



Our Ovenden Photography Project



'Our Ovenden' Photography Project
at Project Twelve:31, Ovenden May-June 2018

Adapted and coordinated by Naomi Madeley (NCOP Outreach Officer, Calderdale College)
& Katie Chetwood (NCOP Outreach Officer, University of Bradford)

Co-coordinated with Karen Scanlon (Project Twelve:31 Ward Link Worker)



'Our Ovenden'

Photography

Project



The NCOP Programme

NCOP stands for the National Collaborative Outreach programme and is funded by the Office for Students.

Go Higher West Yorkshire is a partnership of 12 universities and colleges in West Yorkshire. The Programme is designed to help young people reach their full potential and find out more about what universities and colleges can offer you to enable progression into Higher Education, degree apprenticeships and other higher education options.

Under NCOP, we work with young people in school and communities Years 9 - 13 who live in specific geographical areas across West Yorkshire. These geographical areas have been identified at Ward level and are selected as they show:

- Low levels of participation in Higher Education overall.
- A 'gap' in Higher Education participation- i.e. participation in Higher Education is lower than would be expected given GCSE attainment levels.

In order to support the Government's goals to increase participation in Higher Education by young people from these particular areas, we are working closely with schools, colleges, community groups, local councils and other stakeholders to deliver inspirational and informative activities and events.



The 'Our Ovenden' Project

The Our Ovenden photography project was adapted and developed from an NCOP pilot photography project called 'My Holmewood' based at the TFD centre in Holmewood, Bradford.

The idea of a photography project in a community setting like Holmewood and Ovenden was to get a group of young people and parents or carers together to explore what the area they live in represents to them, using a visual medium.

The photographers were free to choose subjects of their choice that expressed their ideas about what they felt positively represented Holmewood and their community to the viewer.

The project was broken down into:

- Practical workshops, with different mediums.
- Guest talks from professional and student photographers,
- A guest lecturer from Calderdale College discussed the career opportunities with photography and his personal journey into photography.
- An opportunity to explore different photography equipment and how they might be used at Calderdale College, giving the young people a chance to discover the media facilities. This was mixed with going out into the community and taking representative photos of their choice that fulfilled the brief.
- They were also able to explore the variety of options and medium of film and photography including digital photography (mobile phones) and filters, printed images stained onto wooden mounts, Polaroid cameras and Polaroid displays.

The concept of 'Our Ovenden' was to create a project that was of long term benefit and enjoyment to the learners and community who took part when out taking photos. It started a more natural and seemingly less threatening conversations between the group, community members, the aims of the project, and what it could do for the areas and futures aspirations for the young people and adults residing there.

As part of the evaluation for the project, we looked at the initial thoughts of the group (about Ovenden) and found that predominantly they have negative associations with how their area was viewed. However, once the project progressed, participants were able to describe the positive attributes of the area and captured them in their images.

The partnership will continue between Go Higher West Yorkshire and Project Twelve: 31 and the individual work that we have printed in this book will be framed and given to Project Twelve: 31 to showcase the group's success and be used to inspire the wider community to potentially access Higher Education in the future.

Well done to all at Project Twelve:31!

Naomi Madeley

(NCOP Outreach Officer at Calderdale College and Our Ovenden Project Coordinator)



The Group

The group are girls aged 12-19 years of age, and 3 community youth workers. They all reside in the Ovenden area and attend Project Twelve:31 that runs from Forest Cottage in Ovenden.

A huge congratulations to the group who produced all of the photographs for this book. They were energetic, passionate and very hard working! Thank you to Karen for helping to make the project a success!



