

## **Festival of Big Ideas By the Sea invites people from across the UK and beyond to send postcards to the Grand Hotel in Scarborough**

Big Ideas By the Sea, a new festival in Scarborough, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust, will be asking people to send postcards or letters to the Grand Hotel in Scarborough. The aim is to encourage people to reflect upon memories of Scarborough and Yorkshire Coast once visited on holiday or to write about how they feel at the moment in a world turned upside down.

Kane Cunningham, co-director of the festival said, "We are aware many people have missed their visits to Scarborough and the North Yorkshire Coast and will no doubt be keen to get back to the seaside as soon as possible. So, the postcard or letter is an opportunity to think about coming back and to reflect upon family holidays going back decades. To imagine a time when the world seemed full of sunshine, ice creams and fun on the beach. So, we are encouraging to write about memories.

However, we also know last year has been a tough time for everyone, so people might want to write about how they feel about the wider world, about their concerns and worries, but also about their hopes related to the planet, climate change, environment, school and family life. It is entirely up to individuals as to what they say and express."

Rosie Barrett, National Literacy Trust hub manager for the North Yorkshire Coast (Our Stories, Whitby, Scarborough and Filey)

"It's such a creative project and we are delighted to partner with Big Ideas by the Sea to support it, as part of the work of our hub on the North Yorkshire Coast. There are so many ways for families to be involved and spark the imagination, and we'll also be donating lots of books to participants through events along the way as part of our Connecting Stories project."

John Oxley, archaeologist and co-director of Big Ideas By The Sea said, "As archaeologists, we try and reconstruct past lives and places from material and objects we dig up. The postcards you send to the Grand will be a record of this very strange moment in time.

After the festival, your postcards will be placed in a watertight physical time capsule. We will bury the time capsule in a secret location in Scarborough so that it will remain hidden, waiting to be discovered by archaeologists in the future! Future archaeologists and historians will be able to use your postcards to help tell the story of Scarborough and this terrible pandemic.

We will also create a digital time capsule that we will use in an exciting event during our 2022 Big Ideas By The Sea festival! "

All the postcards will be displayed in the Grand Hotel, to create an installation of images and text. The exhibition will be photographed and exhibited online.

We also encourage people to be inventive in their response. Some people may wish to send a drawing, write a poem, create a collage, knit or paint a picture.

### **More information**

Some people may want to keep their thoughts anonymous or private, if so we are asking individuals to write private on the postcard or letter so we do not exhibit them online. Some of the images could be used in social media posts and PR for future events. Deadline is the 16th of July 2021

### **All postcards to be sent to**

Big Ideas By The Sea  
Grand Hotel  
Scarborough  
St Nicholas Cliff,  
Scarborough YO11 2ET

### **Contact**

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