

<b>Name of project/group</b>
The Jabberwocks/Hale Civic Society (HCS)
<b>Type of project</b>
Social Action
<b>Location</b>
Hale, North West
<b>What was involved</b>
<p>The Jabberwocks are a young persons group involved with Hale Civic Society. The young people are aged 13 -24 and come together to work on community initiatives led by the Civic Society. Projects are based around the local community and involve, among other things, engaging with the historic environment.</p> <p>Jabberwocks started as an off-shoot from the Girl Guides when some of the Guides wanted to continue to meet on a regular basis and contribute locally but not gain badges as such. There were already young people in Hale Civic Society taking part in the community and looking after their heritage. However, it was decided to bring together all the youngsters doing similar work and give them “a voice”. Jabberwocks has now been running for 10 years and is run by the chairman of HCS and committee members with parental support.</p>


**Achievements**

Through Jabberwocks there has been a platform for engagement in the historic aspects of Hale. Hale Civic Society and Jabberwocks interact with schools and other organisations. The group has grown steadily and the Hale Civic Society now has a wider range of people that it can draw upon for support.

The Jabberwocks aim is to help and assist and they encompass a wide range of activities. The group are engaged with tree & bulb planting, litter picks, village surveys, help with campaigning, winter alert for the elderly, reminiscence workshops, environmental schemes and archiving the locality.

Without the Jabberwocks a number of events and initiatives would not have happened. The work of the society has been recognised by the Mayor and local council.

The Jabberwocks are extensively involved in fundraising. They bag pack in the village on a regular basis for their nominated charities and raise money for the local area to help fund, among other things, Christmas lights and tree planting. By being involved in Jabberwocks the group are given opportunities to learn new skills and meet new people.

Some members of the Jabberwocks recently attended a Civic Voice event in Manchester and

participated in a workshop with civic societies from across the country to help share learning. The Jabberwocks have also been able to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's awards.



### **Future plans**

The Jabberwocks are being given more freedom to formulate initiatives and act on issues. The group is growing steadily and is evolving with members' ongoing development.

Each year the group looks for a new project to undertake. In 2010 it was Footys4Africa, this year a project in Manchester. Support is also given to Bzzzzzz!, a more local project.

### **Lessons Learnt**

Hale Civic society considers that a fresh approach is needed to work with young people, which involves giving them some ownership. In the society's experience listening to varying voices helps local communities, but the voices and words need to be supported and positive responses given. For example, if an idea put forward cannot be worked on then it is good to provide an explanation of the reasons for this.

### **Project contact**

<http://www.halecivicsociety.org/>

[The jabberwocks facebook page](#)

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