Abigail Margrave

Photo 1: 'The Woods'

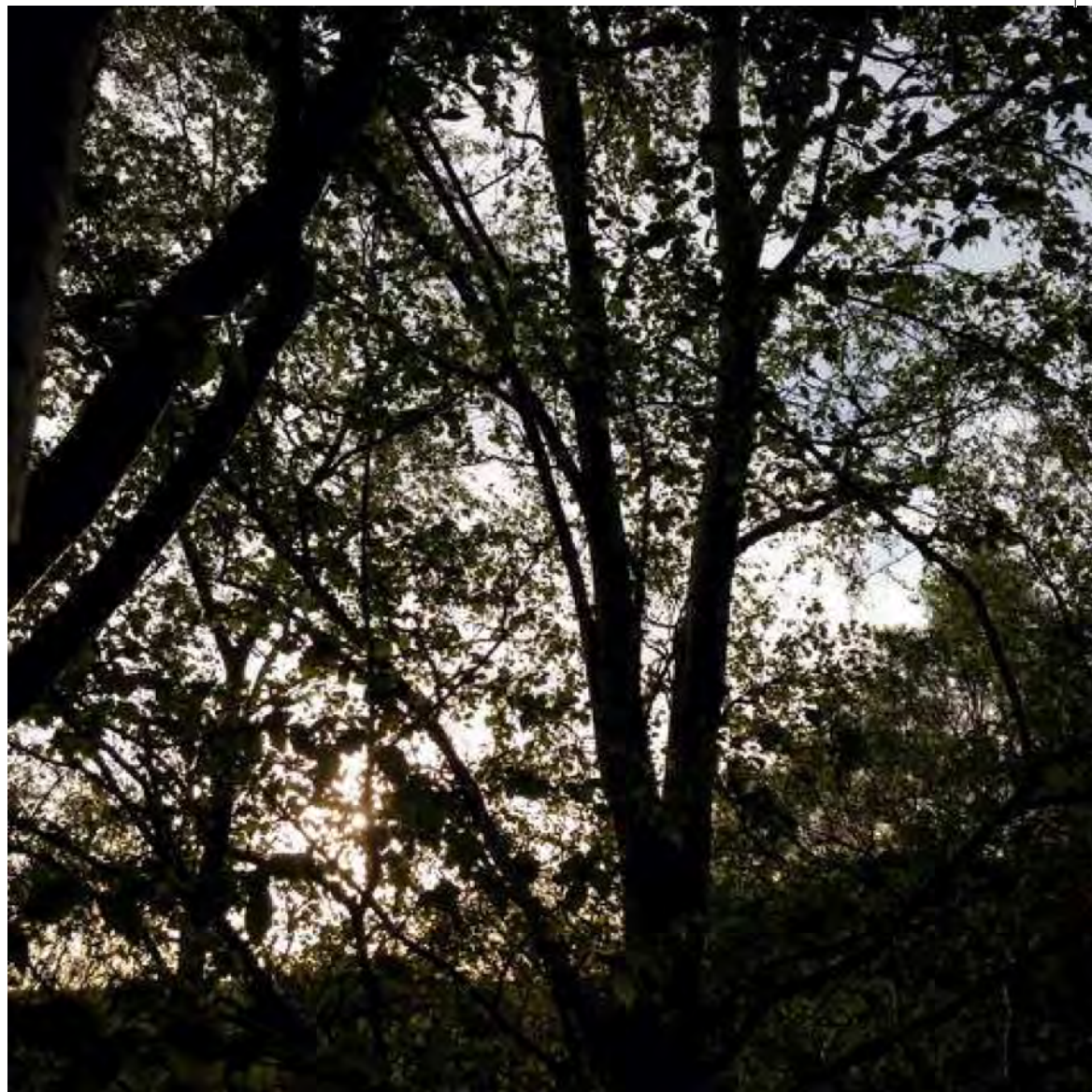
I like that the trunk and the branches are dark and creating a spooky vibe, but I like how the light shines through highlighting the greenness of the leaves. I think it shows that Ovenden is a mysterious and puzzling place.

