

Art for One Art for All
By The Ragartmuffins Oldham



Artists

Concept Ian Beesley

Design Martyn Hall

Inset illustrations Tony Husband

Poem Ian McMillan

Embellishments and Camera Ian Beesley

Unfurled Gallery Oldham, 16th August 2019

Meaning

'Art for One Art for All' was created by a local group from Oldham with dementia, 'The Ragartmuffins'. This banner campaigns for the arts to be more inclusive, as the benefits of involvement with the arts are important factors in wellbeing.

Symbolism

The colour blue, which is dominant within this banner is associated with both loyalty, and Oldham itself. The owl also depicts the town's symbol. The small left and right images depict Oldham in the past and present. The reflection in the camera lense is a tribute to the two original members of the Ragartmuffins. It is taken from one of the workshops exploring photography and memory. The central illustration shows a brush, pencil, and a camera which are all popular art forms. The embellishments at the top and the bottom of the banner are stylised acanthus leaves, which in Greek and Roman mythology represent art and an enduring life.