

Glamorous...Gorgeous...Gifted

# \*Girls\*

ON FILM

“teenaged, female and alive in Nelson”



*the making of*

**GIRLS ON FILM**

glamorous  
intelligent  
reliable  
likeable  
silly  
ongoing  
notorious  
funny  
irresistible  
lovely  
mutual



# Contents

- 2 Contents. Timeline
- 3 Recipe for a project
- 4 Interview with Mandy
- 5 The Great Beginning
- 6 Who's your inner girl?
- 7 Interview with Sam and Mash
- 8 Girls on Film
- 10 Interview with Marie and Julie
- 11 Composite Girls on Film
- 12 The Calendar launch party
- 13 Girls view of a project
- 14 Dear Marie - Problem page
- 15 We're Famous
- 16 Partners Info

Hi guys...

Pretty soon you'll be wondering, why arts? Why writing? Why photography? Why bother making a calendar or a magazine or whatever?

Because it's beautiful and useful.

Because if you've got something to say writing and photography or whatever can be the way to say it.

Why bring a group of girls together to be creative?

Because Nelson is more than a sum of its parts, because we have differences and we have similarities, because the girls are who they are and because what they have to say is worth hearing.

Because the arts gave this group a forum and a framework to make their mark. Because these girls, like all young people, have their own unique view of the world...

And because, in the end, they wanted to show you how they did it, and encourage you to have a go too....

Mandy

## Timeline

### March 2002

Julie from The Prince's Trust and Marie from the 5 Wards Arts and Cultural Project meet for the first time and discuss possibilities for partnership projects.

### April 2002

Samina Kauser brings together a group of girls from Ghausia Girls High School for a consultation session about doing an arts project.

### May 2002

Mandy Precious is brought in to work on project at Ghausia Girls High School.

### June - July 2002

Drama project run in the high school by Mandy Precious supported by Marie, Julie and Samina.

### July 2002

At the evaluation of the drama project it is decided to bring together another girls group from 2 other schools in Nelson to use the arts to explore themes about their lives. Walton High and Edge End are decided on and Mash is contacted to become a partner.

### August 2002

The planning begins!

### 25th September 2002

The girls come together for the first time at Walton High School! The partners explain the outline of the project and ask the girls for their opinions and suggestions!

### 25th October 2002

Creative sessions begin with the artist. First Session (an all day one!) at Whitefield Community Centre with Mandy Precious. The group play ice breaker and writing games and begin to explore some of the issues. Girls talk about formulating photographs, images and how words might work in tandem with these. Editing process begins.

### Thursday 31st October - Thursday 12th December 2002

The girls meet every Thursday evening after school either at Walton or Edge End and work on material for the calendar. They are given disposable cameras and asked to take a roll of film about their lives. They write poetry and creative writing to accompany their chosen photographs for the calendar.

### December 2002

The group secure Pendle Community Network as a sponsor for the calendar.

### Thursday 16th January 2003

Sessions begin again to prepare for the launch of the calendar.

### Thursday 23rd January 2003

#### CALENDAR LAUNCH! WHITEFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE 6PM

The girls give a presentation about their work on the calendar, meet the Mayor of Pendle and the press! Over 100 people attend.

### February 2003

The calendar is mailed out to over 500 people in Pendle. Articles about the project appear in the Lancashire Evening Telegraph, the Nelson Leader, the Citizen on 2BR and Radio Lancashire.

### Thursday 6th February 2003

Girls are faced with a much more difficult task. Evaluating the process. They decide, in consultation with artist, to create a girls magazine. It proves more challenging. Sessions begin again on work for the magazine.

### Friday 28th February 2003

The group attend a training day provided by the Millennium Volunteers at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston. They learn design and desktop publishing skills to help them design the magazine.

### April 2003

Artistic process and evaluation complete. Sessions come to an end to allow the girls to revise for their exams. Aaarrrhh!!!

### June 2003

The design process for the magazine begins with meetings to look at various drafts.

### July 2003

The magazine is distributed to high schools in Pendle for other young people to see the benefits of working on such a project.

### Thursday 10th July 2003

END OF PROJECT PARTY! At the Civic Theatre in Nelson. A celebration with food and music. Guests will be asked to write a poem on the spot!

# Recipe for a project 'GIRLS ON FILM'

Get 10 girls and place them in a huge football ground size space, add 17 gallons of communication. Mix to a thick mixture and then sprinkle on 5 kilos of confidence and 100g of brain power, then mix. For the appearance use 5 litres of creativity and make-up this is optional. Pour in two tablespoons of brain powder.

Take a long holiday abroad in the sun, to create a nice golden brown exterior! (Dream on girls - Ed) Sneak in a few boys to spice it up. (Ditto - Ed) Ooze in 100g of confidence. Chuck in a litre of girl power and 15 cameras to snap you into the mood. Don't forget to stir in the 50g of attitude. Use creativity as a base.

## the girls

Have all been Year 11 from Edge End High School and Walton High School in Nelson. All of their work on this project took place outside of school time between October 2002 and July 2003.

## the project

GIRLS ON FILM is about culture, environment, people and places. At its heart is the aim of discovering who the girls are and what they think of being teenaged, female and alive in Nelson in 2003. Using photography, creative writing, design and desk top publishing the group has explored issues around school, their social lives, drugs, boys, violence, culture, religion and a myriad of other subjects. The project has allowed the girls to have a voice and to express themselves creatively. They have learnt new skills and have gained greater confidence, motivation and understanding of one another's lives and cultures. All the creative work in this magazine has been done by the group with the help of Mandy Precious.

## the future

GIRLS ON FILM has been a 10 month project which started in October 2002. From September 2003, the network of partners is to come together again to create another project with another group of girls. This time the partners hope to work with an additional high school in the area, making it a three-way school's project, with the support of the 5 Wards Arts and Cultural Project, The Prince's Trust and Millennium Volunteers. The partners hope to bring together a group of 12 girls, 4 from each school and with various artforms to create something new for 2004! So, watch this space!

## the team

GIRLS ON FILM has been a partnership project and a number of workers have come together to make it possible.

Marie Davies  
Julie Bateman  
Samina Kauser  
Mashuq Hussain  
Mandy Precious  
Christy Evans

The 5 Wards Arts and Cultural Project  
The Prince's Trust  
Walton High School  
Edge End High School  
Writer  
Millennium Volunteers

## thankyous

GIRLS ON FILM would like to thank Mid Pennine Arts, in particular Brenda Weller, Mr Burgess and teachers from Edge End High School, Mr Walker and teachers from Walton High School, Pendle Community Network, University of Central Lancashire and Source Creative.

