How Stockton-on-Tees' award winning



Artist Andrew McKeown created the mosaic with heritage volunteers from Stockton-on-Tees.

This townscape heritage project involved local people in creating a mosaic that recognised our grant and reflected a historic building's many uses over the centuries.

Acknowledgement is an essential part of how projects we fund recognise National Lottery players, whose support makes their grants possible. Projects use our acknowledgement stamp on physical and digital project outputs, install creative permanent acknowledgement and, for some large projects, name spaces in their buildings after us.

Stockton Northern Gateway Townscape Heritage Project won our acknowledgement awards this year for a functional and eye-catching mosaic in a high street building's doorway.

Watch the film to see how Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's approach to creating the mosaic connected people with the town centre's past.

Remote video URL

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Volunteers and an artist created the mosaic in workshops

Artist Andrew McKeown led mosaic-making workshops over seven months that involved 25 heritage volunteers and stakeholders. He says: “Most of the projects I do, the ideas stem from working with the public.”

Together the group researched, planned, designed and created the mosaic, raising awareness of the town centre’s past and building participants’ skills and confidence.

10-12 Norton Road has had many uses over the centuries as a school, a music shop, a dance studio and a tailor's shop, and the mosaic represents this history.

Martin, a heritage volunteer on the project, explains in the film how the mosaic gets people talking about Stockton's past: “When you have a project which creates an actual physical object that people are going to cross over, some of them are going to say ‘What’s that? Why are there scissors on there?’ They’re going to ask questions. So projects like this allow history and heritage to come alive again, for now and in the future.”

The judges praised creativity, community involvement and sense of place

Sarah Britton, Brand and Design Manager at The National Lottery Heritage Fund, says: “The acknowledgement here really stood out. It was created with volunteers, who did research into the heritage of the local area, and that was reflected in the mosaic. They also used a heritage craft, mosaic, to produce the acknowledgement. It really feels like part of Stockton and it feels like it’s always been there.”

Our judges were impressed by how the project combined creativity, community involvement and a strong connection to place in its acknowledgement. The mosaic creates a lasting public reminder of the project while celebrating the history of the local area.



As part of creating the mosaic's design the heritage volunteers learned about the high street building's uses over time, including as a record shop.

Community events and historic building repairs revived Stockton’s historic high street

The mosaic was created as part of a much larger townscape heritage project, a five-year, £2.9million scheme jointly funded by the Heritage Fund and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.

The project improved the historic northern end of Stockton High Street by assessing the condition of historic buildings and undertaking repairs to conserve properties and public spaces. Activities and events included an archaeological dig, postcards recording memories of the town centre and a heritage day with demonstrations of traditional crafts like sign-writing and stonemasonry.

In the film Councillor Paul Rowling, Cabinet Member for Resources and Regeneration at Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, says: “It’s been really good to see people having pride in their town, and also pride in the town’s heritage. If we’re going to bring the town centre into the future, we need to bring the past along with us. Local people were very much involved with [creating the mosaic] and it’s been really exciting because we’ve got their interpretation of things as well, their buy-in.”

How to acknowledge your National Lottery funding

Every project we fund should acknowledge our support and thank the National Lottery players who make our funding possible. Download our acknowledgement toolkit to get started.

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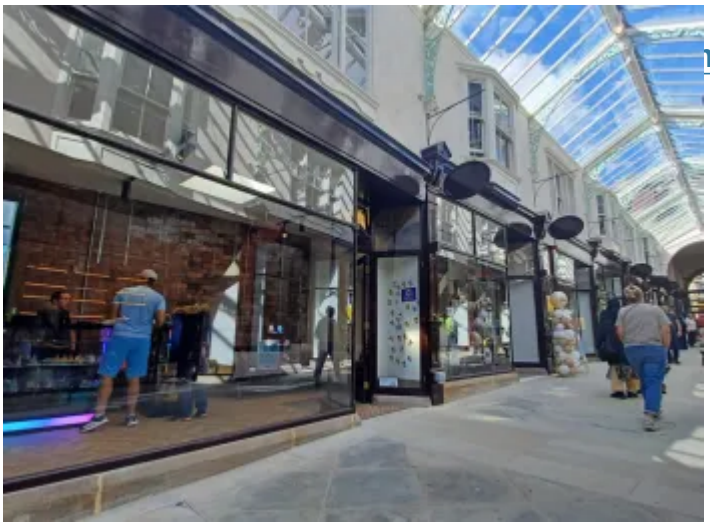


Acknowledgement mosaic, Stockton Northern Gateway Townscape Heritage Project. Credit: Stockton Borough Council.



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Creative acknowledgement at St Mary's, Shrewsbury.



nent competition

The historic shopfronts and glazed roof have been restored and a range of independent businesses occupy the units, with more coming soon. Credit: Kirklees Council.

Reopening Dewsbury Arcade as the UK’s first community-run shopping centre