

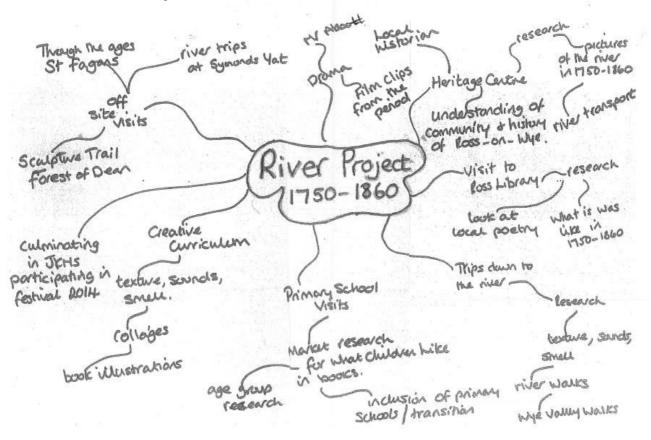
River Festival 2014 – 4th May Ross-on-Wye

The Ross-on-Wye Rotary Club wishes to submit a proposal for a *Children Reading Centre* at the River Festival event in May 2014.

The Rotary Club has joined with John Kyrle High School (JKHS) to promote children's literacy as an educational project utilising the River Festival concept of the river heyday circa 1750-1860.

The concept put forward to JKHS by the Rotary Club was for the writing and illustration of two storybooks based around the River Wye lifestyle and environment, one book to be for readers of age 5 to 8 based around fairytale characters and book two for age 9 to 12 based around river people.

JKHS have produced the mind-map below for taking this exciting project forward. The overall plan being; the two books are to be researched and produced by pupils in different stages of education with differing learning abilities between September and November 2013. From January to March 2014 the BTEC/6th Form Drama Group will take these books and produce précis adaptations for perfoming arts pupils to enact at the River Festival. In addition it is proposed the upper school students will produce and market to approximately 23 primary schools within the Ross catchment area promotional information in poster, book 'taster' documents and DVD 'trailer' advertising the up-and-coming River Festival Children Reading Centre event.





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The Rotary Club have suggested that the two précis book readings followed by performance enactments take place within the Ross Town Bandstand twice, time to be decided but both books once either side of the river pageant. Following the first performance, and when not performing, characters will be available to 'roam' around Ross for additional River Festival promotions (as yet to be confirmed). In addition JKHS have also already requested usage of the Bandstand in the early evening.

Performances will be by JKHS pupils and the local youth theatre group Xcentricity. The Rotary Club and personnel from JKHS will be in attendance, however it should be noted that this event is not a crèche facility.

Ross Rotary and JKHS would be looking for festival organisers help with obtaining arts funding to assist with material costs for; production of books, posters, book 'taster' documents, and DVD disks for loading with promotional 'trailer' video, costume production, and decorative materials for the Bandstand.

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