



PRESS RELEASE

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Underpasses: connecting people, connecting places, project

On the Verge's printed two Children's publications for the MK50

On the Verge have worked with writer Rachel Barnett, illustrator Sian Sharp and graphic designer Daniel Chehade to produce two children's publications to show the fascinating story of how Milton Keynes has developed over the last 50 years and before, to celebrate the New Town's 50th Anniversary

The urban history of Milton Keynes may be relatively young, but all of the urban features which are part of the original design are what give Milton Keynes its character and the publications hope to demonstrate this to the next generation by giving them the history of their town in one place, highlighting how unique a place it is!

As Milton Keynes continues to grow, the history of the new town is vitally important to be documented as it is the heritage of the future. The urban design is what makes Milton Keynes the town it is, and everyday features such as underpasses, roundabouts, redways, port cochere as well as the original buildings are all part of what makes it function and unique. OTV hope to bring communities together in their MK identity and celebrate the unique place they live in.

The publications are aimed at two age groups '*Travelling in Time* - Age 5-11 (KS1/2) and '*MY MK*'- Age 12-18 (KS3/4). Both tell the story of MK in a unique way, using research undertaken as part of the Underpasses project and the iRemember events with the communities surrounding CMK.

'MY MK' is in zine format documenting the story of an archaeologist digging as MK is being built and will link into OTV's heritage App which is currently under construction, and will be a chance to walk around MK and hear this story and see it in the flesh.

The two publications printed will be handed out to 6 local infant and primary schools in the estates participating in the underpasses project: Conniburrow, Downs Barn and Fishermead, Oldbrook. The publications are now available from public and school libraries. OTV is now looking for funding for a reprint of the publications as there has been such a positive response to them.

The project has been made possible by a Heritage Lottery fund grant, funding from MK community Foundation as well as support from Project Partners, MK Council, Parks Trust, MK City Discovery Centre.

For further information images and interviews please contact either
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Notes to Editors

On the Verge and its partners MK Council, The Parks Trust MK and the MK City Discovery Centre, are delivering the yearlong ‘Underpasses’ project with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the MK Community Foundation and MK Council. On the Verge is a Community Interest Company.

On the Verge has been awarded an ‘Our Heritage’ grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the ‘*Underpasses connecting people, connecting places*’, which will see a series of heritage and cultural events taking place in 4 communities in Milton Keynes designed to explore its heritage and unique system of underpasses. On the Verge will be working with partners and artists to deliver a series of community engagement events to uncover local history, collecting artistic responses and oral histories. Artwork for two underpasses, a heritage trail and series of exhibitions and publications will be created through the project, culminating in a celebration event this year marking Milton Keynes’ 50th Anniversary.

For further information images and interviews please contact either
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The Underpasses project is supported by: The Heritage Lottery Fund, Milton Keynes Community Foundation, and Milton Keynes Council and delivered in partnership with The Parks Trust MK, MK City Discovery Centre, and MK Council

