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## Introduction

### Welcome to the Everywhere in Chains Community Heritage Toolkit.



This toolkit is designed to help and inspire individuals, groups and organisations to work with culture and heritage providers to undertake a wide range of projects focussing on the role of Wales in the transatlantic slave trade and the current issues of exploitation and trafficking.

During the period 2006 to 2008 Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales and our project partners were involved in a multi-faceted project entitled Everywhere in Chains.

This toolkit is based on the experience gained by a range of people who were involved in different aspects of the project. These included an exhibition about Wales's role in enslavement through the ages, lectures, formal learning activities, performances, and an extensive community project.

In 2007 The Everywhere in Chains Community Project was set up as an open forum. Participants from many different cultural backgrounds used this forum to voice their opinions, thoughts and ideas about the enslavement of African people and explored how the legacies still affect us all today.

Much of the material found within this toolkit is drawn from the community project.

It shares key issues, community feedback, challenges and achievements of the community project.

We hope this toolkit will also inspire individuals, groups and organisations to link with culture and heritage providers to develop other kinds of community projects, working together to create innovative, fun and educational heritage activities.

#### Use this toolkit for:

- Advice
- Insight
- Guidance
- Inspiration
- Useful checklists, resources and contacts



#### We would love to hear from you

If you require additional help or information about using this toolkit, or you would like to discuss other issues regarding community heritage and engagement please do not hesitate to contact the Learning Team at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea, on **01792 638950** or email **waterfront@museumwales.ac.uk**.

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## Finding Your Way Around the Toolkit

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This disk contains both HTML content for use on your computer and DVD content that will work in your DVD player.

To use the toolkit most effectively you will need a Personal Computer or a Macintosh with internet Browser (e.g. Internet Explorer), Windows Media Player and Adobe Acrobat installed.

When you insert the DVD into your computer, the disk will try to open the toolkit automatically. You may be asked what operation you would like the disk to perform, choose Autoplay to access the full HTML toolkit, or "Play DVD Movie" to watch the DVD video content. If the Toolkit starts in DVD mode on your personal computer, shut down the CD, and click on to My Computer, EICCP disk and then Autorun.

Adobe Acrobat can be downloaded for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>. Windows Media Player and Internet Explorer can both be downloaded from <http://www.microsoft.com>

The toolkit is divided into seven sections which are colour coded to enable you to find a particular section with ease. Each section contains links to downloadable documents with further information.

## Section 1 - Background

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This section includes the introduction and background to the Everywhere in Chains Community Project and the reasons for building this toolkit.

## Section 2 – How We Did It

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This section illustrates the findings of the Everywhere in Chains Community project and highlights the learning outcomes and benefits.



## Section 3 – Project Guidance



This section contains information to assist individuals or groups in developing ideas for the first time. The checklists are based on lessons learnt from the community project, how to avoid pitfalls and things to remember to make your activity run smoothly.

## Section 4 – Making the Most of Resources

This section will help with developing your information sources and networks. Information on heritage related websites and organisations who can provide practical support, advice and guidance is also included.



## Section 5 - Compiling a toolkit for a Community-led Project



This section contains the toolkit case study, checklist, activity sheets, in the form of evaluation questionnaires and workshop activity sheets which can be adapted for your own purposes.

## Section 6 - Gallery of Images

This section contains images of objects related to slavery, from the collections of Amgueddfa Cymru, Newport Museum and Swansea Museum, as well as photographs and drawings that illustrate activities and findings from the Everywhere in Chains Community Project.



## Section 7 - Exhibition Panels



This section contains images of the twenty one panel exhibition created for display at the National Waterfront Museum; and the five panel community project exhibition that toured around venues in Wales and beyond.

## Foreword

Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales was a key participant in the many initiatives that commemorated the bicentenary of the Slave Trade Abolition Act in 2007. It was important to us that there should be a legacy from all the work created during the year.

