**LOGG – 7 ALLEYS COMMUNITY CAST FOCUS GROUP 10/05/17**

**If we could start by introducing ourselves and telling us all how you came to find out about the 7 Alleys project and what made you want to be involved as a cast member.**

A. My name’s Simon Fisk, I saw it on the Better Impact and I think it was the two words ‘top secret’ that captured my imagination. And it sounded very different to anything else I’d seen come up on the schedule and that’s what made me sign up.

B. I’m Diane Matthews and I saw it on the Better Impact as well. I hadn’t really done any volunteering up until that point, so I was just sort of saying yes to anything that came up and I didn’t know what to expect at all, but it was fantastic.

C. I’m Maggie Bruce, I saw it on Better Impact and I read through it and I got scared, and I rang up my sister to be scared to my sister, and as I read through it and by the time I got to the end I thought oh sod it, I’ll do it. And I did.

D. My name’s Mark Chambers and I saw it on the Better Impact website – the Hull City of Culture Volunteering site. I think I just, like everybody else just started volunteering and it was a bit of… what’s it called…. just doing it for the volunteering really, and performing.

E. I’m Zoe Jones, I work for Hull City Council and had a presentation from James and Elizabeth about the project, with it being local for our area. I got chatting to Elizabeth because I knew a bit about the 7 Alleys from being at school, and she said ‘do you want to be in it?’, I said yes!

F. I’m Amy Easey, I again saw it on Better Impact website. Personally I was just signing up for everything and saw that was available and thought that looks fun, let’s do that. And it was fun, so all good!

G. Miranda Van Rossum, again, saw it on Better Impact, I enjoy performing and I was quite attracted and quite scared like Maggie by the notions of pyro and fire and all that, but performing, which I do enjoy. There are also some elements there that are outside of my comfort zone, so let’s go for it!

H. Mark Wilson, I saw it on the app, and I was enthralled by the description of ‘top secret’ and the fireworks, and I was kind of like, hungry to have a go at something brand new, so that’s what got me. And it was a very very tiring experience.

I. I’m Alison Morris and I saw it on Better Impact as well. I just read the schedule and thought, I can fit all this in, and I loved the sound of everything like everybody else, I loved the ‘top secret’ and what you would be involved in doing, and I liked the title 7 Alleys because I used to go down the 7 Alleys when I was younger because I lived round here. So I wanted to look back into the story and remind me of some of the myths that were about.

J. My name’s Iris Weatherly, like everybody else I saw it on the Better Impact website. Never done anything like this before, and do you know I’m still smiling, I can’t believe I’ve done it and I really want to do some more like that. And it intrigued me. And I’ve got a best mate who I told – I know I shouldn’t have done, but he doesn’t count because he doesn’t live here and he’s got nothing to do with the city of culture, and once I told him more about it he was so jealous, he wanted to jump in his car and come and join us but he knew he couldn’t. But he was really proud at the fact that I performed, because he’s actually an amateur dramatic, so he was absolutely jealous as hell. And I thought Yes! I’ve upset him, but in a nice way.

K. I’m Sherrie Rhodes, like everyone else, I saw it on Better Impact. I only signed up two days before it started, I didn’t have a clue what I was getting into, so I didn’t even read the schedule, I just turned up and then thought, ‘damn’. But yeah I loved it.

L. I’m Jill Berry, I was checking Better Impact because people say you need to check it all different times of the day, and I checked really quickly before work, didn’t have time to read it, just saw the ‘top secret’, there were only 20 places, you had to sign up for every day, so I ticked the whole lot and thought I’ll read later. You can always cancel, but you can’t get the places if they’re gone! And by lunchtime when I tried to read it, all the places had gone, so I was like wow. So yeah, it was definitely…Obviously it was the ‘top secret’ that attracted me, and then reading it I was like ‘ooh I get to play with fire, ooh there might be a chance of being from heights, ooh there’s the word chorus’ so all those key words jumping out at me.

M. I’m Vicky Pellat, saw it on Better Impact, again, I saw ‘top secret, fire, flames, pyro’ and I was just really excited by it. The fact that it was a full week and it just happened that I had a full week free, so it was, tick tick tick like you (to Jill). And then I had a quick look later on.

N. I’m Natalie Parkinson and actually I never went through Better Impact. My acting class teacher actually told me about this and she told me to get in touch with Louise, I sent Louise an email, we had a conversation over the phone, and I just could not wait to be involved in it. I mean, crazy is my middle name and if there’s any opportunity to be out of my comfort zone, I’m there. And it was just amazing.

**So it sounds like you all didn’t really know what to expect, but you were a bit intrigued and wanted to try something different. What were you hoping for, and what did you expect it to be like?**

N. Well when they said that we were going to attract 4,00o, they were going to close the gates at 4,000 people each night, I just couldn’t get my head around it, and also the fact that they said they were specialists at manipulating crowds and moving them out of the way, and you know, we were actually going to be performing through that, that thought was quite scary, but also, if we had that training, then I know that we would all get it right, and yeah they’d be the initial nerves, but it’s part of the excitement as well.

G. I certainly wasn’t expecting to be…I’d not seen Periplum before the company, and I’ve since found out that they’ve done some stuff before with Freedom, and I know that’s what they specialise in, performing among the audience, and I think also on Better Impact it actually said crowds of up to 2,500 and I got that in my head, and even that was a bit like ‘okay’, but I was expecting the crowds to be sort of either walking through the park or surrounding somewhere. I certainly wasn’t expecting to be working my way through a great big 15-foot flagpole with a banner on!

L. Yeah when I saw the fence I thought we’d be inside that enclosure and they’d all be watching and standing round the outside looking in! Where did you get that information from because I didn’t realise that we’d be working through the crowds…

N. Erm this was when I spoke to Louise. She said they were really good at manipulating crowds to move them out the way.

M. I don’t think we were expecting – well I didn’t expect that we were going to do as much as we did, and be involved as we did. I thought I might just be holding a lamp or showing people in, but we did not stop, from getting there to leaving. You just passed your torch and got onto something else.

G. When you watch flood, when I was watching Flood, one of my friends signed up for that, and I did go and watch it, they didn’t seem to be doing a great deal, and I was going to sign up for that, but there was one weekend that I just couldn’t do, and retrospectively, I’m quite glad that didn’t pan out and I’m glad I signed up for this one instead because I don’t think I would have got away with doing both with a husband and kids to look after! But yeah, we were so involved, and it didn’t feel like I was an extra.

E. It felt like we were an integral part of the team, we seemed to do more than the actors! They were just spinning around!

(Group laughs!)

