

## U3A Shared Learning Project at the British Postal Museum & Archive (BPMA)

<b>Shared learning project:</b>	Researcher – Hidden Heroes of the Postal Service
<b>Purpose:</b>	The BPMA is opening a new museum in 2016. In this exciting venue we want to tell the fascinating stories of the hidden heroes and heroines who worked for the postal service. The aim of this project is to conduct research to find out real people’s stories. Your research will help the BPMA and visitors to understand the remarkable contribution made by individual workers to the Post Office. The research will also be used by costumed actors to bring these people to life in the new museum.
<b>Description:</b>	You will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a range of research skills; including archive record research, internet research and museum collection research</li> <li>• Find out about a key individual who made a remarkable contribution to the postal service</li> <li>• Find out the kind of stories and historical information a museum costumed actor tells during a performance – through visiting another museum and seeing an actor in action</li> <li>• Learn how to find links between your individual’s story and museum objects and how to use these objects to tell the story of your individual</li> </ul>
<b>Reports to:</b>	Alan Clayden (U3A Coordinator) and Hannah Clipson (Community Learning Officer)
<b>Where:</b>	British Postal Museum & Archive (occasional off-site visits, at no extra cost)
<b>When:</b>	January – April 2014
<b>Duration:</b>	Formal meeting once a fortnight on a Monday commencing 13 <sup>th</sup> January and finishing on 14 <sup>th</sup> April when the findings will be presented.
<b>Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An ability to commit to a 13 week programme, volunteering once a fortnight (essential)</li> <li>• An interest in conducting research</li> <li>• Creativity and enthusiasm</li> </ul>
<b>Commitment to you:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will provide training in how to use the archive</li> <li>• We will provide guidance on how to find links between your individual and the museum objects</li> <li>• We will arrange off-site visits (at no extra cost to you) to inspire you and to give you ideas</li> <li>• We will provide light refreshments at the fortnightly meetings</li> </ul>
<b>What’s in it for you:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand the roles of key individuals in the postal service</li> <li>• To play a part in the development of a new museum</li> <li>• To provide stories and information about a key individual for use by a costumed actor</li> </ul>
<b>Why we want to work with you:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To discover personal stories that will help inspire BPMA visitors</li> <li>• To develop our understanding of the roles of individuals in the postal service</li> </ul>
<b>More information/application form:</b>	Alan Clayden contact on <a href="mailto:alanclayden@ymail.com">alanclayden@ymail.com</a>
<b>Application form return date:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2013

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