## Interview with Mandy Precious, Artist.

### What was your role in this?

The artist. I also took a lot of photos and came up with the frameworks for the creative side of the project...the calendar and the magazine.

### Did you enjoy working with the girls?

No I hated them! Just joking. They were lovely although sometimes there were times when I got frustrated...it was a tough slot at the end of the school day.

### What did you think of the girls?

I was surprised they were as young as they were. The group has changed a lot in the process.. they've grown emotionally.

### What did you think about the end result?

The calendar was fab. Excellent quality.

### What did you think of the process?

It was an excellent process... well thought out. It doesn't always follow that excellent process leads to excellent products but in this case it did.

### What would you change if you did the project again?

Nothing! I thought it was great.

### What else have you done?

Hundreds of projects, probably 500 plus. I also write plays and have written about a dozen. I usually devise plays...

### What did you think of the photos?

Great.



## Fact File 1



### ABOUT SAADIA:

1. I love chocolate 2. I am a Taurus. 3. I like R n B, hip hop. 4. Michael Jackson should be left alone. 5. I am a Paki! (That, by the way is an abbreviation for Pakistani - Ed) 6. My birthday 8th May (hint hint)

### Best moment:

"Having a gossip with Sarah!"



## Fact File 2



### ABOUT RIMSHA

1. Aquarian. 2. I haven't got big googo lips. 3. Fave music: R 'n' B. 4. Big family and love them to bits. 5. Love pasta 6. Fave shops: New Look and Harvey Nics 7. Fave accessory: black sparkly belt. 8. I couldn't live without my mobile phone... (yes, we know Rishma - Ed)

### Embarrassing moment:

"When I had to pose for the camera in a dancing position and then it was published on the calendar."



## Fact File 3



### ABOUT REBECCA:

I have nice eyes. I've got a small bum. I have many friends. I like r n b, I love boys, I'm always shopping and won't spend less than £60 on jeans, I'm a star and you just don't know it yet!

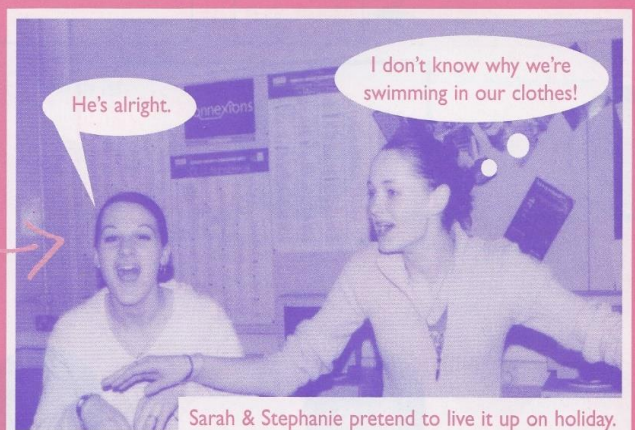
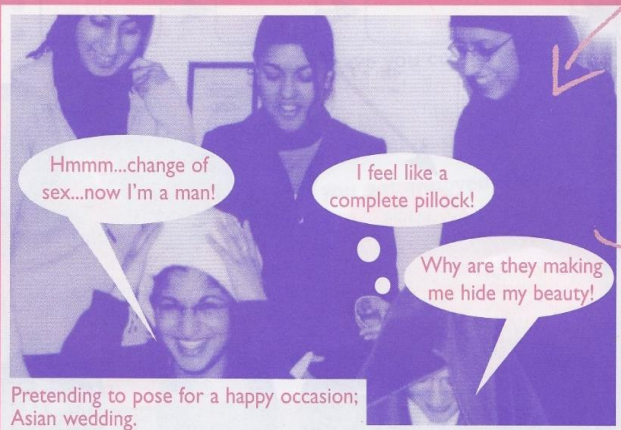
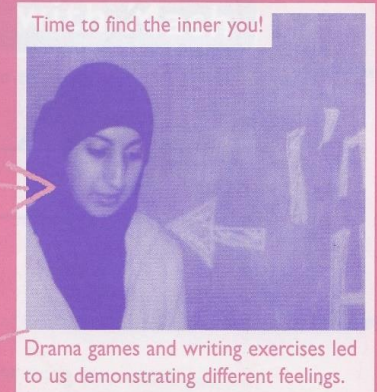
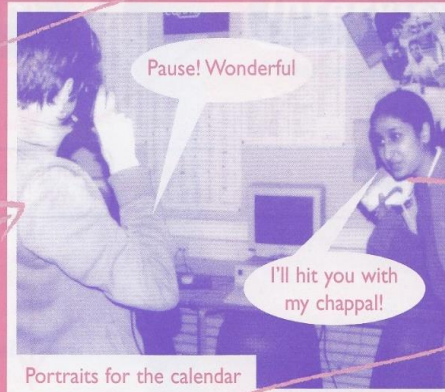
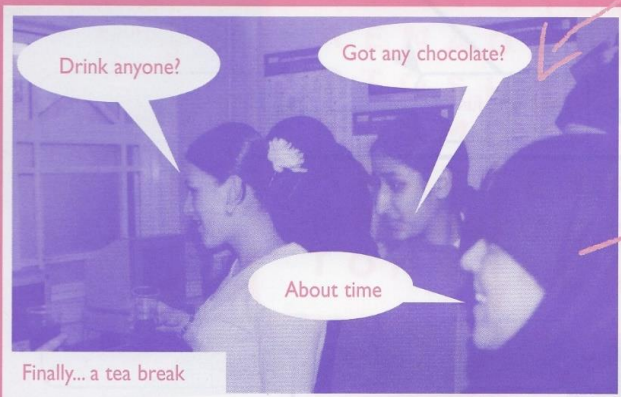
### Embarrassing moment:

Falling over.  
Getting all the compliments and praise for the success of the project.



# The Great Beginning...

from 'arms folded'...



...to enthusiasm!