The Museum cares for collections on behalf of all people who live in Wales, and we felt that it was important to see if some of these objects could be used to help explain Wales's role in the transatlantic slave trade and its abolition. During the project an immense range of skills and knowledge were shared between museums across South Wales and a wide variety of groups and individuals from the community. Amgueddfa Cymru staff were delighted to lead and facilitate this partnership initiative. In workshops, artefacts from the permanent displays and the study collections were seen in a new light through in-depth interpretation and analysis as the participants re-interpreted the objects in light of their own experiences.

Perhaps most important for us was the strong commitment by Amgueddfa Cymru staff to creating a programme that could work with the widest possible audience in the exploration of this compelling topic. We engaged with many people from different cultural backgrounds, some of whom had never been to a museum before, and this engagement was fundamental to the Community Heritage project. Feedback from participants has influenced the working practice of this Museum and its project partners, especially in the field of community and public engagement. Strong working partnerships have been forged and we hope these can be sustained and developed further.

Within this toolkit, you will find an immense amount of information; examples of good practice and stimulating ideas for further work in a highly digestible form. This material has been tried and tested in the exhibitions, lectures, creative activities and events that made up Amgueddfa Cymru's Everywhere in Chains programme.

I am sure that the toolkit will inspire new work in the areas of heritage and community identity, and in this way reinforce the legacy of both our 2007 commemorations and the celebration of one of the most important acts of Parliament.

**Michael Houlihan**  
**Director General, Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales**

## A message of support from the Minister for Heritage

2007 marked the bi-centenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, a moment which brought an end to this horrific practice in the British Empire. It presented heritage organisations in the UK with the significant challenge of interpreting one of the darkest eras of our history.

The result in Wales was a powerful exhibition and programme of events at the youngest of our national museums. The exhibition at the National Waterfront Museum explored the reality of the relationship between our industrial heritage and slavery, and prompted visitors to think about modern forms of enslavement, similarly tied up with the workings of our modern global economy.

Importantly though, the project has not ended there. Smaller versions of the thought provoking exhibition are touring the country until 2009 and the community project has taken the discussion out to community groups, creating a real dialogue about the legacy of African enslavement and engaging people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

This project, which was developed by a group of institutions working closely together, has demonstrated the value that is to be gained from a partnership approach, and I am very pleased that the Welsh Assembly Government was able to play an active role. Everywhere in Chains is also an excellent example of how taking the museum out to communities brings benefits for all involved – providing new perspectives for staff and the public alike.

This toolkit captures the learning from this exciting community project. I hope you find the information both useful and inspiring for your own work in this area.

**Alun Ffred Jones AM**  
**Minister for Heritage**  
**Welsh Assembly Government**

## **A Message of Support from the Heritage Lottery**

I am delighted to have been asked to provide a foreword for this toolkit, which is the culmination of experience gained by the staff of Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum of Wales during the Everywhere in Chains project which was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Within, is a wide range of material aimed at those interested in organising their own heritage related activity, project or event concerned in some way with the issues of slavery and Welsh society, African or African Caribbean Heritage.

This is a fitting time for such as a toolkit to be prepared. We have just commemorated the bicentenary of the Act of Parliament which abolished the trading of African People within the British Empire which marked the starting point in the lead up to the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833.

Reflecting on the material contained within this toolkit compels us to re-assess the history of the period, and enhances our understanding of the links with contemporary British society and prosperity. There are signs of this history and its impact in many areas of our heritage, including objects in museums, papers and photographs in archives and libraries, and places in the built and rural landscape.

HLF have made over 40 awards with a total value of over £10million to projects that are related to the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade and the slave trade generally. This includes a grant of £1.5 million to National Museums Liverpool to establish the National Centre for the Understanding of Transatlantic Slavery and £800,00 to the Wilberforce House Museum. As with all our grant giving, our aim in supporting these projects is that present and future generations will learn from the experience of the past.

**Dan Clayton-Jones**  
**Heritage Lottery Fund.**