H. Yeah I would exactly agree with that. Definitely.

I. They couldn’t have done it without us.

N. They got an easy ride on that cart!

(Group laughs)

L. It’s when you get in that bath and you’re like, why have I got a line of bruises down my legs?!

N. I was like, why can’t I open my eyes.

**Did anyone hope to achieve anything personally by being involved in 7 Alleys?**

J. I just got pushed so far out of my comfort zone, I don’t even know where that is anymore. I just want to do more of it! And all my friends have gone ‘you’ve just got this..’, I mean usually I smile anyway but she said ‘your smile has just gone like 15 foot wide, you just look so happy’. I mean I was absolutely knackered at the weekend, I mean Sunday I spent 90% of it in bed because I was so tired. I really couldn’t keep awake, because I’d worked a well as doing that. I just enjoyed it so much. And I’ve just done a shift at the BP gallery and it just felt so boring afterwards. But I still enjoyed it.

H. After reading the very brief, vague spec, I thought it would be something a little bit, kind of theatrical, and I like going to the theatre and watching plays, and I am in awe of people that can stand up and do that to an audience, because I’m not that confident. People say you do appear confident, but I’m not really that confident, I’m kind of like breaking down inside, so I was hoping that it would give me a little bit more experience in front of a crowd, which it definitely did. Although there was no speaking role, although I did interact with the public cheekily a couple of times. But yeah it was a fabulous experience and it was something that I’ve never done before, not since school on a stage doing a play at Christmas, so that you know, was nothing like anything I‘ve done before. It was a total experience, it was, as these guys have all said, it was totally hands on, we were doing every bit of the night, we were always waiting for the next cue, so we were…they trained us very well. Very, very well. Did you go? (To interviewer)

**Yes I did.**

H. And what did you think?

**I thought it was amazing, I went the first night when not as many people had heard about it, so it wasn’t as busy.**

H. If I was an audience member, I might have had to have gone twice to get the full story, because it’s a bit difficult to perhaps get it, if you’re not from the area and you don’t know the 7 Alleys. But it was immense. Absolutely immense. It was a fabulous experience, probably the best I’ll have in 2017. Definitely yeah, doing volunteering.

E. I found it was a massive self-confidence boost. Because I’ve gone straight into doing something else, shaking it (dancing) doing the dance project, which is just amazing. I just want to keep going and going and going. I’ve got more energy than I thought I had, even though last week I was so draining and so tiring, but so good and so much fun. And I’ve made loads of great friends which is fab.

**So the dance thing, is that off the back of doing the 7 Alleys? Would you not have done it otherwise?**

E. I wouldn’t have known about it if I hadn’t have spoken to Elizabeth, I wouldn’t have been in this, and I wouldn’t have known about the other stuff that’s going on.

**And is Elizabeth one of your colleagues?**

E. No she works for 2017.

**Oh right, okay.**

E. She did a big presentation so, right place at the right time.

**Did anyone else hope to achieve something personally through being involved?**

N. Just more confidence. And just being part of a bigger group, delivering something special to people of Hull. Doing something that you’ve got to get right, and each goal, each task is so fundamental to the whole show. You’ve got to be on cue, so the timings have to be exact for it to all go right. It’s more like teamwork, and I know we probably all work in teams and things like that, but really, this was to coordinate and be on cue with everyone, it was like eyes and ears and you know, focussing on…

G. One of my friends actually commented on that, the people actually putting the flags down, and he was actually stood over that way, and he said ‘that was so well organised’ and I said they choreographed putting the flags down and everything, and then on your way to the balloons, so people noticed.

N. People didn’t know we had strategies for different parts of different things. And just to perform in a theatrical place for the public, and now we know what it feels like to perform, manipulating the crowd just to get from one end to the other.

G. I think that was good, because I don’t like….I didn’t have any sort of set goals at the start or anything, I didn’t have a problem with the performing aspect because I’m with an amateur theatre group, that’s fine, but certainly, and I think when I said it on the group as well, I commented on that – I’m not so good with crowds, I don’t particularly like fireworks, and I’m also not physically the strongest of people, but I think I‘ve done that and also, if you talk about crowd management, I would feel a lot more confident now going into a crowd and doing my strong neutral – sorry it’s a thing (group laughs), going through a crowd and knowing that you can, by projecting a clear pathway of where you want to go, you can get yourself through crowds. So just as a little life skill.

D. Yeah it was good to practice that, in that rehearsal to walk through crowds and to get a bit of practice before the crowds appear.

**To what extent would you say your experience of being involved met your hopes and expectations?**

M. Above and beyond. Absolutely.

N. It takes you to a different level. Actually in yourself, if you’re a confident person, you’ve boosted 10 times more. It’s just an incredible feeling, something you can’t really describe. Like when you see all the public and they’ve come to see you perform. And people know about it, and people you know go there. It’s just this feeling of like, you know when you…it’s worse than butterflies, you’ve got all your emotions into one. And it’s that proud moment that you feel because you’re in it.

H. In the line-up in the very beginning when the horses come in, and we start doing the smoke and the lanterns and the light’s dropping, I had a lump in my throat every night and I was kind of almost, not pinching myself because you can’t believe you’re there, but kind of like that. Almost excitedly giggling to yourself that this is just about to happen – again! It’s not like a one off, you get to do it 4 or 5 times.

**So did you all do it every night?**

(Group) yes.

N. Not only did we do it every night, but we did run throughs before that.

A. I think everybody said they didn’t want it to end, we wanted to do it another week didn’t we.

(Group chat)

H. My colleagues, I think you told a friend didn’t you (to other member), well I told my girlfriend, and I told a few people at work, and you couldn’t tell them everything obviously, because they were going to watch it. But they picked up on the energy that I was transmitting because I was excited after the first meeting, the first Sunday rehearsal. And we made the banners and everything, and they were like ‘ooh really, do you get to do this with Hull 2017, I thought you’d be handing out giving leaflets.’ And I said oh no! And then the customers started to ask coming in, and then everybody I know started to ask, ‘oh are you doing that thing again at East Park’, it was really took you up onto a different level, and I think we’re all riding the wave at the moment aren’t we?

(Group) Yeah.

H. It has, it’s lifted our enthusiasm.

N. I mean I’ve got more muscles from holding the lanterns. Because for half an hour, we had to hold lanterns like that in that positions, and slowly swap.