# Who's your inner girl

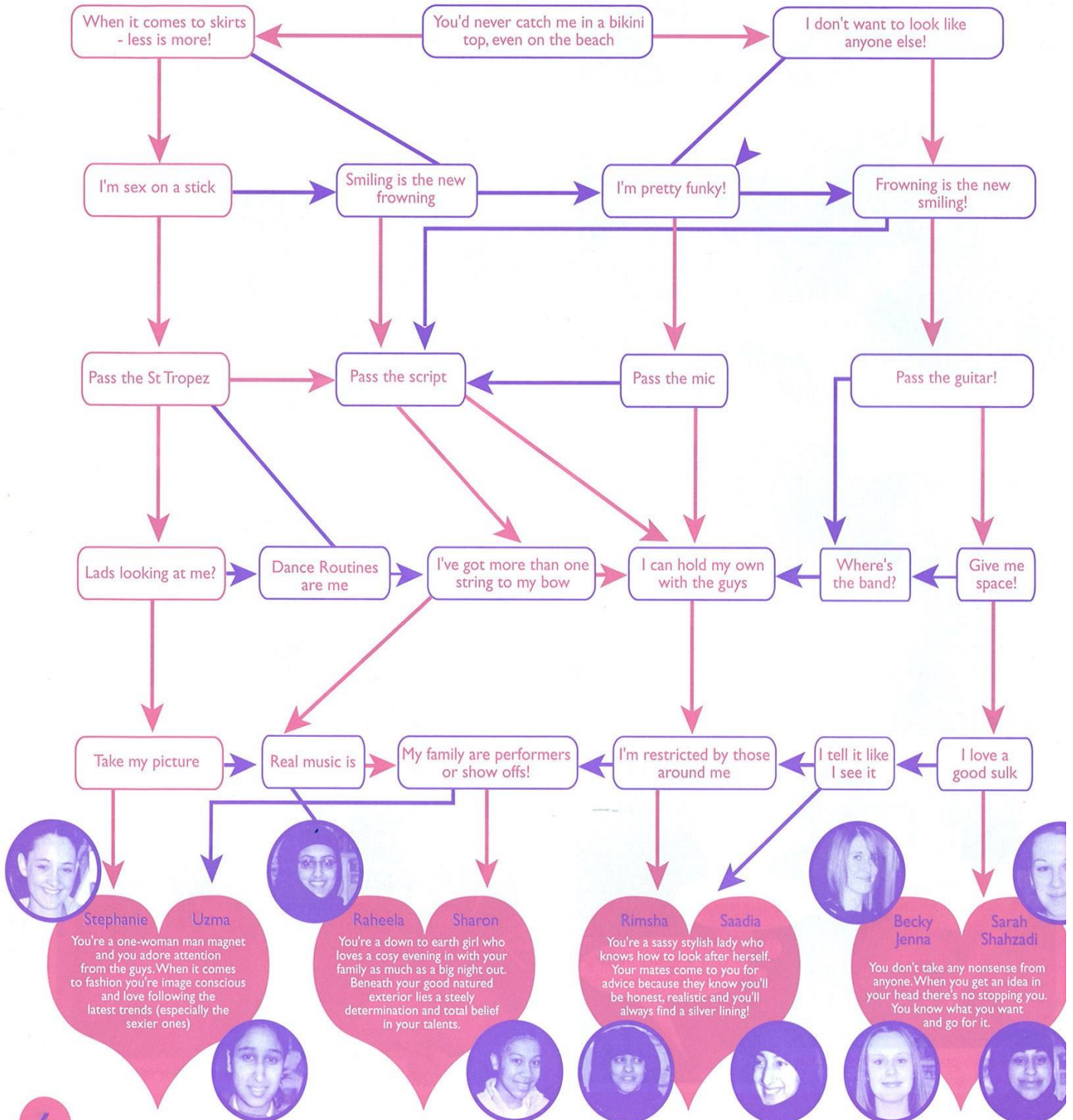
## ...on film

"follow the lines to find out who you're most like"

START

TRUE

FALSE



# Wordsearch...

G I R L S O N F I L M Z S A M  
 E S M A H V O L U N T E E R S  
 D T A E E W U G F W E C C V M  
 G L N N R I M S H A A O A G A  
 E N D T W G A A S L M O L L R  
 E E Y H O J U R K T B P E H I  
 N W X U O M C A S O H E N A E  
 D S U S D E L H A N H R D N G  
 U L H I O I A U F A W A A N O  
 R E N A D A N L R G O T R E B  
 O T O S H Q U I S T R I W J Y  
 G T S M U Z M A E S K O Z T U  
 A E L B C E A F R U N N H I G  
 E R E H D O G D T R U M A S H  
 T O N Y A C D H I T S T E P H

## Words to find:

GIRLS ON FILM  
 SHERWOOD  
 RIMSHA  
 SARAH  
 SHAHZADI  
 STEPH  
 JENNA  
 UZMA  
 RAHEELA  
 MASH  
 SAM  
 TONY  
 EDGE END  
 WALTON  
 NELSON  
 VOLUNTEERS  
 COOPERATION  
 MARIE  
 TRUST  
 NEWSLETTER  
 TEAMWORK  
 ENTHUSIASM  
 CALENDAR  
 UCLAN

## Interview with Sam

- 1. What was your role in the project?**  
I thought of the idea with Marie and Julie. Then I thought about how it would be done. I helped choose the girls ensuring they were from different cultures.
- 2. What did you contribute in meetings?**  
Time, ideas, sorting out meeting times, picking up and dropping off the girls. Ensuring parents and school knew about everything. Child protection issues. Insurance.
- 3. Were you pleased with the outcome?**  
Definitely. Four organisations worked together. It was a partnership and nobody took the glory. It was great watching the girls develop.

### 4. How much have you contributed?

The maximum I could. Sometimes it was just being there. I have a busy schedule but it was important.

### 5. Have you got annoyed with the girls?

Yes, when they've been late.



## Interview with Mash

### What was your role in the project?

As Youth Worker for Edge End High School, it was my responsibility to find the right five girls for this project (I think I succeeded!). I supported the group throughout the process of making the calendar and the magazine and worked with the other partners to make sure the project ran smoothly. I also took the girls to the University of Central Lancashire for a day where they did a workshop on desk top publishing and began to look at ideas for the magazine.

### What has been the best thing about this project?

The best thing has been that the girls have had an opportunity to express their views and create something positive for the community.

### Do you feel your time and effort put into the project was worth it?

Definitely. The smiles on the girls faces at the sessions with Mandy and at the launch of the calendar was worth all the hard work. Also I think that the relationships the girls made with one another were really strong and that made it worth it as well.