Photo 2: 'Pretty Green'

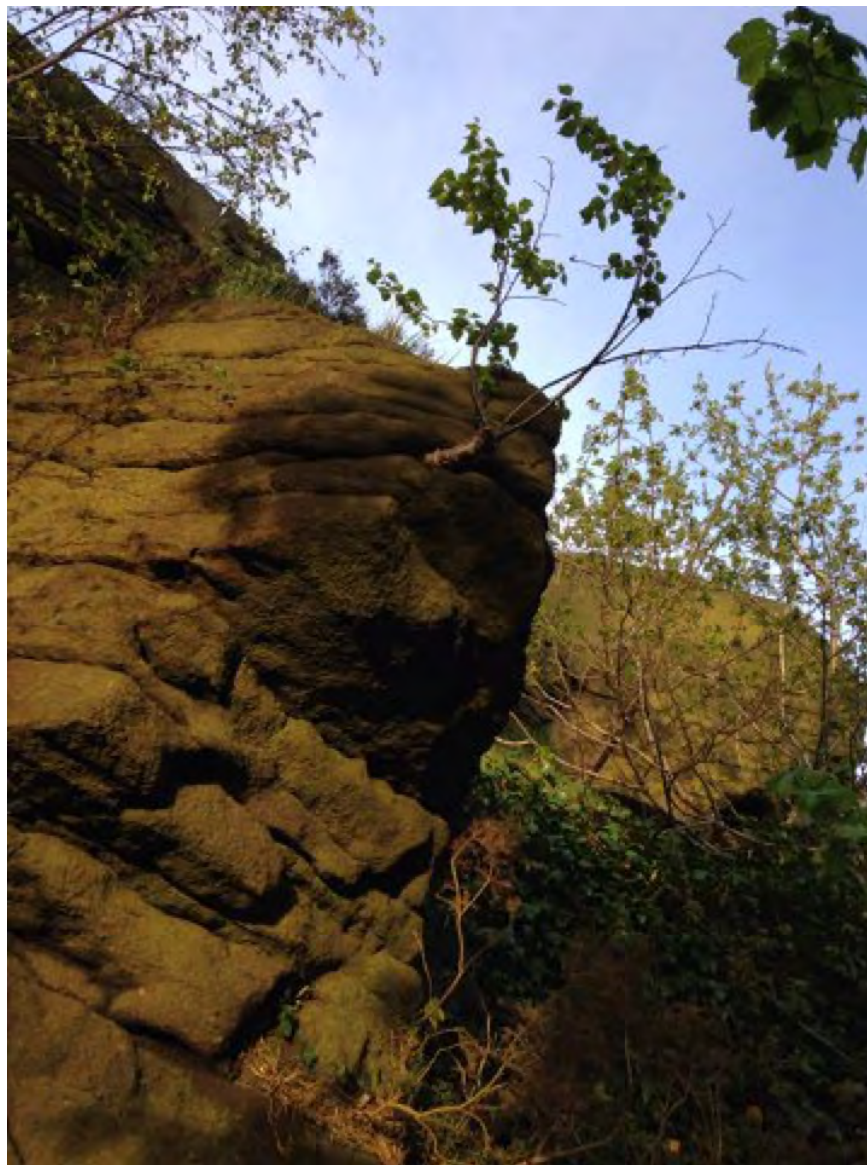
I like that I captured a very natural picture of how the earth really looks and should look. I feel that this photograph is showing that Ovenden is a pretty and natural place and not just rubbish.

Photo 3: 'The Rock'

I like how this photograph shows that Ovenden is a pretty and a magical place that is home to all. If I could change anything I would have tried to capture more trees and flowers to add more colour.







Alexandra Wardman

Photo 1: 'The Fairytale'

