

# Talking about our Generation

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Sparks is a project funded by Age Better in Sheffield, delivered by Ignite Imaginations, that connects people aged over 50 with arts and culture in Sheffield.

Talking about our Generation is a project co-designed and co-produced with Sheffield's U3A. It is a grassroots celebration of folk, peace and people power from the sixties to the present day; online at first and then in person when mass gatherings are back in action. These initial online workshops aim to bring people together to map and explore true stories and memories of culture in our city, with the opportunity for people to showcase the art they create as part of a virtual exhibition. This project will culminate in a festival featuring the live exhibition, performances and workshops from musicians that explore the traditions of protest music, as well as storytelling and discussions of creativity across all ages- of standing together and uniting to celebrate people power.

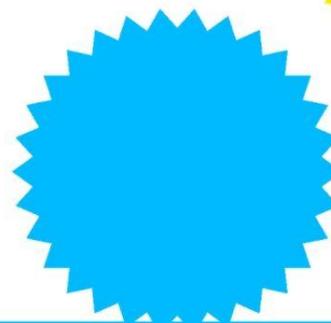
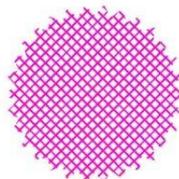
## Part 2 - Rewriting the Record



**This creative writing workshop gives you all the tools you need to rewrite the lyrics to a Sheffield-linked favourite song to make it personal to you and your memories.**

### What you will need...

- Paper
- Pen
- A way to play your chosen song
- A way to see the lyrics of your chosen song
- Phone or Camera (to record you speaking, singing or performing your song)



## Step-by-Step Instructions

1. **Active Listening:** Choose a song that means something to you that is linked to Sheffield; it could be by a Sheffield artist or a song that reminds you of a particular time or a particular person in Sheffield. Listen to the song in full, paying attention to the lyrics. Pick out a line that stands out to you.
2. **Memory Mining:** Note down three memories you associate with this song or this time. It could include descriptions of places, occasions or people. With your piece of paper in landscape, write your three memories across the top and the five senses down the left-hand side. For each of your memories try to add a description/detail for each of the senses. E.g. Does the taste of a certain drink remind you of a certain place? The richer your sensory descriptions, the more evocative your lyrics will be.
3. **Rewriting the Lyrics:** Using the memories and sensory images you've gathered, rewrite the lyrics to your song so that they are personalised to you. If possible, have the original lyrics handy whilst you do this so you can copy the scansion/form. You can do one verse, one chorus or the whole song.

## Next Steps:

When you're happy with your lyrics, please send us a copy to [sparks@igniteimagnations.org.uk](mailto:sparks@igniteimagnations.org.uk)

You can send your rewritten lyrics in any of the following ways:

- An audio recording of yourself either singing or reading the lyrics (you can record the whole song or just a line or two) An audio recording of yourself either singing or reading the lyrics (you can record the whole song or just a line or two)
- A video of yourself either singing or reading out the lyrics (you can record the whole song or just a line or two)
- A copy of the lyrics as text, with optional accompanying photographs

