

# Youngsters celebrate Hessle Road heritage as part of Hull 2017

By [HDMJCampbell](#) | Posted: February 22, 2017

By James Campbell

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image: <http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276270/Article/images/30152279/15868428-large.jpg>



SHOW STARS: (clockwise from top left) McKinley Smith, Kirk Cass and Regan Thompson, all ten, will star in 1940s-Now

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A new **project** is bringing together the old and the young of **Hessle Road** for a celebration of the area's fishing heritage.

The young people of Hessle Road Network will present a **performance** of 1940s-Now, charting Hull's famous street from the outbreak of the Second World War through the decline of the fishing industry and into modern day.

The performance is part of **Hull 2017's Creative Communities Programme**, which is being delivered in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund.

The performance, which takes place on the evening of February 24 at Hessle Road Network Young People's Centre, explores the differences in the lives of young people living in Hessle Road from the 1940s to the present day.

image: <http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276270/binaries/hesslekidsnetwork3.jpg>



Youngsters have been practising for the **show** for four months.

One of those is Chloe Peacham, ten, who said: "It is all part of **City of Culture** and compares what is happening now to what it was like in the 1940s. Learning what it was like back then shows us how tough life could be.

"We have been practising a lot so we are excited to be performing on Friday."

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Regan Thompson, ten, is also **looking forward** to performing.

He said: "I play a soldier in the Second World War and you realise back then it was kill or be killed.

"We have learnt a lot, particularly army stuff, and it has been really good fun."



Grace Hart, ten, is also excited to be part of the project.

She said: "We have learnt a lot about the 1940s. We have been rehearsing a lot and we are ready now. It is really good to be part of City of Culture."

To prepare for the show, young people interviewed older residents about what life was like for them when they were young, before working with a dance tutor to develop the performance.

image: <http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276270/binaries/hesslekidsnetwork2.jpg>



Julie Robinson, chief **officer** of Hesse Road Network, said: "We are really excited to be a part of Hull 2017. All of the young people have worked really hard to create an amazing performance, looking at what it is like to grow up in the Hesse Road area compared to how it was in the 1940s.

"Our young people have been working really hard to put this performance together, it will be a great experience for the group as well as for **family**, friends and the community who will have the opportunity to be a part of the City of Culture."

Martin Green, CEO and Director of Hull 2017, believes community projects like this are incredibly important.

He said: "Creative Communities is all about bringing people together to celebrate where they live and expressing pride in their roots through art and culture.

"This project is a fantastic way of bringing different generations together to start a conversation about their neighbourhood and develop an understanding of each other."

1940s-Now is free and will start at 6.30pm at St John's Church in St George's Road. Visit: [www.hull2017.co.uk/1940now](http://www.hull2017.co.uk/1940now) to book tickets.

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