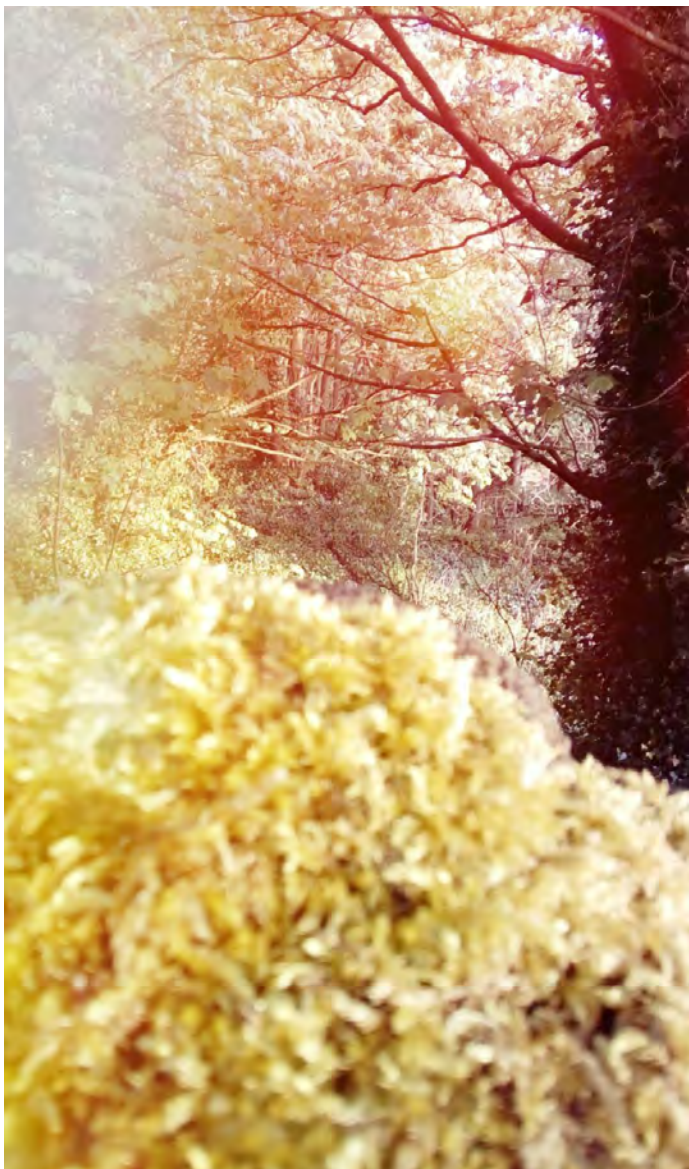
This photograph shows that Ovenden is a vibrant, diverse and fairytale-like place. I like that my composition is looking over the moss slightly to give my photograph an enigmatic feel. I like that my photograph creates an aura of magicality and wonder. I wanted to take this picture to inform people that Ovenden and Halifax isn't just a scruffy place but a place full of admiration.

Photo 2: 'Meadow Flower'

I like that this photograph showed the sun illuminating through the flowers and that the greenery was behind it. I decided to take the photo as I thought that it captured all of Ovenden's natural beauty. I think it shows that Ovenden is a lovely place to live and the countryside views here are ones that everyone should come and see.

Photo 3: 'Light and Dark'

I like that there's a balance between beauty and gloominess shown in this photo. Ovenden is also a very hidden and a place like no other, it has its ups and downs but through forlorn darkness, a bright sun shines through and a path to happiness is shown.







Brooke Giumini

Photo 1: 'Through the Wall'

This image looks through Ovenden's hidden scenery, highlighting that it looks ugly on the outside but once you look deeper it looks beautiful. It shows the untold story of Ovenden.

Photo 2: 'Trapped'

In this photo I wanted to get across that even through Ovenden can look free and joyful. Many people in Ovenden still feel trapped and unable to escape the poverty which many face. I like that this photo shows a contrast for the people of Ovenden and could create an interpretation of crime in the area.

Photo 3: 'Standing Together'

This image shows that Ovenden has a close community and everyone takes a stand together; side by side. I think the angle of this image makes the girls look more mysterious and anonymous.







Chloe Callander

Photo 1: 'A Different Angle'