H. It’s like a car battery these lanterns!

N. Just building these audiences, the pre performance, and walking through that bit. And did you like the bubblegum boy? (To interviewer)

**Was that with the balloons?**

N. Yeah and we all ran into the audience and like 25 balloons were released.

(Group chat inaudible)

H. Yeah, you don’t know what happened, we won’t spoil the myth but it’s hard to pull off!

(Group laugh)

J. You’ve got a battery pack at the bottom, which is really heavy.

N. But it made it so hard to walk slowly.

L. You feel like you’re going to fall over!

(Group chat)

**So I get the impression that it was better than you expected, is that right?**

(Group agree)

A. Yeah, absolutely.

X. A hundred times better.

N. It doesn’t matter how exhausted you feel, you went back for more. I did about 74 hours that week because I was at work at a full time job, and then I got 45 minutes from when I was being picked up at half 5, and it was almost like a routine, a sandwich, bag of crisps, fruit, drink, routine, flags, back, home bed, 11pm and then 8 o clock at work the next morning.

L. Because you can’t wind down! You go to bed, you go home, go straight to bed and you’re laying there for about 2 hours thinking ‘go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep’, you’re too excited.

M. Going through the routine.

C. And they said the day after we’d finished, ‘oh it’s tea time, I’m just going to go into the garden and eat a sandwich’.

(Group laugh)

N. I can’t believe on the Saturday morning I actually did something normal like cook myself some breakfast like sausage and bacon and beans and, I was like yeah I’ve actually cooked something, I’ve hoovered the floor!

L. I didn’t know what to do with myself after work on Monday! Because yesterday I went back out, but on Monday I was like, what do I do?

N. I went to acting class.

M. You were reliving it, everything that you did, on Sunday night, because we’ve got a Facebook page so I was putting like ‘half past 9, we’d do the warm-up, quarter to 9 we’d be doing this, 9 o clock we’d be doing this’ and we just relived it all.

N. What did I put, ‘It’s half past 9, I’m in bed and I’ve got the feeling I should be outside doing something.

L. Zoe’s working in the park so she’ll be really lonely now, she’s got all them memories there.

E. I walked into the park where we all were and everything had gone, I was walking along and I saw a tent peg and I was like ‘yes!!’

(Group laughs)

E. I pulled the tent peg out and I was like oooh I might have to post on Facebook ‘road trip’, we’ll go take them it back. But it’s still on my desk, I’m like no, not yet.

D. Has it still got the loop that it was tied to?

E. It had gone, somebody had beaten me to it. I went looking especially.

**So what was everyone’s favourite part? What did you enjoy the most?**

F. Periplum, I enjoyed meeting those guys.

L. I enjoyed the relationships.

M. Our dynamic as well. Because we just gelled as a group straight away, I’ve never known anything like it.

N. You always get one but we just never did, did we? We just all gelled together didn’t we.

J. And the professionals didn’t treat us any different.

(Group agree)

J. But they actually interacted with us, and they’ve got this daft routine that they always do before each performance…

X. Yeah it’s like a ritual isn’t it.

J. And we started joining in with us.

N. Kicking each other’s bums and slapping each other.

J. It’s a ritual that all sports people and all performers do, and they were doing it and we were like ‘what are you doing’ and we all started joining in with them.

N. And then we had some amazing photographs of the group as the week progressed, we all took really daft photographs of the group, this was like our energies, and we did one where Mark was taking it, and we all had this video where we were running towards the camera, a scary picture!

(Group laugh)

N. It was just amazing wasn’t it. But for me, it was just knowing that there was a massive crowd behind me, that feeling when the gates were opening and you could hear the violin and you’re preparing for show time.

**So the feeling of excitement was a big thing?**

H. Yeah, yeah it was.

G. And seeing the comments on Facebook after, and also people coming by. People were like ‘amazing’ and ‘absolutely brilliant’.

I. And knowing that my family and friends had come to see us.

E. I’ve had about as many people coming to the office and knocking on the door saying ‘we came to see you it was amazing, you’ve got to tell them it was so good’. They were like ‘we were waving but you didn’t break character’ and I was like I’m professional.

B. We were all so well trained.

E. Absolutely.

J. Unfortunately I broke character a little bit, because my husband and son as we were going through with the flags, they saw me and they were like waving!

B. You didn’t really see people though did you because you were so focussed and looking forward all the time, you didn’t really see. You knew they were all there, but you didn’t really focus and see individual people really did you. Well I didn’t.

D. It was more difficult when people were talking to you, if anyone else got anyone talking to you when you were holding the lantern, asking strange questions.

N. Photographs right at the end and people going (mime taking a picture).

M. My best bit was stood at the beginning and the lights going down and hearing the horse hooves, and knowing that my two children had come. So usually it’s me stood on the field watching rugby, or taking them to dance class every weekend, and now they’re grown up, 23 and 20, and they’ve come to see me. And they posted on Facebook ‘this is my mum, my mum did this’, and for me, to stand there and know that they were behind and they had come to see me. It’s making me nearly cry!

F. You were in the Yorkshire Post weren’t you!

M. I made the Yorkshire Post! Yeah looking like terrible. Resting bitch face.

H. Have you googled searched or looked at it on Twitter? (To interviewer)

**Yeah I’ve got the group on Facebook.**

H. Because if you want any photographs or anything I’d be happy to share.

N. We’re going to do this hardback book, and we’re going to have photographs in there and all sorts.

H. Was it Michael’s idea? Michael who’s not here, he’s meeting the Duke of York yesterday, so he’s hobnobbing, so unfortunately he blew you out for the Duke of York, but I’m sure you don’t mind. But yeah he’s going to create a book with all the photos and then…

N. Sell it to us for a fiver.

H. Is he going to sell it to us for a fiver each?

M. I think it’s a fiver or more than a fiver. Everything was a fiver with Michael wasn’t it.

(Group chat)

H. But the favourite bit for me was the very beginning. Just being quiet. Because half an hour before, they got us all together and said okay guys, it’s getting near to the time, so remember to focus and not be too complacent, and don’t go one way or the other, just get into it, be quiet, be calm. And then we went out onto the field and you could just see this sea of people who had been queuing for an hour, and that feeling that it’s all about to happen again. As well as the food, I loved the food too. Yeah I thought the food was amazing.

M. I’m still trying to get over the carb overload, my tummy is not….It was white bread, crisps, buns.

N. I did my 10,000 steps everyday.

**Was there anything that anyone didn’t enjoy about the experience?**

E. It was too short.

(Group laughs)

N. We want more!

F. The difficulty was fitting it into your day-to-day life, and part of us went to work during the day and was there on the evening. It made your week very long. But I wouldn’t change it for the world, but if you were going for anything to point out, it would have been I suppose feeling like a zombie at work, but aside from that.