### What do you think about having worked with another school?

It was really good. For the first time two schools in the area came together to do something positive for young people and create something together. Although this project was held outside of school time, myself and Samina were able to support the group inside and outside of school and the project has really reflected well on both schools.



# Glamorous...Gorgeous...Gifted

We are independent, the voice, unstoppable, mixed races, community and the future. We are the girls of Nelson. We believe that there are many different attitudes in Nelson...



I thought it was very good and we achieved the fame we deserved!

Steph

I feel more confident talking to different people and talking about my opinions openly.

I've learnt to be patient as I thought that the process of writing was rubbish, but they have come out really good.

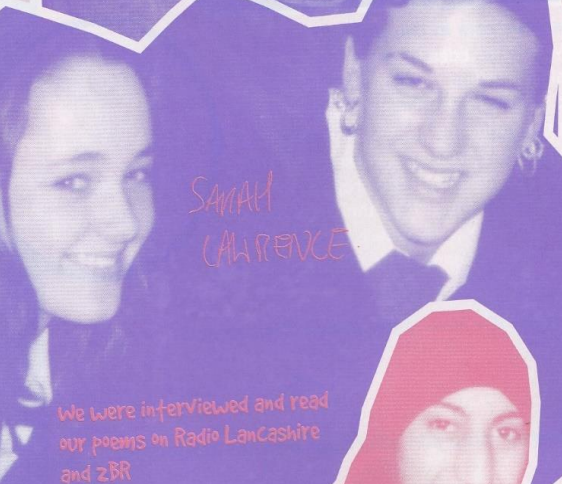
The girls responded well to Mandy, she was able to engage them, even when they became distracted.

I was very impressed with how the girls gelled as a group.

It helped me develop ideas on the spot and has helped develop the key skills communication, working with others etc.

I enjoyed communicating with different people and listening to their opinions.

RECIPE:	
To make 'Girls on Film' get (diced is best), add an excited enthusiastic bunch of ten or	Help them find a way that An artistic process must st
Throw into frying pan: sau formats for poems, 8 gallo hundred-weight of dream	Simmer over a low temp take shape. Cut away exc whole over to a designer as it looks fantastic". Go
Refine: distilling all flavo	
Take excellent product much fanfare as possibl	
AND THIS IS THE RES	



SAMAH LAWRENCE

We were interviewed and read our poems on Radio Lancashire and ZBR

I can brainstorm my ideas easier.

over 100 people came to the launch of the Girls on Film calendar.

UZMA

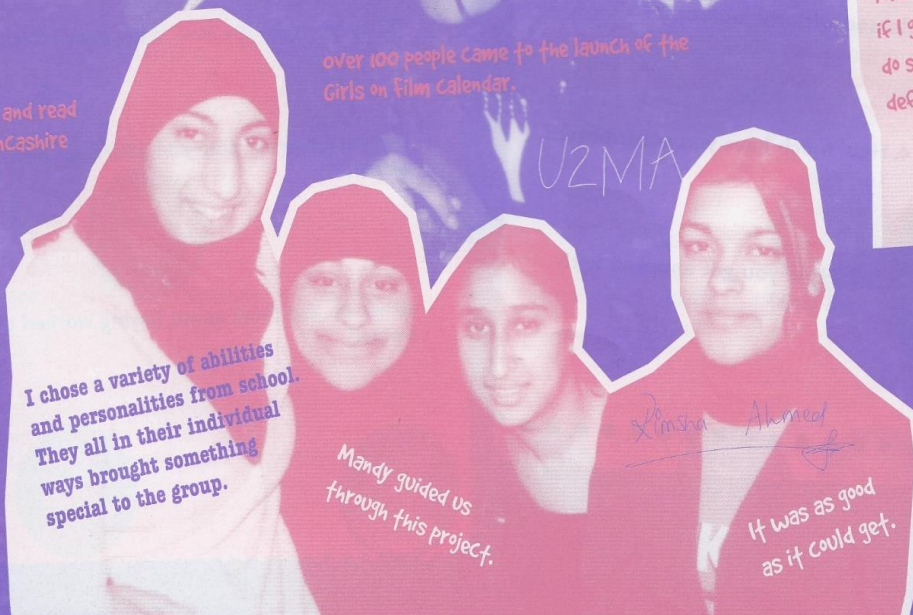
This boosted our confidence, so if I get another opportunity to do something similar, I will definitely go for it.

I chose a variety of abilities and personalities from school. They all in their individual ways brought something special to the group.

Mandy guided us through this project.

Khanza Ahmed

It was as good as it could get.





It has helped me develop ideas and use words better.

# girls ON FILM

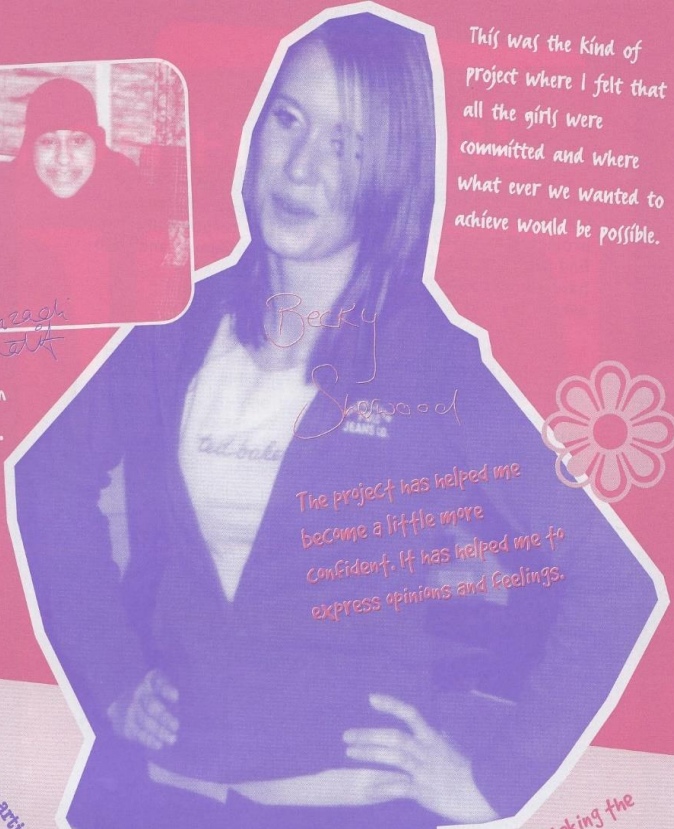


Shaylaazghi Wajid

I would love to do an arts project again.



