



Inter-generational Community Art Project

Creative Projects and Storytelling Case Study 4

**Rachel Singer
Chair, FoRHS 12th October 2021**

Rose Hill Station

“Alight here for the Middlewood Way”

- Terminus of a branch line from Piccadilly station in Manchester
- Until 1970, the line ran to Macclesfield
- The closed track bed is now a countryside trail, well used for walking, running, cycling and horse riding



The Site

How to improve the look of this wall?

- We planted a community orchard
- The wall is by the car park entrance and can't be missed!



Our Community Artist

- Tracy McGuinness-Kelly, Art Stop CIC
- It took us some time to find our artistic partner
- Tracy already worked with the local schools and with Art and Community groups around Marple
- She conceived the plan for the mural, inspired the participants and coordinated the art work



Our Mentor

Adetoro Adeniran-Kane, Global Cultural Connections

- “Mama Toro”, a local resident, uses the station regularly
- She showed us the potential for this project to move beyond getting some art on the wall
- Attending to the ‘intergenerational’ and ‘community’ aspects of the process enabled us to generate and support connections across the community



National Lottery Funding

Supported the lasting community benefits of the project

- This funding enabled us to pay our artist properly
- to run a series of workshops - with refreshments!
- to host a launch event and an unveiling ceremony
- to create a Resource Booklet to highlight and extend the outcomes of the project



Other Support

Enthusiastic and encouraging

- From the Rail Industry and the Manchester Airport Community Fund
- Enabled us to fund the preparation of the site, paint the panel, fix mounting boards and lay a new path
- Made us feel very connected with our sponsors



This mural has been created by Marple people aged from under 5 to 100 years old and the themes of their art work are all connected to the area, old and new.

You can find here references to our natural and industrial landscape, to our canals and railways and to our history and current day interests.

The mural is the outcome of a National Lottery Community Fund sponsored intergenerational project which has brought people together and strengthened links across the age range and across our community. Our local schools and many community groups have all been involved.

The original concept and execution of the art work was led by Tracy McGuinness-Kelly, local artist born in Marple and director of Art Stop CIC.

Tracy has brought her extensive experience of working as an artist in the USA back to the area and had the vision to develop the concept of upcycling plywood offcuts into individual expressions of art.

The site preparation, boards installation and improvement of the surrounding area was supported by sponsors across the community rail sector.

Local resident and artist Adetoro Adeniran-Kane MBE (Mama Toro), Global Cultural Connections mentored the project team.

The mural was unveiled by the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Walter Brett, on 17th November 2018. The Friends of Rose Hill Station saw the project through to its conclusion and are most grateful to all our sponsors and to all contributors.

The project has furthered our aims of enhancing the station as a community resource and to continue to improve the station area.

With Support From:



Site Preparation

This was very heavy work

- We realised we couldn't drill 300 holes into the concrete panels
- The engineering skills of our committee members were invaluable in the design and execution of the mounting system



Monthly Committee Meetings

in a cold warehouse!

- Project management
- Budget management
- Alongside the ordinary work of the Friends group - it took up a great deal of time



So Many Discs

The mural emerging

- Each artist painted a wooden disc which were offcuts from a local speaker company
- The local schools involved themselves fully with whole school years engaged in workshops to produce designs for discs
- Local Art groups, the Alzheimer's Support Group, Senior Citizens and Mental Health Support Groups were all involved
- Over 300 discs were selected for inclusion