L. Our normal jobs are so boring!

H. Yeah actually, I think we’re all going to quit our jobs now and set up a circus group or something.

M. I think not having a hot meal or vegetables.

N. Vegetables. Meat and veg.

M. Yeah just a proper dinner, just eating out….for the first night it was ‘oh great’…

L. I didn’t trust them though because I’m lactose intolerant and need dairy free, and they kept giving me kit kats and cheese and onion crisps! So I made sure I had my food before I came out and just snacked on the bits I could. I think Louise kept telling them.

J. I’m yeast free and they kept giving me kit kats and crisps with yeast in, which I couldn’t eat. I did very politely email them to say it was funny for the first time, but the second time it was a little bit….

N. When you have to eat it for your tea every night.

M. I came out in loads of spots.

**Was there anything else, or was it just the tiredness and the schedule?**

H. I don’t think there was a single negative thing.

A. No I don’t.

H. Honestly it was put together perfectly.

N. We all did it together, we experienced it together, we all got through it. And nobody complained about anything.

*Late participant joins the group.*

L. I was on the phone with someone today and they were saying ‘you know at the beginning where you have the lanterns and the smoke, you know the bit I’m talking about where they were putting lanterns and smoke’ and I was like yes that was me!! You get really excited.

J. And it’s like the guy that was on the professional side, he always made sure that we were comfortable. If there was anything you didn’t want to do, you just tell him. And we all sorted ourselves out with what we really wanted to do.

M. We all wanted to do everything.

L. I was like I want to carry a torch but I want to throw the smoke bombs.

G. I think it was good, I mean obviously you know the director and (inaudible) and certainly on the first night Claire was one of the directors, but that they had two sort of designated people as it were that were working with us, and they were both very good.

B. They were very calm, they never seemed to get stressed no matter what we threw at them.

O. They treat us like grown ups didn’t they.

G. Yeah, exactly.

O. They just give you a fire torch and you’re like, really?!

(Group laugh)

O. I’m not used to this! I’m usually getting told off for things like this!

**To what extent did taking part challenge you in anyway? So it can be physically challenging, did you have any personal fears or any nervousness that you had to overcome?**

N. I think we tick every box there. All of us. It’s the physical tiredness, it’s getting through the shows, it’s that when you’re not used to being awake, let along being outside at that time, because that is a massive change when you’re outside from half 5 til 11 o clock.

C. Something for me that I said when I first saw it, was my immediate thought was ‘well that’s not for me, I’m not doing that’. But then I talked it through and as I’m reading it, I’m sort of thinking….And I did it. And I spoke to my sister and we come from a very unconfident family, and so I’d spoke to her and I said I was quite nervous, and she had a little think and said ‘do you think what we call nervous and anxious is actually what other people call exciting?’ And I thought oh god, yes! It is.

H. Is the reason…You dealt with your anxiousness and excitement because you’d had the cue cards that you’d made yourself didn’t you?

C. I just needed that because we’d practiced the bit, sort of separately, and I mean my cue cards would have been no good for anyone else, because as you know, we all had different things, but I mean I’m saying it’s because I’m a musician which may be complete rubbish, but I’m a classical musician and I’m used to having in front of me exactly what’s required of me, and if I want to annotate on it then I’ll do that. So to sort of have somebody teach me ‘this is bit E, this is bit A’, and I’m thinking, I really don’t know how this all fits together, but just for me, just writing down the order. And then the walking through every night was brilliant, so by possibly the third time of going through, the cue cards go out the window. And you know exactly what happens. I could probably do it right now, again. But yeah, I needed that.

H. Yeah a challenge was the tiredness. Because I was probably getting to bed about 1 and getting u at 6, so having about 35 hours sleep in a week was a challenge. And then also, actually gelling in a group of very different people as well. Because I run a very small business, but usually I’m the one giving the orders and bossing people around. So I had to like hold it back and calm down a little bit.

A. Oh no you didn’t!

(Group laughs)

H. That probably translated into a bit of childish excitement perhaps. So that was a challenge for me. But it was all a challenge because it was all new, but the bigger challenge was working with a bigger group of people who don’t know you very well, who you might ay something to somebody that you would get away with at work in a working in environment because you know each other so well, because you’ve worked together for 20 years, but you don’t know anybody. You’ve probably had less than 3 minutes conversation personally between everybody, and you had to just work.

N. I think on the third night the barriers just…I think by Tuesday the barriers came down for everybody and everyone had this sense of normality and you just say what you want.

H. Yeah I think we were probably just un-embarrassable by the end of the week.

**So what were the main emotions that you felt throughout taking part?**

A. For me it was excitement. Proud.

L. Probably extreme excitement.

J. Very proud that I actually did it. I’ve seen the videos and I think ‘I’m doing that!!’ And it was a real sort of pride, that I helped put a show together by being directed by the people, and I’m part of it. And I was in the right place at the right time. I did it!

**So proud of yourself or…**

N. Determination to get to the end of the week, and accomplish all that we did. And also quite teary with all the music. Different parts.

I. Emotional.

N. Emotional it was emotional.

H. Trepidation at the beginning definitely, but there was never a point where you were bored, or you thought this is coming a bit tedious. And then at the end, kind of like sadness and sorrow and a little bit of loss.

(Group)

E. I feel bereaved.

N. I’m going to miss everyone.

D. I think nervous as well, but because everyone’s so nice, the nerves kind of went away, it was more excitement.

O. It’s one of the best groups I’ve ever worked with of people. And I’ve set up loads of organisations and recruited volunteers and I’ve been a volunteer, but working with these lot was a joy. It really was.

M. It was just a natural thing, and I never changed the person that I was from the start. I was just me. And I didn’t feel like I had to. Because I’ve done loads about group-work and communication, and I’m just flabbergasted at how we’ve gelled and we’ve set up a Facebook page and we just get on.

N. It’s the innuendos! You all kept…

(Group chat and laugh)

G. It helped that we had a specific task to accomplish, because lets face it, we had a job to be getting on with, we were given instructions, so to an extent, it’s kind of you want to make it a success, you don’t want to let the side down, so you just get on with it. I think that does help, that it’s a really clear focus and a limited time frame in which to accomplish it.

M. But even in a group you’ll get like two people that want to be in charge or you’ll get loads of people that don’t want to be involved, but everybody had a role.

L. Apart from when Iris pushed Mark over.

J. He was in my way!

L. We just about at that point where we had to pick them up as quick as we could and walk out, I bent down to pick mine up and Mark stood on it, I was like give me my flag! And Iris pushed him!! (Laughing)

J. In a loving way.

**So before taking part in this, how connected did you feel to the community in East Hull and Preston Road? Did anyone have any personal connection to the area?**

N. None, and I was actually just saying in the car, I didn’t have any of these connections, and I feel like I want to come back to East Hull and learn about the history of it, because there’s just so much about East Hull. I always think ‘I’m West Hull’ and just disregard East Hull, and I want that to be a part of me now and embrace it and go out and see what I’ve missed.