This was the kind of project where I felt that all the girls were committed and where what ever we wanted to achieve would be possible.



Becky Greenwood

The project has helped me become a little more confident. It has helped me to express opinions and feelings.



ner five partnership organisations / talented artist (thinly sliced) and an / girls who know what they want to say. / hem...do not buy straight off the shelf. / o be fresh and original.

emove from heat. Mix in a dozen / ideas, two tonnes of hopes and a / nch of cheekiness. Return to heat. / e until ideas rise to the surface and / dd squillions of photographs. Hand the / Say: "make of this what you will as long / gh three or four drafts.

oven and present to the world with as / girls bask in the glory...

It's great to have this project on my school record of achievement.

The artist brought the best out of all the girls.

We were clear about what we hoping to achieve and were able to find a process to achieve it.

Sharon



I enjoyed taking the photos, it was fun.

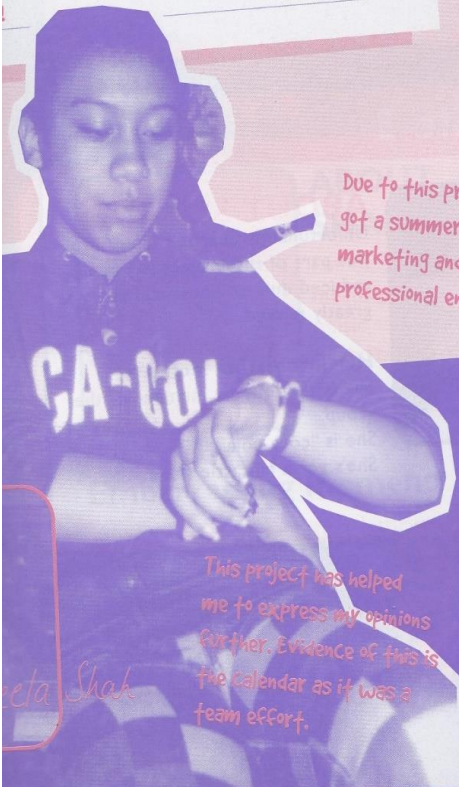
These are an excellent group of girls and I really hope that they can be given a wider role in the community. The group make excellent ambassadors for their age and communities.

It has been nice to be involved in a partnership that works and achieves!

I'm going to do art in college.

Jenna

Due to this project I've got a summer work placement to work in marketing and graphic design in a professional environment.



eta Shah

This project has helped me to express my opinions further. Evidence of this is the calendar as it was a team effort.

Scandia Shafi



We've found a voice and a way to describe what it's like to be young female and alive in Nelson.

I am more confident with speaking to different people.



The girls involved have benefited enormously, they have gained in confidence over the last six months.

## Interview with Marie

### What was your part in the project?

I was involved in shaping the idea and Julie and I worked hard on raising the funding to make it happen. Because my project is focussed on the arts it was my responsibility to find the right artist (in this case Mandy Precious) and then have contact with her throughout and make sure everything was OK.

### What other projects have you been involved in?

Over the last few years I've been involved with a number of projects. Probably the most recognisable is the Peace Garden in Brierfield which I worked on very closely with Mash. I also help organise two events over the summer, Pendle Festival (previously known as Nelson Mela) and Brierfield Live! I recently was involved in a project with SureStart in Whitefield and Bradley in which some of the parents made a beautiful banner and a mosaic piece. I'm also working closely with a residents group in Waterside on projects with the community and am working on ideas for community work in Vivary Bridge.

### Would you consider this project successful?

Extremely successful! For me this project has been exactly what my work is about. It has created a brilliant partnership that has meant real team work. It has brought together a group of young women from different cultures but with things in common such as age and being female. It has allowed the group to bond, to develop a better understanding of one and of issues to do with culture, religion, social interaction and family. It has given the girls an opportunity to learn new skills as such as photography and creative writing as well learn from and help one another. It has raised their achievement levels, confidence and motivation. For the partners it has been a learning experience too so next time around we know what to do and what not to do.

### Did you get along with the girls?

NO THEY WERE A COMPLETE NIGHTMARE!! Just kidding! The girls were fantastic (most of the time). Apart from when we had to get them out of the toilets ten minutes into each session! This group of girls were great: friendly, willing, enthusiastic. Couldn't have asked for more.

### Are you thinking about a residential for the girls?

Give me a break, ladies! You know we are hoping to take the girls on a residential this summer. They really deserve it. However, it all depends on money and we're looking for the finance to support it. Hopefully, we'll find it from somewhere! So, watch out, Girls on Film could be coming to venue near you!



## Fact File 4



### ABOUT RAHEELA:

"I don't really want to grow up just yet. I don't like stressing over my exams and worrying about my future. The time is near for my exams and I don't want to leave school. I feel that even when I'm older, I'll still be a child inside of myself"

### Best moment:

Meeting the girls.

10

## Interview with Julie

### What was your role in the project?

I have been involved with the project from the very beginning, when me, Samina, Mash and Marie were thinking about possible ideas for a project. I have supported the sessions with the girls and have been involved in writing bids for further funding to support the project. The Prince's Trust has also funded some of the initial costs.

### Do you feel your time and effort put into the project was worth it?

Most definitely. The project has taken an enormous amount of planning but the end result has been worth the hard work. I also feel that we have raised the profile of The Prince's Trust with the young people and with the other partners who have worked on the project.

### Would you consider this project successful?

I think that this project has been very successful and shows what a good partnership approach can achieve. As a result of this project we have managed to bring together 10 young women from two different schools and from different backgrounds and cultures. We have all been able to share our experiences and learn from each other. We have also managed to produce two very good pieces of work that raises awareness about young people in the community.

### Would you fund similar projects?

One of The Prince's Trust's main aims is to see young people succeed. We work across the region to help those young people who are disadvantaged and face barriers in their life. The Prince's Trust is always open to looking at new ideas and projects that work for the benefit of young people.



### What will you take away with you from this project?

I have made some really great friends both with other partners and with the girls. I have learnt so much about developing and running a project and also about the funding that needs to be in place. I have learnt a lot about the group of girls and how it must feel to be young and living in Nelson. I have learnt that even a small project needs a great deal of planning and preparation for it to be successful. Most importantly I now understand the need for good partnership working in order to achieve and make a project successful.

## Fact File 5



### ABOUT SHARON:

Unfortunately Sharon's input into this part of the project has been reduced due to illness and she was greatly missed.