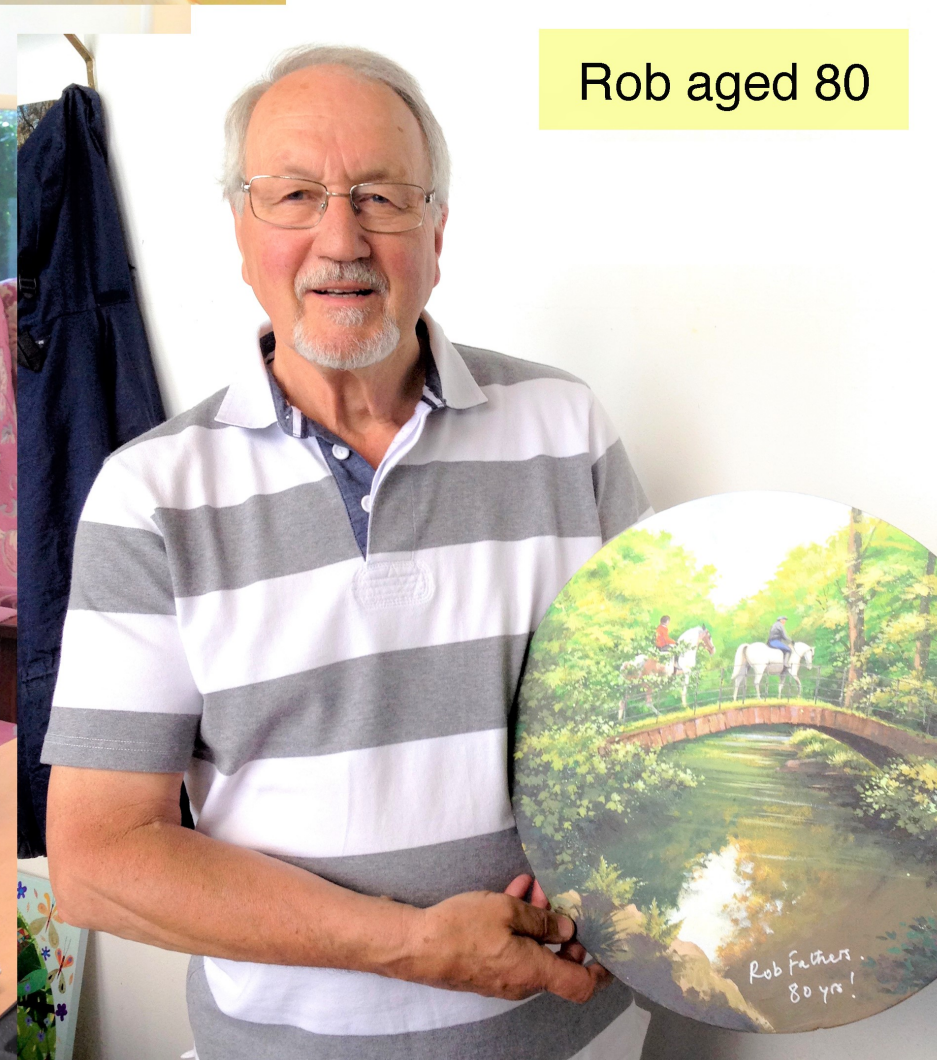
Intergenerational Artists (1)

from the oldest...

- Our oldest participant was 99



Completed pieces from enthusiastic participants.



Intergenerational Artists (2)

....to the youngest

- Our youngest artists were under 5 years old



Workshops

An informal atmosphere in local venues

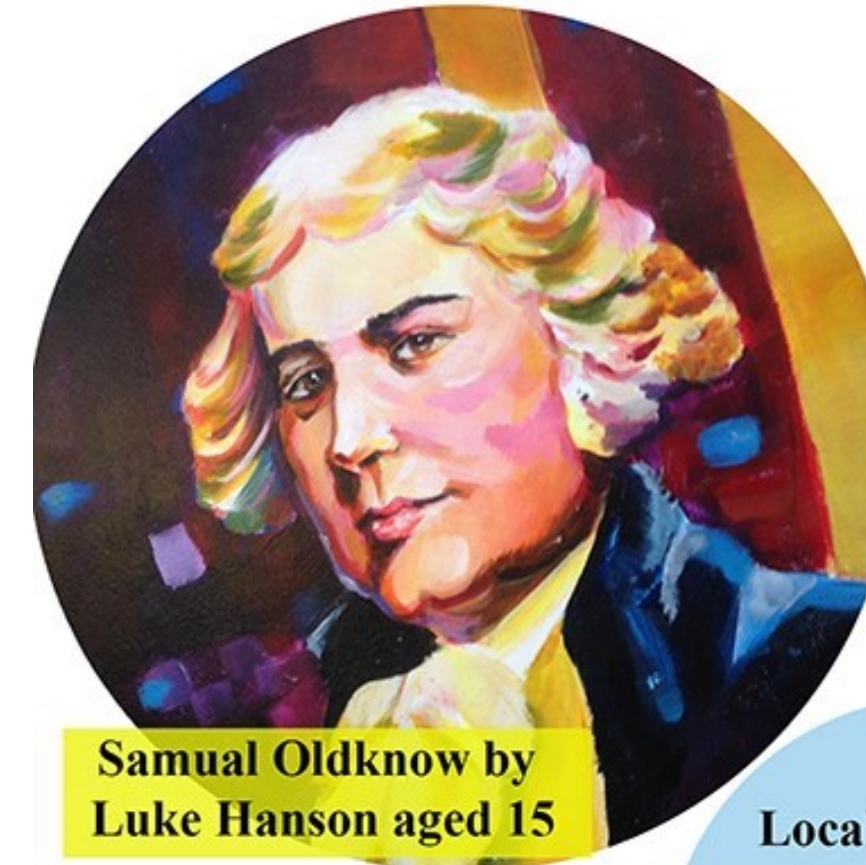
- Memories of Marple and its rail service
- The meaning of Community in Marple
- The experience of being part of the project
- The intensity and emotion of these workshops far exceeded our expectations