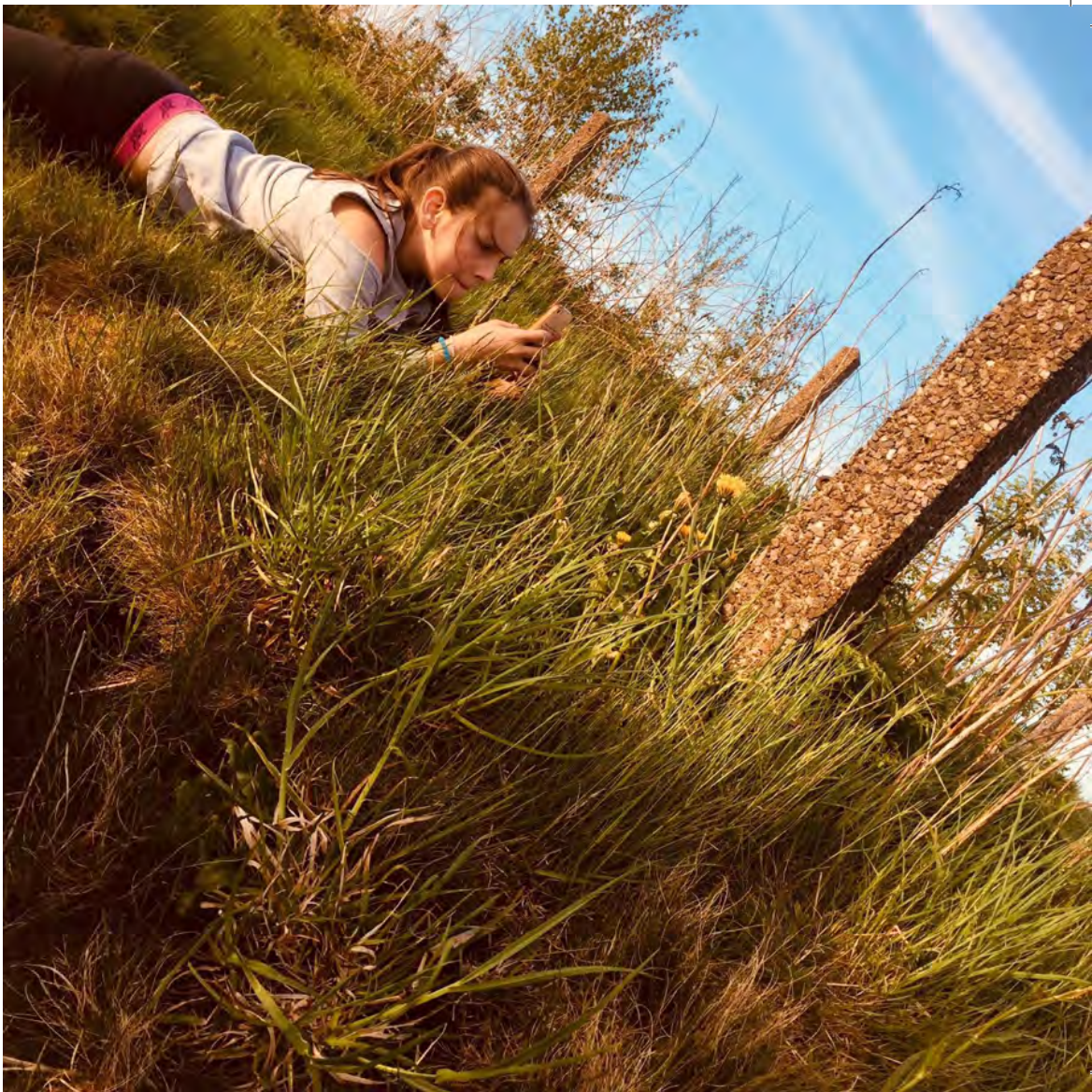
In this photo it shows that Ovenden has quite a lot of nature and the area is bright, colourful and full of life. I chose to take this image because it captures the concentration within another photograph being taken.

Photo 2: 'Friendship'

This photo shows the friendship of these 3 girls which were made in Ovenden. This photograph also captures all the different personalities of the girls. The photograph also captures the different lighting from the sunset at the back, making the girls blend into the picture as well as the trees.

Photo 3: 'A Calm Sunset'

This photo shows the natural side of Ovenden, although it looks dark it is surrounded by a bright sunset colours, which makes it peaceful and calm. I like the contrast of colours, which makes this photo stand out.







Courtney Cutts

Photo 1: 'Friends'

I choose to take this photo because I could see the trees through the hole and it reminded me of a cave, I wanted to capture the girls from a different perspective and creative. Chloe is my best friend and I wanted to capture memories with her.

Photo 2: 'Ready to Blossom'

I choose this picture because it's a contrast of colours and they haven't quite blossomed yet. I decided to take this photograph because I was drawn in by the bright colours and thought it looked lovely.