### Her interesting facts are:

She is the loudest member of the group.

She is "coca-cola girl"

She's got a fantastic smile.



# COMPOSITE GIRLS ON FILM GIRL



Get up early at 8:00 or before...



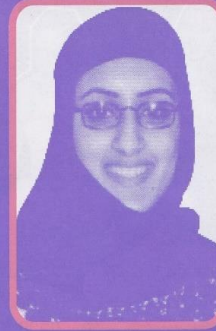
Face: **Sherwood:**  
Tone, Cleanse, Moisturise... Conceal. Foundation. Max factor. Nicely Natural. Bronze. Blusher. Liquid Eye shadow sea shell. Mascara. Eye line lip gloss.



Face: **Raheela:**  
Wash face, moisturise, conceal, lip liner, eye pencil water proof mascara.



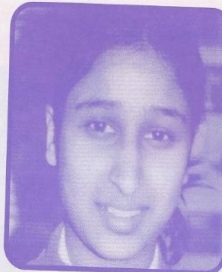
Hair: **Sherwood...**  
Wash, shampoo and condition. Blow dry... hair protection, straighten, little bit of wax.



**Raheela:** Hair... wash, blow dry tie up and scrape up on top... Scarf from Asian shop....



## Fact File 7



### ABOUT UZMA:

Taurus, Most fanciable lad Romeo from So Solid Crew. Best singer: Michael Jackson, Favourite shop: Harvey Nicholls, Eye colour; brown. Favourite food: Fries. Family: big...

## Fact File 6



### ABOUT SHAHZADI:

I'm 16, I'm a libran, My name means princess, I hate Indian music as it's just about love, my birthday is in October.

### Embarrassing moment:

When I was at Preston I thought I was going to faint.

### Best moment:

Chilling with Becky

## Fact File : The Artist



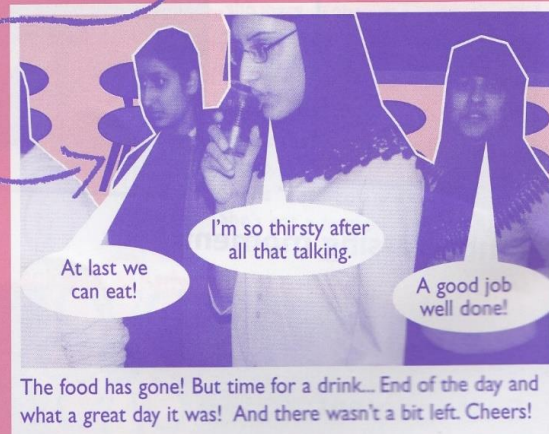
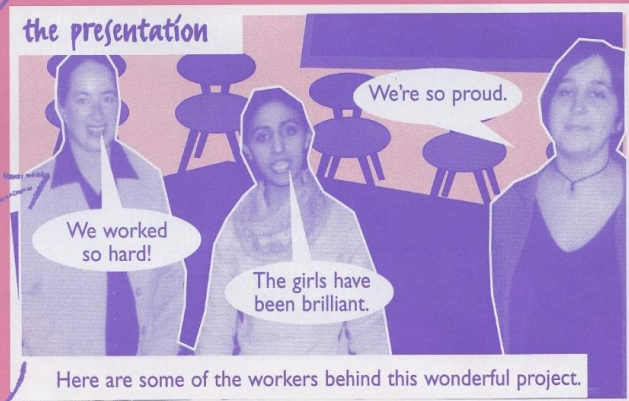
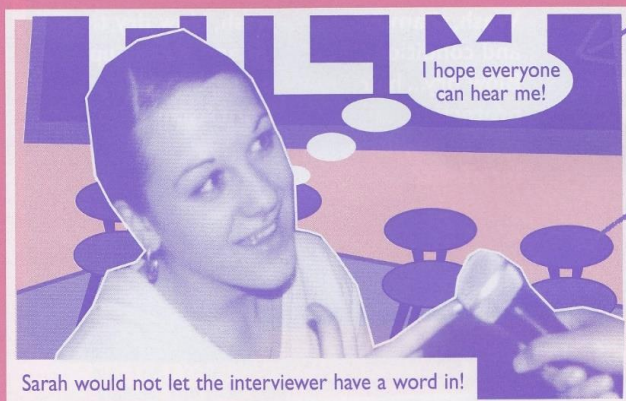
### ABOUT MANDY:

(aged 18 3/4)  
I like the Smiths, I like wearing black, I like chips and bacon butties, I am a leo, I can't stop buying records, I live in Yorkshire, I want to be a writer. I don't like my brother. My birthday is on 22nd August (hint, hint)

### Embarrassing moment:

saying collateral while referring to a cream cake when I meant cholesterol (Hey, it was new then, Ed)

# The Calendar launch party...



## Girls view of the project:

Overall we found we really enjoyed the project.

*(I was really shy at first and didn't mix in but then later after being introduced and playing games, I felt better).*

*We could have spent more time together at first to get to know each other. But we had a good time doing creative writing (after a while I thought I'd known the girls for ages.)*

I think we have learnt many different skills: team building, and how to work with mixed cultures and with many different personalities. *(I have achieved self-confidence, team building and publicity skills.)*

We've learnt to develop our idea through creative writing. The ten girls are now like my family...when you consider we didn't know each other...they've become my best friends...awww! I would recommend this project to anyone interested in expressing their ideas.

## Do's + Don'ts of a project

### DO

- work in a team.
- contribute equally.
- be nice to everyone.
- gossip excessively.
- take as many photos as you can
- eat as much as you can since it is free.
- make sure you're heard.
- make everyone welcome.
- think before you speak.
- eat loads of chocolate.
- concentrate on task
- show enthusiasm (but only if you mean it)
- laugh at artists' jokes (even if they're not funny)
- come up with your own ideas.
- be brave enough to have a go, make 'mistakes', feel silly.
- not let me stop you if you've got something to say (except boys, boys, boys and she who cannot not be named)
- write all you can, and all you have to say (it's there for a long time in print.)
- edit.
- take excellent photographs.
- do do (de dah dah dah) *(Mandy)*

### DON'T

- invite slugs.
- be serious.
- take as many photos as Mandy.
- bitch within the group.
- come to the launch event, not having written your presentation, then write it 5 minutes before and be brilliant because your project workers will be jealous about how gifted you are.
- leave your mobile switched on.
- spend the first hour of a 1 1/2 hour session in the toilets doing your hair. *(Marie)*

## Fact File 8



### SEVEN FACTS ABOUT JENNA...

Age 16. Birthday 04/04/87 (so don't forget a pressie), Aries, blue eyes, I love L L Cool J, I have a 8310 (want my number?) ha ha, I love boys.

