

## **Moving Home 2010 – Home in Frome**

Home in Frome came into being during 2009 in response to Robert Golden's exhibition 'Home'. When this was mounted at the Silk Mill Gallery with funding from Mendip Housing, all residents were invited. 1200 people saw the striking black and white photographs taken in the 1960-70's which stirred memories of their own working lives and of how much life has changed since then.

In 2010 Home in Frome talked to residents about their memories of the way life in Frome has changed and recording their experiences. In particular, residents of Singers Knoll and Randolph Road community had undergone very dramatic changes with the demolition and redevelopment of their area. Some of these accounts featured in the 'Moving Home' exhibition which was a part of the Frome Festival in July 2010. Visitors were encouraged to add their own memories, perhaps in the form of an object or a photograph.

The response to the HOME exhibition inspired us to set up a new project in 2010 entitled Moving Home

### **Aims**

Create activities centred on the past industries, culture and traditions of Frome

To bring to life the everyday living experiences of people in Frome

Involve local people in developing the activities, especially those whose families have personal experiences to share

Enable people who may lack confidence to contribute in ways in which they are comfortable

To continue the project beyond 2010 if viable and appropriate

### **Objectives**

Raise awareness of Frome as a market town and local industrial centre.

Celebrate the value of being part of a thriving local community

Develop an understanding that today becomes tomorrow's history and an appreciation of the process of change

### **Benefits**

In the current economic climate communities are experiencing wide ranging problems. The intention was to raise awareness. Previous generations have lived through similar and worse events. It will be an opportunity for people to share experiences and anxieties as they face a time of global economic transition. In the 1960's Frome's population was 10,000, and there was full employment. Since then rapid development has led to a population of 25,000, and a massive decline in Frome's industrial base. Further proposed development between 2006 and 2026 will see the population reach over 30,000. This project will assist in increasing awareness of the unique past of Frome and will build a sense of community amongst the residents of the town they call HOME.

The Moving Home project involved many areas of creativity. These included:

Lanterns – Frome Carnival

River of Life

Moving Home - Music Projects

Moving Home - Media Projects

## **About Robert Golden's HOME exhibition**

"It feels less like a formal exhibition than an anguished cri de coeur for something irrevocably lost"

Elisabeth Mahoney, Guardian.

HOME is an exhibition of photographs, films, music and text by Robert Golden.

HOME is about the impact of globalism in the 1970's on the British industrial working class. It is also about the impact of the recent stage of globalism on British and European farmers, villages and small scale food production. The exhibition reveals the human cost of these changes on individuals, cultures and traditions.

It is called HOME because 'home', meaning 'where we come from' and 'where we belong' is being lost to these changes. The content is tragically relevant today because of the effects of globalism on our lives. It is a reflection for this moment.