



Community Project Case Study

Patchwork for Penleys

Where? The Groves, residential care home on Penley Grove Street

When? September 2010 – March 2011

Who with? Residents of The Groves

Total Number of Participants: 3-9 people per activity

The Groves residential care home on Penley Grove Street in York houses older local people that are no longer able to live independently.

Patchwork for Penleys was a community heritage project that offered residents monthly sewing sessions making patchwork cushions whilst engaging in group reminiscence.

The project aimed to support the social and physical needs of residents, some of whom were suffering with dementia and others with physically degenerative illnesses, such as arthritis. The project was introduced with a 'Quilt History' session led by the Museum's Education Officer. Residents were able to see, touch and talk about historic textile items from the Quilt Museum's handling collection.

The residents used a combination of hand and machine sewing to make their patchwork cushions, and they enjoyed having a go on the 'modern' push button sewing machines.

Not everybody living at The Groves was well enough to participate in the project, so Museum volunteers kindly made cushion covers for these residents.

The finished cushion covers were presented to The Groves residents at a Celebratory tea party in March 2011.



Museum volunteers proudly show off their finished patchwork cushions!