# Dear Marie

## Marie answers your Girls on Film questions

Dear Marie, I cannot get home after the project, shouldn't you provide transport?  
Anon.

Marie answers: The walk will do you good. Think of the exercise. Well, we try to give the girls a lift back but we do actually have lives. We're happy to lend the girls money for the bus.

Seriously though, we know you have to be safe, so if you can't get a lift we will help out and make sure you get home.

Dear Marie, You only got us food to break the fast during Ramadan. Everyone is always hungry and this affects how hard we work. When I bring flap jack the rest of the group steal it.

Marie answers: There isn't funding for food. This project is about creativity for goodness sake not eating. Go on a cooking course if you want food.

Actually, if you think back, I think you'll find you were provided with refreshments. As if we'd let you starve.

Dear Marie, We keep falling out in the group because we haven't had a residential to get to know each other better.

Marie answers: we've tried our best to get a residential, including matching you up with a group of girls in Burnley. You know you want to go with them. You know you do.

We have applied for funding to support a residential, but it is all about money.

Dear Marie, I have P.E. before the writing/photography session and we're too tired and we're drowsy when we get in...  
Anon.

Marie answers: Tough. It's the only day Mandy can do.

Physical exercise, it has been proven, actually should make you more alert! So, are you sure you've been attending your P.E. lessons?

Dear Marie, I do not know what to write about myself what can I do?

Marie says: You're world famous in Nelson for your skills as a writer. Have some confidence in yourself.

## Fact File 9



### TEN FACTS ABOUT STEPHANIE:

I'm 16, I had braces, I have blue eyes, My birthday is in October, I love Usher, I have a Nokia 3330, I go to Edge End, I'm a foxy lady, I live in a big house.

## Fact File 10



### TEN FACTS ABOUT SARAH:

I am free, sexy and single, I have friends, I like r n b, I have a crush, I am a princess, Me and Becky are the same, I'm gorgeous (Becky says), I am loud.

**Embarrassing moment:** walking into the boys toilet.

**Best moment:** when the food arrived.

# We're Famous

BURNLEY, PENDLE & ROSSENDALE  
www.thislancashire.co.uk

## LANCASHIRE EVENING Telegraph

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2003

They're young, teenage and female in Pendle

# Hey there you calendar girls!

By CHARLOTTE BRADSHAW  
Telegraph Reporter

A CALENDAR which aims to highlight how it feels to be young, teenage and female in Pendle has been launched by a group of local schoolgirls. Girls on Film is an arts partnership project about culture, environment, people and places and was produced by Year 11 pupils from Edge End High School and Walton High School, Nelson.

They spent ten weeks working with a professional writer and artist to capture their lives in words and pictures. The aim was to discover who the girls are and what they think of being teenaged, female and alive in Nelson in 2003.

Using photography and writing they explored their daily concerns about school, social life, boys, Nelson, drugs, culture and a myriad of other subjects. Their creative work has now been put together in a professionally produced calendar for 2003. Each month provides a light hearted look at some very serious issues.

These very personal takes on their lives and surroundings, provide a witty, trenchant and poignant insight into the hopes and dreams of Nelson's youth. Brenda Weller, Marketing Manager for Mid Pennine Arts, said: "It was set up in response to the Task Force Report following the disturbances of 2001, a key aim of the project was to get young people to think about their own lives and each others' lives and cultures, to promote understanding and tolerance, and to look to the future seeing the consequences of



LAUNCH DAY: Sharon Matthews, and (below) the girls introduce the calendar to the world

actions to themselves as individuals and the wider community. "The project has allowed the girls in the group to have a voice and to express themselves creatively. "They have learnt new skills in photography and creative writing and have gained confidence and motivation and will have an opportunity to pass these positive outcomes on to the Autumn when it is hoped they will meet a new group of girls of school leaving age in a similar project."

Pauline McCormick, Pendle's Mayor was at the launch event. She said: "It was extremely promising to see these young people of different races coming together and working on this project. "The results are really good which gives the public an insight into what the girls are thinking."

Girls on Film is set to continue throughout 2003. The group are planning an exhibition and publication to inform other young women and community groups about the project and its benefits. In the Autumn, it is hoped to continue working with this group and a new group of young women of school-leaving age.



Courtesy of Lancashire Evening Telegraph

Calendar girls get in the picture

Marg



Why son there

## MEET THE CALENDAR GIRLS!

3/01/03 NELSON LEADER



YOUNG, GIFTED AND FROM NELSON: The calendar girls, who launched their thought-provoking calendar.

LOOKING FOR A...

TAKE 10 sassy young women from Nelson. Give them an opportunity to make new friends, arm them with cameras and a chance for a bit of fun - and what do you get?

The "Girls on Film" calendar, telling what it is like to be "teenaged, female and alive in Nelson in 2003".

The girls are all 15 and 16 and in Year 11 at Edge End High School and Walton High School, Nelson.

They spent 10 weeks working with a professional writer and artist to capture their lives in words and pictures. Using photography and writing they explored their daily concerns about school, social life, boys, Nelson, drugs, culture and a myriad of other subjects.

The calendar was launched at the Whitefield Community Centre, Nelson, in the presence of two mayors - the Mayor of Pendle, Coun. Pauline McCormick, and the Mayor of Brierfield, Coun. Lyn Heaton, the girls' headteachers, Mr Martin Burgess and Mr Geoff Walker, and representatives from many organisations in Pendle and at county level. Funding for the calendar was by the Prince's Trust, Pendle Community Network and the Five Wards Arts and Cultural Project.

The calendar girls are Jenna Rigby, Sharon Matthews, Uzma Faruque, Sarah Louise Lawrence, Saadia Shafi, Raheela Shah, Shahzadi Latif, Rebecca Sherwood, Stephanie Howarth and Rimsha Ahmed.

Outside school hours, they worked with Marie Davies of Mid-Pennine Arts, Julie Bateman of the Prince's Trust, Samina Kausar of Walton High School, Mashuq Hussain of Edge End High School and writer Mandy Precious.

