

**OPEN
EYE
GALLERY**



Open Eye Gallery and dot-art launch [TreeStory.me](https://www.treestory.me) and invite the public to help build a history of the Liverpool City Region through its trees



Help us create a history of the Liverpool City Region through its trees.

Trees are the perfect vehicle through which to tell a story of the region. Open Eye Gallery and dot-art started inviting the public to create a history of Liverpool through its trees, using personal stories and photography, during the pandemic in 2020, as we all began to value our local green spaces more than ever. Now they are developing the project further and looking for new TreeStories to collect with a specially dedicated website – [TreeStory.me](https://www.treestory.me).

This has been funded through a generous grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which saw the team engage schools (Rainhill High School, LIPA Primary, Egremont Primary, Northwood Primary and Wirral Hospitals' School), community groups (Growing Sudley, Faiths4Change, Rimrose Valley Friends and The Spider Project) and the general public across


the Liverpool City Region over the last 12 months, exploring natural heritage by investigating, documenting and celebrating locally and personally significant trees, as well as planting new ones in partnership with the Mersey Forest. This work has led to a series of fantastic [free activity books](#) for families, schools and community groups to download, full of activities and ideas to inspire and stimulate creativity in people of all ages!


Everyone is now invited to celebrate trees that are significant to them, pinning images and stories to a specially commissioned interactive online map. There's an easy [How To Guide to help](#): make some images of the tree, write or record the story (a history, a poem or just a personal memory), use the map to locate the tree and submit your entry. The team will review it and publish. There's also [a video guide](#) and [FAQs](#). Get inspired by [the existing TreeStories](#), study the [history of Liverpool through its trees](#) and submit your own #TreeStory!


Uploading your TreeStory is a fantastic way of connecting to your neighbourhood and community, of creating your own personal history and of sharing your love and gratitude to nature in the urban areas. It's also a great opportunity for an early career photographer / writer or photography / creative writing student to get their work seen by not just the general public but also Open Eye Gallery and dot-art.


Share your story [here!](#)

Suggested posts

 Build a history of the Liverpool City Region through its trees! Share your #TreeStory here: <https://treestory.me/share/>.

 Do you have a favourite tree in the Liverpool City Region? Share its #TreeStory and help create a history of the region through its trees. <https://treestory.me/share/>

 Tell a story of a tree significant to you to be added to the history of Liverpool through its trees! Take a picture of a tree and upload it with a few words about what it means to you. <https://treestory.me/share/>

 Want to join the growing story of Liverpool through its trees? Use the How To guide to find out how to upload your #TreeStory in less than 5 minutes. <https://treestory.me/how-to/>

Press images can be found in the [folder](#).

[Open Eye Gallery](#) is an independent, not-for-profit photography gallery based in Liverpool. One of the UK's leading photography spaces, it is the only gallery dedicated to photography and related media in the North West of England. A registered charity, Open Eye Gallery believes photography is for everyone and can be meaningful, informing our present and inspiring positive futures.

[dot-art](#) is a Liverpool based social enterprise which supports visual artists and champions creativity as an integral part of daily life, with a focus on collaboration and sustainability. They do this by selling locally sourced, affordable art through their Liverpool gallery and website, working with businesses to put art in the workplace and public realm, running art classes and working with schools and community groups.

[The Mersey Forest](#) is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' for over 25 years.

[The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#), formerly the Heritage Lottery Fund, distributes a share of National Lottery funding, supporting a wide range of heritage projects across the United Kingdom. We are incredibly grateful for the support of NLHF and National Lottery players, who made this project possible.

[Liverpool City Council](#) provided additional funding for the team to work with another ten community groups in 2022, giving the project greater reach and impact.