I. I live in East Hull and I’ve always lived in East Hull, and I work at a school on the corner of Preston Road, and I used to play down the 7 Alleys when I was younger so I knew all about it. I’d forgotten some of the stories behind it, but you know.

**I suppose it was nice for you…..**

I. Yeah to be in the area. And I knew lots of people from around here that was coming to watch it, and they’ve been talking about it ever since. Some of the kids at school came. And they’ve only just found out – ‘Was you in it?! I never saw you’, and loads of people said ‘ooh Mrs Morris was in there, did you see her’ and they were like no?

C. You should have said you were the one with the black coat and hat.

(Group laughs)

**So has anyone else ever lived in East Hull or?**

C. I was born and bred in East Hull but I left to go to college and I’ve been away until 5 years ago when I came back to care for my Mum. So I might as well have been anywhere, I was just caring for my mum, I still wasn’t engaging with the city. She actually went into fulltime care, and when she died in February, so in all that time, I’d never had anything to do with the city, never gone into town, still haven’t been to Beverley since I’ve come back, I mean it’s ridiculous really. So a part of the City of Culture thing for me is to try and get to grips with Hull as it is now, because it’s so completely different. I mean the very first thing that I went to on the route was the Made in Hull thing and it said ‘this is in Zebedee’s Yard’ and I was like what the hell is Zebedee’s Yard?! Never heard of it. And I just don’t know where anything is, what anything is, and I know this is more about this specific project, but the city of culture thing for me is hugely important. Because it’s now helping me to…And also I have to say, I’ve spent my entire life defending Hull because people automatically stick the boot in, but in my head I don’t know why I’m defending it. Well I do know why I’m defending it, but I don’t know what it’s got to offer. And now I’m really finding what it’s got to offer. So if I ever go back south – which I won’t, I’ll know what to say. But I actually had friends up from London last weekend and they were gobsmacked.

O. I lived and grew up and work in East Hull, and I have done all the time I’ve lived in Hull really. I was part of the NDC and helped set up all the youth inclusion projects and women’s projects – not obviously on my own. And 7 Alleys is a massive part of my childhood.

**So what did it mean to you to be involved, coming from this area?**

O. It meant a lot. It meant a lot yeah.

**So aside from living in East Hull, did anyone have any other connections to the area?**

E. I was born East Hull, lived in East Hull nearly all my life, moved out of Hull now, but I work in this area, I cover everything from sort of Southcoates to the city so, it was really nice to know what was going to be happening and have people kind of whispering about it, and I was thinking ‘I know a bit more than you do about this’, this is going to be good. Dealing with different groups and them finding things out was really nice, and the feedback from people who had been, like I say, people in the office had said ‘I saw you in it, it was brilliant’. And their feedback was just ‘when’s the next event like that going to be?’ It was so good. And with it being local, some people know the stories, some people don’t know the stories, so everyone kind of sharing their own little bits of it was lovely.

O. Seeing the faces, I’ve never seen a crowd from Preston Road or to do with Preston Road, their faces were just mesmerised by what was going on. They’ve never seen. And I was mesmerised doing it!

N. Yeah when something happened from one end to the other end and we were all coming round waiting for our lanterns again, and then the spinner comes out and the music changes and then everyone goes….

C. When we got to the very end, we were accompanying that spinner over, and it was like the very last thing, and we stopped because we’d got to the end, and this little lad went ‘is that it?’ and we were sort of like thinking oh he’s going to start whinging, and we said ‘yeah’ and he said ‘it was effing brilliant!’.

O. I’ve had all positive feedback. All positive feedback.

H. I went to school, senior school around here. I was born on Escourt Street, East Hull and my mum and Dad moved into a house on Bransholme, because everybody was selling their privately owned houses and going onto Bransholme, because they had upstairs downstairs toilets, central heating, garages, massive space, which it still has, but it’s not quite the place it was. And then we moved to other places, but I went to school on Greatfield, which is literally about 200 yards that way, and I never heard of 7 Alleys until last week! But there was a place called Boarhouse Lane, and we used to play on the cinder tracks there, you know sort of at break times or whatever, and what it did do 7 Alleys, was it brought back memories of Bransholme when I was a child and there are so many similarities of when I was a child, all the little things and the little scrapes we used to get involved in. And it did bring back some good memories yeah. But that’s my link, I went to school here.

**Has taking part changed how you feel about this area?**

H. yeah massively.

**In what way?**

H. In a positive way. Because Greatfield, in my head is a place where the buses will come down to Annandale Road, and they won’t turn at the terminus because they’ll get bricks put through the window.

O. Yeah but it’s not like that anymore.

H. And people drive up Preston Road and get bricks thrown at their cars. It was happening like 6 months ago, people were getting stopped on the road in their cars and they were getting attacked, and it’s such a bad thing to happen. It makes you feel better now about the area. Those were isolated incidents, but they do happen. They can happen anywhere.

N. And I think what’s positive about having the City of Culture and having it in Hull and the different parts of Hull, it makes everybody integrate better, and it makes everybody put their negativity to one side and just embrace other people’s areas.

A. I thought it was intriguing that they didn’t brand it as a city of culture event. And for whatever reason, if that perhaps encouraged people who wouldn’t associate themselves with a city of culture event to attend, then it was obviously very good.

O. That was a conscious effort from day 1 that.

A. So from that point of view, they won’t necessarily have seen it as a city of culture event, but just something that was taking place in their community. And that was…they said they attended in their thousands to watch it, so from that point of view, it was very very positive.

O. And people that. Like as well, all the development work I’ve done on Preston Road, just to get people to have a bit of pride in where they live, and that show, it just like ‘Yeah, that’s our 7 Alleys that, that’s our 7 Alleys’. And I’m thinking all these years, I’ve gone grey and all sorts and I could have just got in touch with Periplum and put a show on!

(Group laughs)

**How would you describe East Hull and its communities, prior to being involved in 7 Alleys, and how would you describe it after? Has it changed?**

A. Well personally I’m from the West side, and you sort of recognise that there effectively is a division, I don’t know if it’s changed anything, I mean it was good to find out the story, but equally you could have had the same stories somewhere else.

