**Little People Project Information Pack**

Many thanks for expressing an interest in this project. If you have any further questions about this project or want to get involved, please email annabel.counsell@showtownblackpool.co.uk or call Showtown on 0808 175 6929.

**What is the project about?**

The Little People Project is funded by the Esmeé Fairbairn Collections Fund, delivered through the Museums Association. The project is intended to enhance understanding and knowledge of the internationally significant Blackpool Tower Circus Collection.

**Why do we need you?**

Through this project we want to bring together a group of people with shared interest in exploring this history and the representation of little people in our collections.

The project will provide a safe space to explore historical narratives around dwarfism focusing on the Blackpool Tower Circus collection, and other, national collections. This is to help support visibility of disability in museum collections and get a full understanding of little people’s representation in these collections and how their narratives should be told.

Together, we will delve deeper into Showtown’s collection and take an active role in helping audiences engage with our collections in new ways, seeing the history of little people through the co-production group’s eyes.

**Who can join this project?**

* Little people
* Families with little people members

**What is the project timeline?**

Group meetings will start in September and will be held twice a month until the end of December.

**Where are the meetings held?**

We would like to try whenever possible to host meetings in person in Blackpool. However, online and hybrid meetings will also be considered depending on individual preferences.

**Are there any trigger warnings and/or sensitive content within this project I should be aware of?**

Some of the historic language and behaviour seen within Blackpool Tower Circus Collection relating to little people can be seen as offensive. Outdated language can be seen within the collection printed material to describe a person who is short in height. The content matter which will be discussed within the community group meetings can be frustrating, upsetting or confusing for an individual to hear in modern day context.

As a museum we have a responsibility to be honest and transparent about histories which maybe dark in nature. The histories discussed are sensitive and therefore, comfort breaks and wellbeing breaks will be encouraged throughout the project, especially when engaging with the sensitive history material.

If you would like to hear more about the sensitive topics this project may uncover, please feel free to call Showtown on 01253 478624 or email annabel.counsell@showtownblackpool.co.uk

**How to I sign up to be part of the project?**If you are interested in signing up, please fill the recruitment form. This can be found on the website under Community Project: Little People. The form will ask you about your interest in joining the project and if you are passionate about representing little people positively.

If you prefer, you can submit an application by video. The recorded video submission should answer the questions on the recruitment form and be no longer than 5 minutes.

Recruitment forms/videos should be sent before or on the 28 August 2025 at 9 am.

Once completed the form should be sent to Annabel Counsell – annabel.counsell@showtownblackpool.co.uk

**How do I find out more?**

Drop-in information sessions will be held at:

Central Library
Queen Street
Blackpool
FY1 1PX

On the following dates:

29 July 2025, 12pm - 3pm

16 August 2025, 12pm - 3pm

These information sessions are to drop-in and are a way to learn more about the project’s aims, objectives and expected outcomes.

For more information call Showtown on

Or email the Project Co-ordinator – Annabel Counsell on annabel.counsell@showtownblackpool.co.uk