



'Past Futures' - A People's History of the Isle of Wight

Past Futures is made possible by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Applications Open: 3rd November 2025 (Round 2)

Deadlines: Initial enquiries 3rd February 2026

Full applications 9th March 2026

Size of Grants: £5,000 - £10,000

Length of Grant: Grants should be fully delivered within a 12 month period

Location: Isle of Wight

Grant Programme Details:

'Past Futures' – A People's History of the Isle of Wight

This grant programme is made possible by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and will be delivered across the Isle of Wight through two local bodies:

Creative Island: Creative Island is the Cultural Development Agency for the Isle of Wight.

HiWCF: HiWCF is an independent grant-making charity active on the Isle of Wight.

Criteria for Past Futures – The Isle of Wight is a unique place that has been shaped by a diverse range of people. We want to fund a wide set of **Island based heritage and community organisations** to capture, celebrate and curate the 'every day' heritage of the Island. This is the right fund for community organisations with an annual income under £500k who are **working to showcase forgotten and hidden histories**.

Who can apply? These grants are for nonprofit community organisations who are active at grassroots level. Past Futures is designed as entry-level grant funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and bids are welcomed from first time grant applicants. We are seeking a diverse range of grantees and expect to make grants to organisations which represent towns, villages, communities of interest, workplaces, and customs and traditions that are less visible within the heritage sector.

What work can be delivered? A core aim of the funding is to help the Island's communities to capture their own distinctive heritage stories. This could be:

- A museum wanting to expand the story around a key object within its collection.
- The stories of a particular community such as Filipino nurses and their contribution to the hospital.

Your project can include a range of heritage outputs, examples could be: a collection of photos; a touring exhibition; audio or video records of people's stories.

What support is on offer to applicants? All applicants to this Fund need to engage with Kelly Wetherick – the Heritage Lead for this programme. This will ensure we can walk applicants through the full criteria, support you in making your bid and help you fulfil the requirements of The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

If you are an Isle of Wight community organisation interested in finding out more about this funding and details of how to apply, then please contact HiWCF on grantsadmin@hiwcf.com. Please note that the deadline for initial enquiries is the 3rd February 2026; this is a month before the full application deadline on 9th March 2026.