

www.chrysalisinfo.org.uk



chrysalis

Knowledge on your doorstep

An easy pathway to learning for the people of the West Midlands

What is Chrysalis?

Chrysalis is an internet gateway for the people of the West Midlands. You will find information that will assist with your learning and skills development. You will also find regional collections relevant to cultural identity and local history.

What else will I find?...

On Chrysalis you will discover resources and collections which have not previously been available to the public. These range from guides on how to use the Internet, to collections of images relating to the local history of the region. Chrysalis also provides a selection of links to quality websites on cultural diversity, study skills, careers and subject information.

Is it for me?

Whether you are an independent learner, teacher or casual browser, Chrysalis is for you. The site is the result of Higher and Further Education, Public and NHS Libraries working in partnership to increase the availability of electronic information within the West Midlands' community. You should find everything quick and easy to access and it is all freely available online.

Chrysalis - helping you find the way to finding out.

Dip in!...quick and easy links to learning, skills, cultural and historical sites. Available anywhere across the region

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Welcome

Knowledge on your doorstep. An easy pathway to learning for the people of the West Midlands

This is an support learning and cultural diversity wherever you are in the West Midlands.

The site is the result of Higher, Further Education, Public and NHS libraries working in partnership across the region. It has been funded by the Advantage West Midlands Libraries Challenge Project, which aims to improve the quality and quantity of online information available across the region.

What will you find on this site?

Links to quality Information: Some information has been selected because it relates to the region or any level within the region.

Some information has been selected to support individuals studying or training in the region. Via the themes at the top of the page you will find:

Learning & Skills



This is a West Midlands Higher Education Association Libraries Group (WMHEA-LG) and Staffordshire University lead initiative in partnership with Staffordshire and Stoke Public Libraries, which is jointly funded by Advantage West Midlands and managed by MLA West Midlands.

Chrysalis has been funded by the Advantage West Midlands Libraries Challenge, which aims to improve the quality and quantity of online information available across the region.

The Challenge Project has also funded the following partnership projects which can be visited via Chrysalis:

Web Sites

Creation Zone...

www.creation-zone.co.uk

Over three thousand original images to help designer makers with their new creations; plus showcases of other artist's work and business information to make small jewellery businesses work effectively in the modern market



Shropshire Routes to Roots...

www.shropshireroots.org.uk

What happened in Shropshire during World War Two?
Who was John Mapp?
How can I find out more about Industrialisation in Shropshire?
All these questions and more can be answered at



www.shropshireroots.org.uk - the Shropshire Routes to Roots website, which includes digitised archival sources from Shropshire Archives and Oswestry library contains something for everyone: learning packages, teachers notes, galleries of images, suggested walks, what's on guides and lots more. Go on-line to discover more!

Ticket to Find...

www.tickettofind.org.uk

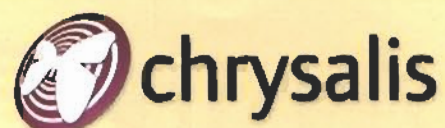
Is about developing the information skills of the public through access to a web site and accredited course. We have created a web site and course that are designed for the general user, and looks at information resources on the Internet.



As well as being accessible via the web site, the course is accredited by Open College Network West Midlands, and will count as one credit towards HE access. The course is designed to help you develop skills that will be useful at home, at work, and for study.

Quality on the Web...

Provides access to information on how to evaluate and reference resources retrieved from the internet. A diagnostic quiz, self-assessment questions and a checklist provide an interactive element for users.



I.T. Training Packs

BITS for All...

The BITS Project has developed tailored IT training packs in English, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu to support and promote the use of ICT by over 50's and Asian ethnic minorities in the Black Country. Sessions are designed for people new to computers or uncertain how to develop their skills and will cover how to use a computer, mouse skills, how to use the internet/send an e-mail and simple keyboard skills. All sessions are free.



Digitised Cuttings and Works

Art & Design...

Birmingham Beginnings: Historical programmes from one of the region's first Schools of Art & Design. Published annually by the Birmingham Society of Arts & School of Design, the programmes detail not just courses and subjects taught but also links to local industry and local dignitaries, and course development with examples of student work.

Herbals goes bananas...

John Gerard's book originally published in 1597 (revised in 1633) is said to be the most famous illustrated book on botany and herbalism ever published. This is a rare original 1633 revised bound volume with old English descriptions to accompany the illustrations. This is a significant resource - the bound volume is 1,700 pages long, contains over 2,705 illustrations covering over 2,850 different plants.

The Iris Strange War Widows Archive...

A sample of the Iris Strange War Widows Archive, held at Staffordshire University.

Lowe Collection...

This dates from 1880 - 1904 and was presented to Coventry to replace news-cutting collections, which were destroyed in the Second World War. They are scrapbooks which contain comprehensive information and illustrations about local events, people and places during important periods of history such as the Golden and Diamond Jubilees of Queen Victoria and the Boer War.

Robert Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire

Selected chapters of Robert Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire, published in 1686, provide access to a fascinating account of Staffordshire's geology, industry and culture during the late 17th century, combining scientific enquiry with regional folklore in this rare first edition of the text.

Digitised Images

Birmingham's Buildings and Urban Topography...

Photographs from the 1950's and 1960's by Phyllis Nicklin; 450 images are of buildings and street scenes in Birmingham during the 1950s and 1960s. The resource will be relevant to those in the broad education sector, in particular to those seeking resources to support personal research on the West Midlands region, and those embarking on their own learning pathways.

Lovatt Collection...

Father and son James and Charles Lovatt both used their photography to document the changing face of Longton, Normacot and Lightwood. Their collection of over 500 photographs was kindly donated to Stoke on Trent City Archives in 2001. The new housing developments, decline and demolition of the bottle ovens are recorded alongside a valuable series of photographs of the demolition of Trentham Hall in 1912 and Longton Cottage Hospital in the period before the first world war.

Pictures of Coventry...

The Pictures of Coventry website already provides 2000 Coventry photographs at: www.picturesofcoventry.co.uk Chrysalis will now enable c7,000 more photographs to be made available. The photographs show Coventry people and places through the ages, including the devastation caused by the Second World War. Superior print quality photographs will be available through Coventry Libraries and Information Services.

Slums Up in Brum...

How the modern second city was born. A photographic collection, some 100 prints, taken by the famous local photographer James Burgoyne, documenting the slums and streets cleared in the Improvement Scheme of 1875 held at Birmingham Central Library.



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Learning and Skills

Careers and Training Sites

Computer and Internet Skills

Cultural Diversity Links

Library Skills

Local History

Study Skills

Subject Sites

Regional Collections

Photographs

Cuttings

Books

Libraries

Museums and Archives

