find our commentaries and interpretations of the sources and the stories that they tell. These pieces of writing are only our interpretation, one possible way of understanding the material and telling the story. There are of course many potential interpretations and yours may well be different. To accompany the packages therefore we have provided a notepad which we hope you will use to make your own notes and write your own commentaries on the materials and themes that you find here.

***We would be pleased to receive your comments and to hear about your own research and any discoveries that you make and would like to share with others via this website. Please use the 'contact us' page to get in touch.***