O. No you couldn’t!

A. Well they picked up on that to write a play, but it could have been somewhere else couldn’t it. It could have been positioned somewhere else. I mean I’m not saying…it’s not changed my view about that part of Hull, I don’t think I had any preconceived ideas about it. But I guess the question really is, what impact has it had on those people that attended. I mean we’re all over-awed by it because we were part of it, but I guess the real question is, what impact has it had on…

E. I think the immediate impact is that people are talking about it at home, but whether they’ll always talk about it…I think people will remember it. It will get less talked about as time goes on.

O. I think the Preston Road is pretty unique because the whole reason it was built was to accommodate the industrial workers. So ad obviously at that time in our history, people were encouraged to have kids because it wasn’t long after the war and we had low workforce – not going to get political. But then when all the industry went from this area, you had granddad, dad and son all out of work in one go. And so then when they had families, they had benefits, and then they had kids, so you’ve ended up with like 5 generations almost that have grown up not thinking that work is a normal thing. And it’s not their fault. But on a positive note, the people of this area are so resilient and resourceful. And they almost have that Blitz mentality sometimes. They can argue like hell with each other but if anybody has a go at them, then they always stick together.

N. What I found was, on the pre performance and having our sandwiches outside, the amount of people that actually use the park. And I didn’t quit appreciate how nice that park was and the facilities that it has and even the guy under the microphone telling them ‘I can see you behind that tree’, but it made me just appreciate the park more, and whenever I see anything that’s happening in the future in East Park I’ll definitely be attending because I think it’s a beautiful park.

**Did anyone feel any different towards the communities in this area? Have your opinions changed?**

H. I think I thought about the history of the place more, and a slightly deeper understanding and more respect for the people. Because it is kind of like, there are other places in Hull, there are many, that you’ve got multi-generational dole families, and you tend to look down on people slightly in those areas. And you sometimes forget everything else about the history and where people have come from and why that’s happened, and as you said, it’s not their fault. The majority of times, it’s not their fault. So yeah I do feel for the communities.

N. It’s a cultural thing isn’t it, it’s embracing different cultures.

O. Since the show, I’ve looked at community development in a totally different way. I think it might have been a bit of a life-changing experience actually. I think there’s a way of developing individuals through what we did, because you had no time for your own ego, did you, you had to be switched on because of the materials you were dealing with an the crowds and stuff, and I just think it would be really good for people of all ages to have a go. I reckon we could do one of those shows every month. When we get our own outdoor arts centre which I’m working on.

N. I think so as well.

So going back to personal outcomes, in what ways, if any, are you proud of the personal contribution you’ve made to the 7 Alleys overall?

M. Humour for me.

(Group laughs)

F. It was just such a big team effort.

H. I’m proud that it happened, I was a part of history. With the Sea of Hull thing, its really is a one off thing, it’s probably never going to happen like that again, you can tell your family your friends, your children, your grandchildren and it will go on forever. And because it’s on this thing called the internet, you can just type a few words in and bang, you can relive it all.

N. Yeah exactly it’s something, it’s like history in it’s making isn’t it, and we were all part of that and we were proud to be part of that. What we performed, thousands of people are talking about it! There was 25 of us doing different things and had about 7 different cues and without us, that wouldn’t have happened. There’s thousands of people, and twitter went ballistic, Facebook went nuts, and it was just to read the reviews from people’s Facebook and things like that, makes you feel enormously proud of what you’ve achieved and the energy you’ve put in there and people don’t know behind the scenes how we actually got there, how we got to performing.

G. And I think a lot people didn’t necessarily know, I mean obviously our friends and what have you would have come, but I think a lot of them wouldn’t have even known we were part of the company.

H. Yeah, because you didn’t have a volunteer badge on, you were in a role and you were part of it.

O. Apart from the 3 actors.

**In what ways has your experience of the 7 Alleys inspired you to think differently about yourself and your life, and what you might want to do in the future?**

O. I want to be Periplum.

(Group laugh)

E. I want to be out there doing stuff. I can do it.

M. We think we’re amazing, talented, we can do anything!

H. Yeah it’s kind of like a calendar girls moment.

M. I just think the confidence and the support.

N. I think we should do a 7 Alleys calendar.

(Group laugh)

N. I mean I’ll continue to do my acting and carry on getting more involved in that on TV and more theatrical, things like this and just pushing my boat out more, see what I can achieve.

O. I loved it. Acting for me, it just felt. I don’t know if it’s just, the subject matter and from that first meeting with Lou and Damien, but I just can’t even stand the thought of going back to work indoors.

E. I was sat there today looking out the window going, ‘we should get out there’.

O. This time last week we were there weren’t we.

G. Yeah we were just about getting ready.

M. I just sit looking at opportunities now. And then I’m like right I’m going to email for that, I’m going to register for that, I can do that. Whereas I spent all of my time previous to this, I used to get in from work, have a shower, put my pyjamas on and sit and watch TV.

O. Visibly all the way through, you could see how much it was…it was a joy to see as well. You could live and breathe it couldn’t you.

M. Yeah definitely, apart from the pack-up.

**I think confidence and self-esteem seem to be two things that keep coming up..**

(Group agree)

A. Yes.

J. I was talking to one of the other volunteers who helped do a thing called ‘Timeprank’ where they look for volunteers, and I actually started the ball rolling there to be one of their volunteers.

M. I’m sticking in potatoes next Saturday! Desperate actress!

E. As we said earlier, Louise put on our Facebook page about this Assemble Fest, and to volunteer for dancing, so a few of us went along to volunteer to dance, so you know, we wouldn’t have seen that if it wasn’t for that. And now we’re all looking for.

L. And I can’t dance to save my life…

E. Which you proved last night.

L. I wasn’t lying! It wasn’t me just saying ‘oh no I can’t dance’.

**So that’s not something you would have done?**

E. I might have done, but I wouldn’t have found out about that they needed some dancers. I only went because Zoe told me to come.

N. I think it’s all inspired everyone, and we all want to stay in touch so we want to do what everyone else is doing.

E. Yeah we do, get the gang back together.

L. It’s like the plant packing came up and I thought ‘no that’s boring’ and then someone said they were doing it and I was like ‘okay I’ll do it’.

N. It’s just any excuse isn’t it.

L. But now we’ve cancelled it to do something else.

**So in what ways did your experience doing this make you think differently about the arts, and performing in general? So thinking about maybe outdoor performing or focusing on like a local story? Did it make you think anything?**

X. I wish they’d done it earlier.

N. I want to do more.

O. I don’t see the point in doing Hull New Theatre when we could just have an outdoor performing area, which is part of the Outdoor Arts Centre….

