

Devon Libraries

Reminiscence resources

Factsheet 32

Why use reminiscence resources?

Reminiscence work can be used as a means of therapy to stimulate the mind. It is an enjoyable and controlled way of visiting the past which can arouse the imagination and stimulate conversation and bring feelings of wellbeing as people explore their memory and share their thoughts.

What does the library service offer?

Devon Libraries offer a range of material for loan to those who work or live with and care for individuals or groups of people who are frail or elderly. If you are interested in reminiscence work as a means of individual therapy, or to help with reminiscence sessions or work at your Memory Café, then this service is for you.

What does the collection include?

Our reminiscence items are written or designed by experts from the caring profession who are fully conversant with the specific needs of people with memory loss.

The collection includes books, flash and “colour” cards, tactile materials, cassettes / CDs, games and activities, and videos / DVDs. Items can be used with individuals or with groups of people.

Examples include:

- Chair-based activities with music
- Musical quizzes
- Sounds nostalgic: Radio theme tunes from the 40s & 50s
- Low vision playing cards
- Musical bingo
- Smells box
- Table top skittles
- Glenferrie reminiscence collection – tactile activities
- Reminiscence toy box
- Song books
- Documents relating to life in Britain 1939-1945
- Videos and DVDs such as “War Women of Britain”

How can I borrow reminiscence material?

We will give you a special library ticket to borrow this material. You can have up to four items at a time and you can order and collect them from your local library.

Unfortunately it is not possible to search our catalogue for reminiscence items, but if you ask in your local library or contact us via the details in the box below, we can send you a list of current titles.

While we cannot guarantee that any particular item will be available immediately, we will do our best to send you what you want as quickly as we can.

Contact details

Address: Devon Libraries
Headquarters
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton
Exeter
EX2 7NL

Phone: 01392 384315

Fax: 01392 384316

Email: devlibs@devon.gov.uk

Different formats

If you would like a summary of this in a different format such as large print, Braille or tape, or in a different language, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk

Last updated November 2010