Photo 3: 'Autumnal'

I like this photograph because the tree looks dead, it shows the seasons of the year, which can give it a depressing feeling, but you know that it will change when Spring comes.







Daisy Mellor

Photo 1: 'Urban Dandelion'

Daisy took this image by finding a different perspective, she used a low angle and the granite post as a backdrop. The vibrant yellow of the Dandelion is in direct contrast with the urban granite post, that reminds us, no matter where we might be, on a street in a city, we can always find the smallest piece of nature peeking through.

Photo 2: 'Home'

Daisy tilted her camera to get a different view of the landscape, with the homes in the forefront and the hills in the backdrop, this is a very recognisable view in Calderdale. Daisy edited her image and changed it from colour to black and white, giving it a timeless feel.

Photo 3: 'Reach for the Stars'

Daisy used action, the subject jumping, to make this image effective. The contrast of the blue failing light sky and the dark landscape gives the photo defined outlines and shadow, that create an anonymous feel.







Emma

Photo 1: 'Under the Tree'

I like this photo of the sun as it's very pretty and lovely. If I could change anything I might make it less blurry.

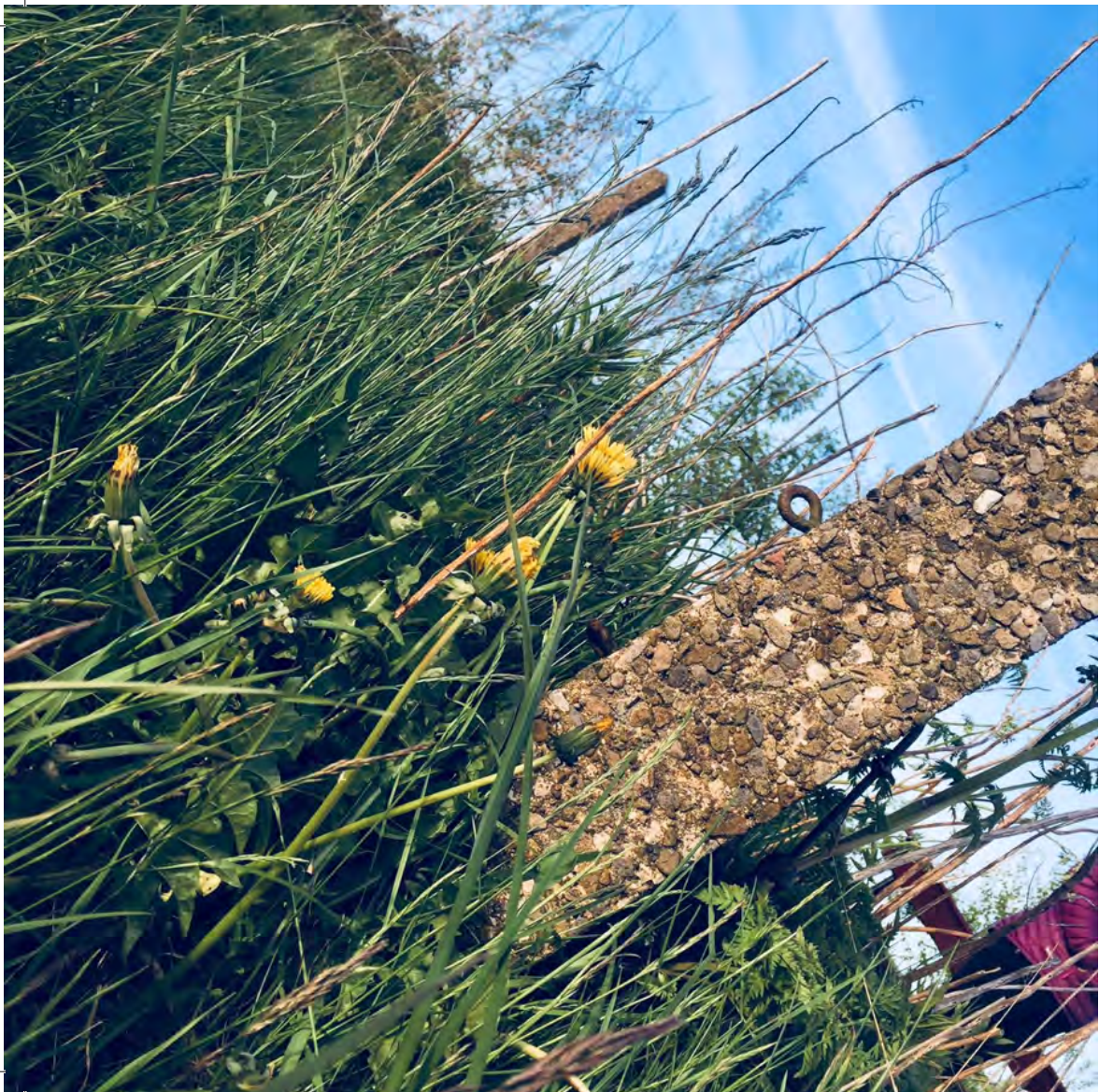
Photo 2: 'Green Spaces'