G. I think for me, I’ve done the performing before, that wasn’t in itself the issue, but I think the physicality of it, I don’t think I was that confident in being physically involved in a production, and I’ve just signed up for a ‘into the light’ dance thing for the LGBT thing, and before now, I might have thought ‘oh yeah I can dance but you know..’

A. I think one of the key elements was that obviously we were part of it, but also the audience was part of it. It’s key, whereas you could, You know to experience it in that way, to think you could have that number of people who were. I think we joked at one point that health and safety goes mad, where you can’t do this and you can’t do that, yet you can walk through a crowd of 4,000 with ten people carrying torches and fireworks going off left right and centre. So I think that part of it where the audience were integral to it, they must have felt a part of it in the way that we did, so I guess it’s pretty crucial to making it a different experience to sitting, whether it’s inside or outside, sitting there and watching it.

E. It wasn’t delivered at you, whereas this, they were actually part of the show, and they were encouraged wasn’t they.

N. They were motivated weren’t they.

F. Even from the beginning where they were following the horse and carriage down towards the performance area and then at the end when they went down the 7th Alley, and everything, you were more art of the performance than you would be otherwise.

C. And nobody seemed to want it to end did they? They’d follow anybody with a lantern anywhere.

(Group laughs)

F. You’d try to walk away and they were following you!

**Did anyone develop any skills as a result of being involved?**

C. I’m very good at throwing smoke grenades.

(Group laugh)

L. I started throwing them, and then I started getting more confident in putting them down. After seeing Mark pick one up and reposition it, I thought okay, you can put them down, you don’t have to….

N. I’m an expert in holding flags and walking through crowds. Because that was four times bigger than me, I’m only 5 foot 1, and it was windy. So I don’t know how I’m holding a pole on a very windy.

I. It took a lot of strength to do that.

N. It did!

G. Like you said, manoeuvring through crowds.

L. And getting bashed into.

D. I don’t know if it’s a skill, walking through crowds, but it was good to practice.

E. Not just that though, we helped to make the props, we helped to make the banners, and that was like a massive team building exercise, making sure you had the hole and the tape and the rope and getting it all fastened on and putting it all together. So we put them all together and we took them all down, and that was like our big thing, that we’d really done. Because if we hadn’t have put them together, someone else would have had to have done it and it would have taken them ages. That was ours, we owned that.

O. They made us feel part of the crew totally. The actors they, weren’t pretentious were they.

(Group agree)

N. And I brought my little bell from home that was my nanas that passed, so I had my own little bell.

**That’s nice, so she was involved.**

N. She was very much involved.

**So what knowledge have you gained as a result of being involved? Have you learnt anything new about obviously the story of 7 Alleys or knowledge of the history of the East Hull?**

G. Well we’ve learnt about neutral and strong neutral haven’t we.

(Group laugh)

E. How to make an impact with walking slowly.

N. Facial expressions.

H. It’s a blank page.

(Group chat)

So there’s acting skills that you’ve learnt.

O. Yeah I didn’t do very well in that.

N. Learning how to contain your nerves and you know, your excitement to perform the same way every night.

G. And parting crowds. I quite enjoyed on the first few evenings will you Jill, sort of with the spinner over, like ‘crowds, get out of the way.’

L. I loved that were we had to stand on that line as well, and you kind of see the spinner over coming in and there’s people coming past.

N. And when Graham said, ‘you guys are in control of the crowd’, gave you like a sense of autonomy like we are in control.

**Was anyone worried about that?**

N. No, we weren’t in the end.

O. We were a force to be reckoned with weren’t we.

G. I think we were before hand, but not once we’d had the training.

**So you felt quite prepared?**

N. Very confident.

E. We could do it together, we were all part of it.

H. Yeah little tips, very useful little tips that the actors told us about crowd management.

**So did anyone learn anything about the actual story? I know you mentioned from living around here you knew bits of the stories? But did anyone learn anything about the 7 Alleys and what they were?**

A. Well I’d never heard of them. And it promoted you to read beforehand and talking to people who knew the story I thought was fascinating.

D. The story of bubblegum, does it actually kill you if you swallow it? I remember being told as a child that you can’t eat bubblegum.

E. Yeah you can’t swallow it, it will go round your heart and you’ll die.

O. That all came from bubblegum boy.

E. That was one of the big things. And you can’t go down 7 Alleys after dark.

D. But is there any proof in that?

E. No he actually died of meningitis.

O. It was just something grown ups used to stop you doing silly things. Like not going down there after dark, which I frequently did.

**So did you mainly learn about the stories through being a participant or did anyone go home and Google it?**

A. Yeah.

N. Yeah I went on the Green Fellowship on that website, I read the stories of that and it makes me want to get the group together and visit them, now that we’ve done this performance, I want to get the group together and go down the 7 Alleys and visit the gravestones and be a part of all that. And educate ourselves.

O. I told you I’d take you. I’ve even found a path I can put candles down.

B. Will we need our lanterns and bells?

O. I went and had a look round there yesterday, the second time in 30 years, and the first time Damien and Claire came with me, and it was hilarious. And the other side of 7 Alleys, the other side of the freight train tracks used to be bushes and it’s mature trees now! I felt really old. But it’s an amazing place. You would have thought you were in the middle of Hampshire or something like that.

F. When they were walking down, didn’t they get half way down and then Claire got scared and was like, oh lets go back.

O. Yeah and you can’t really get down the scary bits, because they’ve fenced it all off to the prison.

N. But you can still look.

O. Yeah you can still look, we had a good look. And if you go in the graveyard you can see through the fence the abandoned part, so even that’s spooky. I say it like it’s spooky, I’ve never been scared of it.

N. Friday the 13th we’ll go.

**So I know a lot of you got involved with this project through Better Impact, but if given the choice to be involved with anything else to do with the Land of Green Ginger projects….**

(Group interjects) Yes!

A. Yes absolutely!

**Just to gather your interest.**

N. We know there are more things coming up and we want to be the first to be involved.

**I know the Land of Green Ginger project is continuing.**

O. Is it an outdoor arts thing?

**I’m not sure.**

N. You’ve got the A-team, why would you look anywhere else.

O. I think personally they would want us all, because Damien and Claire when I was talking to them, they were saying what a brilliant bunch of volunteers we are.

N. They loved us.

G. Well they’re coming to Freedom Festival in September, I know for a fact that Barry actually checked u with Lou and said ‘you’ve got these guys contact details haven’t you.’

E. Even the people who couldn’t be here today were saying on Facebook, ‘just say how amazing it is, and if they need us for anything, just how much we’ve enjoyed it’ All of us just loved it.