The result is something very different and uncompromising in the way of calendars. It is thought provoking, not chocolate box pretty. The girls are planning an exhibition and further projects.

Courtesy of Nelson Leader



Courtesy of The Citizen

## Calendar girls have date with success

A CALENDAR which aims to highlight how it feels to be young, teenage and female in Pendle has been launched by a group of schoolgirls.

Girls on Film is an arts partnership project about culture, environment, people and places and was produced by Year 11 pupils from Edge End High School and Walton High School, Nelson.

The girls spent ten weeks working with a professional writer and artist to capture their lives in words and pictures.

The aim was to discover who the girls are and what they think of being teenaged, female and alive in Nelson in 2003.

Using photography and writing they explored their daily concerns about school, social life, boys, Nelson, drugs, culture and a myriad of other subjects.

Pictured back (left to right) are Jenna Rigby, Shahzadi Latif, Sharon Matthews, Uzma Faruque, Raheela Shah, Rimsha Ahmed and Saadia Shafi. Front: Sarah-Louise Lawrence, Becky Sherwood and Stephanie Howarth.

## Sam Walton High School

I have been at Walton High for over two years as a Pastoral Support Worker working with students on informal educational issues. This involves generic youth work as well as working with voluntary and statutory agencies to develop projects about issues such as bullying, peer pressure, racism and drugs. I have organised residential, day trips and was involved with organising a youth conference to allow young people in Pendle to express their views.

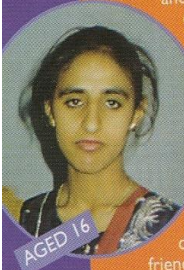
Sessions for GIRLS ON FILM were held at both schools which has helped develop a stronger bond. Walton has benefited from this project not only by the end product but also by the development of new partnerships. The project has raised the girls' aspirations about career choices and helped them develop new friendships. It has been a great way for the girls to find out about each other's cultures, faiths, foods and different lifestyles. This project highlighted differences, which the girls celebrated.

Its success is due to a number of factors. Firstly, the school has allowed both the students and I flexibility, use of school resources and has been extremely supportive. Secondly the girls have been committed and put in the time and effort, regardless of how tedious it may have been at times. Lastly the partnership between agencies has been excellent.

The school will benefit in future years from these partners and more projects will be developed. It has been an exciting adventure for all included.

Thank you to Mr. Walker, Mrs. Garrets, Mr. Stread, Mrs. Robert, Mr. Iqbal for their help, support and encouragement. Thank you to the families of the girls for allowing them to be a part of something different, thank you to the girls for making the project a success and the partners for involving the school.

**SAMINA KAUSER**  
PASTORAL SUPPORT WORKER



AGED 16

## Mash

### Edge End High School

I have been the Youth Worker for Edge End High School for almost three years.

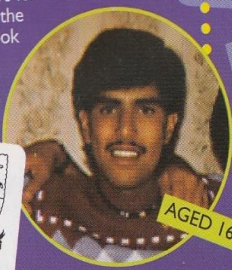
I work with young people exploring issues in their lives. Through the positive work with a range of partners, the school has been successful in securing funding for a youth centre at the school.

Being involved in 'Girls On Film' has been great for the school, the girls and for me. It has allowed the girls to develop skills that traditional education does not always include. The school now has stronger links with the partners involved. For me it has been beneficial, as I was the only male involved in the project. I therefore have been able to gain a better understanding of the issues and barriers that young women face.

This project has enabled the girls to work in a team and use their own initiative. They have felt it belonged to them from the onset and this is evident from the calendar. It has allowed them to be part of something that is unique, allowed them to make new friends and learn to work with different people. I feel it is important to ensure that projects like this keep running in the future to give young people the opportunities to develop. All the girls involved in GIRLS ON FILM were Year 11 and therefore, the project has helped with skills relating to leaving school and making decisions about their futures.

Thank you to all the partners for their support, thank you to the girls and the school and I look forward to future projects.

**MASHUQ HUSSAIN**  
YOUTH WORKER



AGED 16



AGED 18

Christy



NOW

For more information contact Christy Evans on 01282 831644



## FIVE WARDS ARTS & CULTURAL PROJECT

The Five Wards Arts and Cultural Project is working to provide high quality community arts experiences in Brierfield, Bradley, Whitefield, Vivary Bridge and Waterside wards in Pendle.

The project, funded by the European Community Economic Development (CED) programme, aims to unlock individual and collective creativity. By engaging the local community in artistic expression, the project will help to tackle social exclusion, provide opportunities for learning and contribute to increasing the quality of life for the community.

The project seeks to help local communities to express their identity, find a platform for expression and increase their regeneration capacity.

Community arts and artistic expression can also help local people to access learning and employment opportunities.

If you require further information about the project please contact: **MARIE DAVIES**,

Mid Pennine Arts, Yorke Street, Burnley, BB11 1HD or on (01282) 421986 or 0788 4187655. Email: madavies@ukonline.co.uk.



AGED 18

Marie



## THE PRINCE'S TRUST MENTORING PROJECT

The Prince's Trust Mentoring Project began in June 2001, and since then has managed to work with over 400 young people. The projects aims are to:

- Reduce offending behaviour by young people and divert them from engaging in criminal activity
- Develop a range of activities and encourage access to positive leisure and educational opportunities.
- Develop individual skills and self esteem in young people
- Engage local communities and raise awareness about young people and their needs
- To provide and significantly enhance the personal development of all of our volunteers.

The project has a two-fold approach: we provide mentoring for young people who need help, support and guidance, and we also offer a range of community activities. Through our activities we attempt to work with all young people from different backgrounds and cultures, but also from different areas throughout the town.

Some of the activities we have delivered include:

- Football sessions / coaching / tournaments
- Drama Sessions

- DJ and music workshops
- Photography and arts based projects
- Residential

The volunteers we recruit for the project must be over 18 and have a genuine interest in the welfare of young people. The project puts a lot of time and effort into the development of its volunteers, and helps them to gain valuable experience. All volunteers are provided with training and ongoing support.

The Prince's Trust can also provide support for young people in other areas such as setting up their own business, developing confidence, skills and job chances, and by providing small cash grants that will help young people overcome barriers and move them forward in their lives.

For further information about the Mentoring Project or other Prince's Trust opportunities please contact:

**JULIE BATEMAN**  
Northbridge House, Elm Street Business Park, Burnley BB10 1PD  
Tel: 01282 714160



AGED 18

Julie