I took this photograph because I wanted to show that Ovenden is pretty and is surrounded by nature, including flowers and green spaces. I really like the focus in the photo and the colour of the blue sky.

Photo 3: 'Summer's Night'

I like the light in this photograph and the focus on the brightness of the sun, especially when it's contrasted with the dark in the rest of the photo.







Poppy Durrans

Photo 1: 'Me and Brooke'

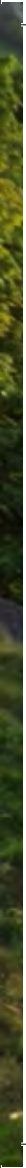
I think that this photograph is showing that you can have family from a different perspective and the love of the area that me and my family have grown up and live in. I like the picture because it's nice, I decided to take it because it's a good example of the area that I live in, some of the area is nice and some of the area isn't.

Photo 2: 'On the Rocks'

I really like the light and dark in this photograph and I feel that this is one of the better parts of Ovenden. I wouldn't change anything in this photograph-I love it!

Photo 3: 'Beauty, the Bench and Blue Sky'

This is such a rundown part of Ovenden but captured in the photograph, it is a lovely setting.









Ruby Durrans

Photo 1: 'Wildflower White'

This photo shows the nature which can grow around anything, what I like about this image is that it's focused on the flower and everything in the background is blurred out.

Photo 2: 'Forest Green'

I took this because of the way the green blends in, I used a setting on my camera to do this.

Photo 3: 'Sunshine Yellow'

I really like the angle I used to take this image and the brightness of the yellow in the flowers







STAFF PHOTOS

Elodie Clowery

Photo 1: 'Natural'

This photo shows that there is an urban vibe within the beautiful Ovenden/Halifax landscapes. If I could change anything I would possibly add more people to illustrate the whole group. I really like the casual stances of the young people and makes it feel very natural. I also like the lighting from the sunset and the beautiful patterns in the sky.