H. We didn’t need paying, we got more reward than money could ever give.

N. We got more satisfaction from just being part of it.

O. I couldn’t. I’ll say it again, it’s probably the best project, or whatever it was that I fell into – I fell into that. In the best group of people. And Vicky was saying the dynamics between us, there was no friction, there was none of that at all. And I’ve had loads of experience of working in a group, and me being the actual facilitator that makes me feel shit that I can’t be very good at it (laughs).

N. I’ve worked in teams since I was 16, and you know teamwork is crucial, and there’s always one person that maybe upsets the apple cart, but this time was just like unique in itself, we’re just a friendly bunch of people that brought humour at the right times and concentrated and worked hard at other times.

A. Yeah and I don’t think we can underestimate within that, the group itself there were two guys particularly – Graham and Barry. They were so relaxed, people made suggestions, some people had got more experience than others when it came to performance and made suggestions, and there was a conversation about whether we wore masks or not, and the guys were happy to discuss it and give feedback.

N. Any problems they were always there.

A. So I always suspect that coming together was down to their ability to work with the group.

N. Their management skills were just phenomenal, they were just incredible.

O. And it was so calm, so calm.

N. Nobody flapped about anything, everyone just oozed this confidence. Once we’d been trained up and we’d done it a few times, we all just oozed this confidence and we just did it.

G. It’s like at one point ‘when you walk through that, just be careful there’s a bit of live pyro, just step over it.’ We kind of just knew it was safe, and they wouldn’t make us do anything that wasn’t safe.

N. Yeah, even on the second night when it wasn’t safe, some of the fireworks hadn’t gone off, an we were waiting to collect our lanterns for our last cue, so we improvised and we all got our torches out that we used for Bubblegum Boy and we stood in the middle of the trees and we held our torches to our faces – flipping scary biscuits! But we just all stood there like this.

I. It was about 10 minutes at least wasn’t it.

N. Yeah about 10 minutes, and then we just tottered off into the trees. But we improvised, things that didn’t go right.

**So there were no problems logistically?**

(Group) No.

F. Well the horses didn’t arrive because there was a blow-out on the motorway.

A. On the second night

O. I couldn’t believe how calm they were.

(Group chat, inaudible)

**So were there no horses on the second night then?**

A. No.

N. The fiddle broke, the guy fell off the cart.

E. It all went wrong on Thursday.

**I’m glad I went on Wednesday then!**

N. Well you wouldn’t have known because we just picked it up and made it the show.

J. We weren’t allowed to tell them that the horses were missing from that show, they said ‘you can’t say anything about them’

O. But that night, that was the show.

F. I know people that went that night and said they wouldn’t have known any different. They only knew from watching videos the night before and they said it didn’t detract at all from the experience really.

**Is there anything else anyone wants to say about the 7 Alleys?**

H. It would be interesting to see what the real people of Hull thought that visited it.

**What did you think from being in the crowd and seeing people’s reactions, what did you think?**

N. Well we just focussed on what we were doing. We didn’t really make eye contact.

I. I think everybody was mesmerised, because you know.

G. A number of times I saw people go past and go ‘god that was amazing’.

N. It’s almost as like seeing people, don’t know what’s going to happen next, in between the balloons and the whistles. First they release the balloons and you get a lump in your throat and then the next thing it’s like panic because there’s all the whistles and we’re all running like headless chickens.

O. People were mesmerised by what was going on.

H. They were.

O. Secretly I was thinking ‘oh god the Preston Road lot are going to think this is all just arty farty shit’. That’s what I thought secretly. But then just seeing their faces watching like Milo doing his bit, they were just like….Even ‘wowwing’, going woooow.

H. They were bewildered at times as well. And also slightly scared because as we turned round after the balloons and trying to literally bomb through the crowd, whistling on these police whistles, and you were walking kind of fast through and you would sometimes catch somebody who wasn’t facing you, and all of a sudden you were blasting a whistle in their ear and they were like ‘woah what!’, and literally they were jumping out the way a bit scared. You was, you had a bit of power there.

N. It’s the adrenaline.

E. People were asking about a copy of it as well, because it was filmed. They said they would buy it.

A. I think just the soundtrack alone would be. For us, you know after being several nights, I think if you just get the soundtrack alone it would be.

O. It’s like my lullaby now, if I can’t get to sleep I keep looking for the video footage.

E. We want to be there again.

A. And a copy of the script, the narrative would be good.

E. I wasn’t really listening, I was listening out for my cues but not really listening listening.

F. It should be in the soundtrack though won’t it, if the music’s all put together they’d have the voice over the top wouldn’t they. That would be nice.

N. For us the bits we were focussing on, we were focussing on our bits, like the things that were happening with the guy in the net, we weren’t allowed to look up. One of the first times when we did the show, but the other times, when we were holding the flag, we had to just stay focussed, when it was all happening up here. But just to see, I watched the 30 minute video from the Hull Daily Mail and it was nice to see the run through and see us all perform.

D. It was interesting to see what was going on all around with the audiences, and just look like, everything’s going on everywhere, so it would be nice to e able to watch it and be in it at the same time.

**Did you get to see the dress rehearsal?**

E. We were in it.

**Oh yeah of course.**

O. When Mike did one of the shows and he did the violin on the cart, I was just like that all the way through. It was just…

N. Goosebumps.

O. I said why aren’t you doing the violin on the cart anymore, and he was real cagey and wouldn’t tell me why, but then I clicked the other day and was like I bet it’s because I was looking at him.

H. I watched the video clips, probably every single one that exists because I’ve done Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, the lot and it is very interesting and it looks so professional that we were part of it. It’s amazing to watch from those different perspectives from people with mobile phones filming it, and the Hull Daily Mail doing it, and then Radio Humberside but their video on which was epic. And then another company called AOO, they did a really good video.

N. They did like a….It was only 3 minutes though wasn’t it?

H. Yeah kind of like clips together. But it was really special.

**I noticed there was a drone on the first night.**

H. I did.

G. It wasn’t supposed to be there.

N. The first and the second night.

G. And that’s why the official drone people, Octovision Media, because they wanted to film it on the Friday but they didn’t get permission, because there wasn’t just one night there was two nights were there was an illegal drone.

N. But you can’t really see much from a drone.

F. But that’s what it said, they were denied permission purely because of the sound as well, you couldn’t hear much and it would have echoed too much from the drone to get any good footage. So that was part of the reason.

N. Adrenaline pumping action.

**Well it sounds like you all had a good time all in all.**

H. Oh it was, it was like a week’s working holiday.

N. It’s actually priceless, you can’t put a price on something like that that we just did.

**Is there anything else you want to say?**

N. Just let us know when there’s more of this.

F. Let us get involved in the next one, yeah?