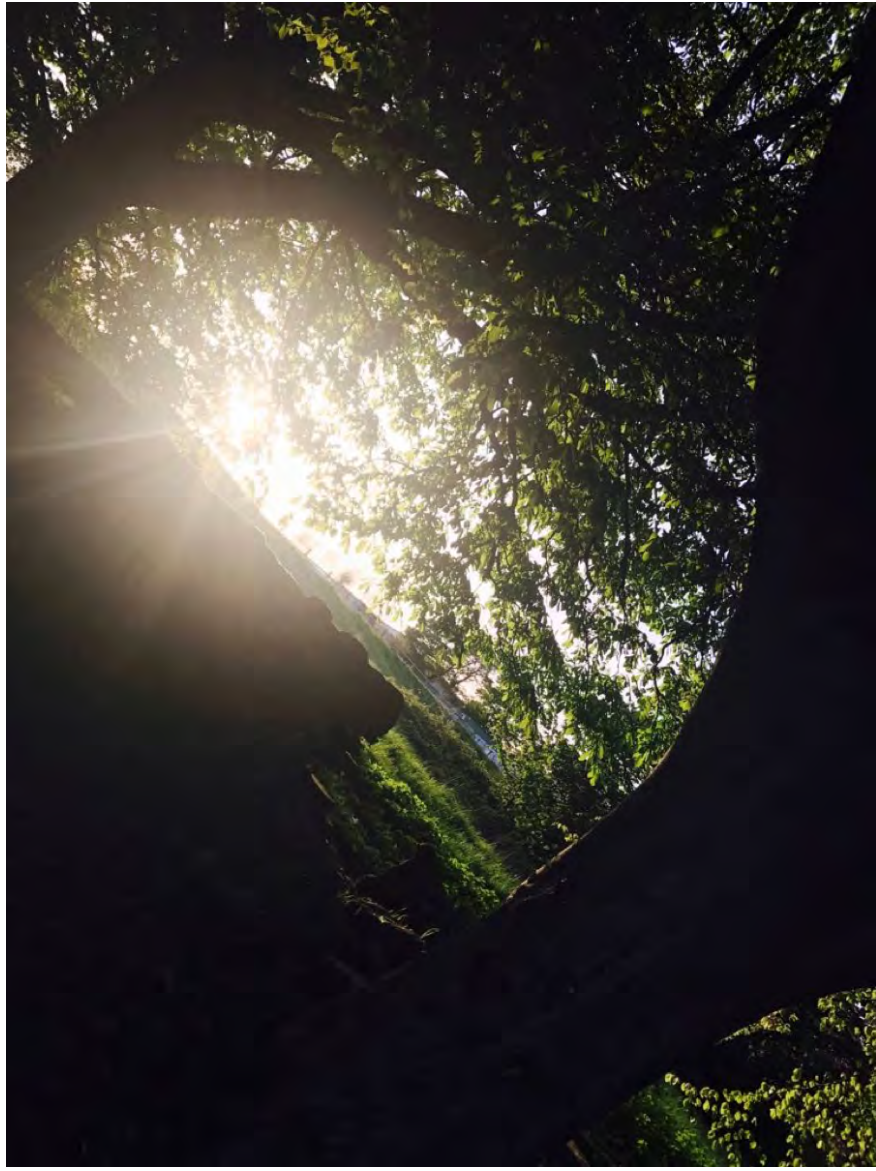
Photo 2: 'Rays of Aspiration'

Behind the broken stone wall and peeping behind the green branches you can see the bright sunshine with rays of aspiration. I like that this picture could have been taken anywhere and would still show comfort and hope.

Photo 3: 'Sunshine'

I like that the sun shines down on Ovenden making everything even more beautiful.







STAFF PHOTOS

Jorden Scanlon

Photo 1: 'Glimpse of Darkness'

I have chosen this photo because it has an excellent contrast between the vibrant colours and glimpses of darkness. I wanted to take this photo because it shows that natural beauty of this place.

Photo 2: 'The Perfect Light'

I think this photo says that Ovenden has great views and scenery of the surrounding area. I like this image because the light accentuates the trees and makes them stand out.

Photo 3-: 'Friendships Made, Friendships Kept'

I think this shows that Ovenden has friendships and that there's a lot of trust in each other. I like that it has a good scenery along with two people in the image, adding to the scene, showing there is a lot going on.









STAFF PHOTOS

Karen Scanlon

Photo 1 : '#herecomethegirls'

This photograph is a fantastic picture of the silhouette of #herecomethegirls, a group made up of girls aged 12-19 years old from the North Halifax area. Ovenden is a brilliant area with some fantastic young people.

Photo 2 : 'A Struggle'

This photograph shows the sad reality that some people in Ovenden are homeless and struggling, which could be shown in this image.



STAFF PHOTOS

Naomi Madeley

Photo 1: 'Great Heights'

I choose to take this photograph because I liked that the girls were working together, enthusiastically throwing themselves into their task and supporting each other.

Photo 2: 'Piggyback Pals'

I think this is a great example of friendships that exist in Ovenden. I like how natural the girls look and that most people could relate to this image of a close friendship.

Photo 3: 'Best Foot Forward'

I like the contrast in the bright colours and the simplicity of the image. I wanted to show that you can find green spaces anywhere, including Ovenden and that you just need to get on your feet and start exploring.











National Collaborative
Outreach Programme

With thanks to everyone involved in the success of the
'Our Ovenden' Photography Project.



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