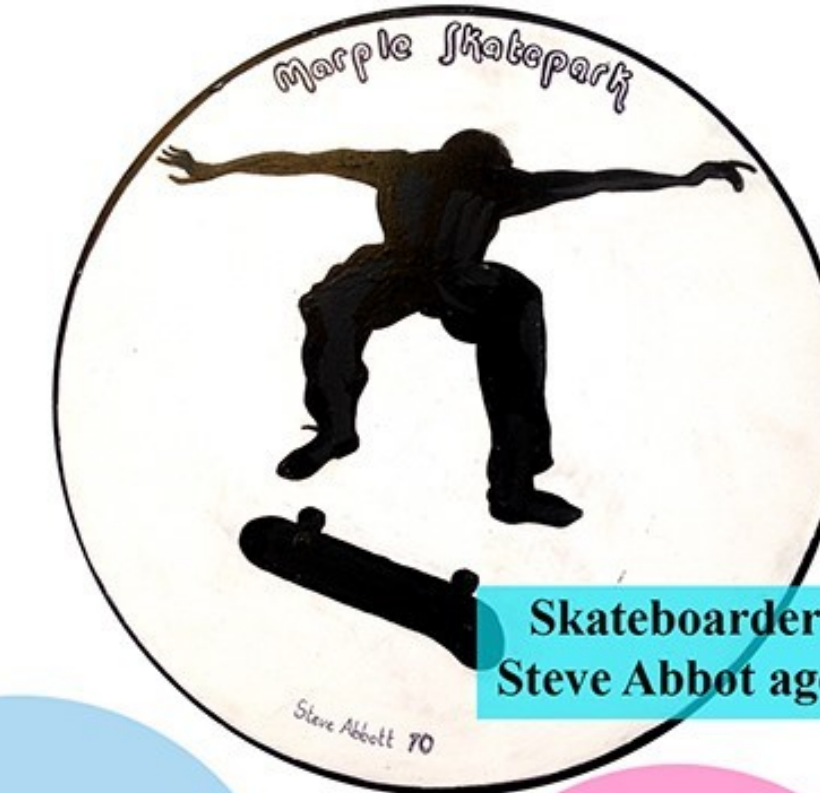
Friends of Rose Hill Station presents
Marple Intergenerational Knowledge & Community Friendship
Monthly Events.

2 : Marple People - Then and Now

Where:- Marple Library
When:- Saturday 13th October 2018
Mid-day till 3.00 pm



Samual Oldknow by
Luke Hanson aged 15



Skateboarder by
Steve Abbot aged 70

A variation of age
groups will get a
chance to speak
and be heard.

Local community
groups and interesting
individuals will
let you know what they
are up to in
the community

Update on
our fantastic
intergenerational
community mural
project & sneak peek
at some of the art.

Free Lunch
&
Refreshments.



Everyone welcome young and old

Any Questions? email FoRHS142@gmail.com or Text to 07762 735321

This event is based on a commitment to equality of opportunity in all areas of its activities.
All individuals will be treated in a fair and equal manner and in accordance with the law
regardless of gender, marital status, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation.

Workshops

with lots of talking

- About 40 people came to each workshop
- Sharing memories and hearing from other groups in the community was highly valued
- Personal stories of increased self worth after creating the art and seeing it displayed in public and alongside others



The mural in place

So much to see

- So many memories and talking points
- Illustrates such a wide range of our community's interests, values and experience
- Narratives across the generations



The Great Unveiling

- Good to have a Proper Ceremony



Unveiling

So many people...

- Over 300 people came
- Such pride in showing friends and family their art work
- Such pride in seeing their contribution to the overall effect



Mission Accomplished?

- The wall looks much better
- The orchard has matured
- Not the end of the story though...



A Regular Sight

- Many visitors
- Generates many conversations



Information Board



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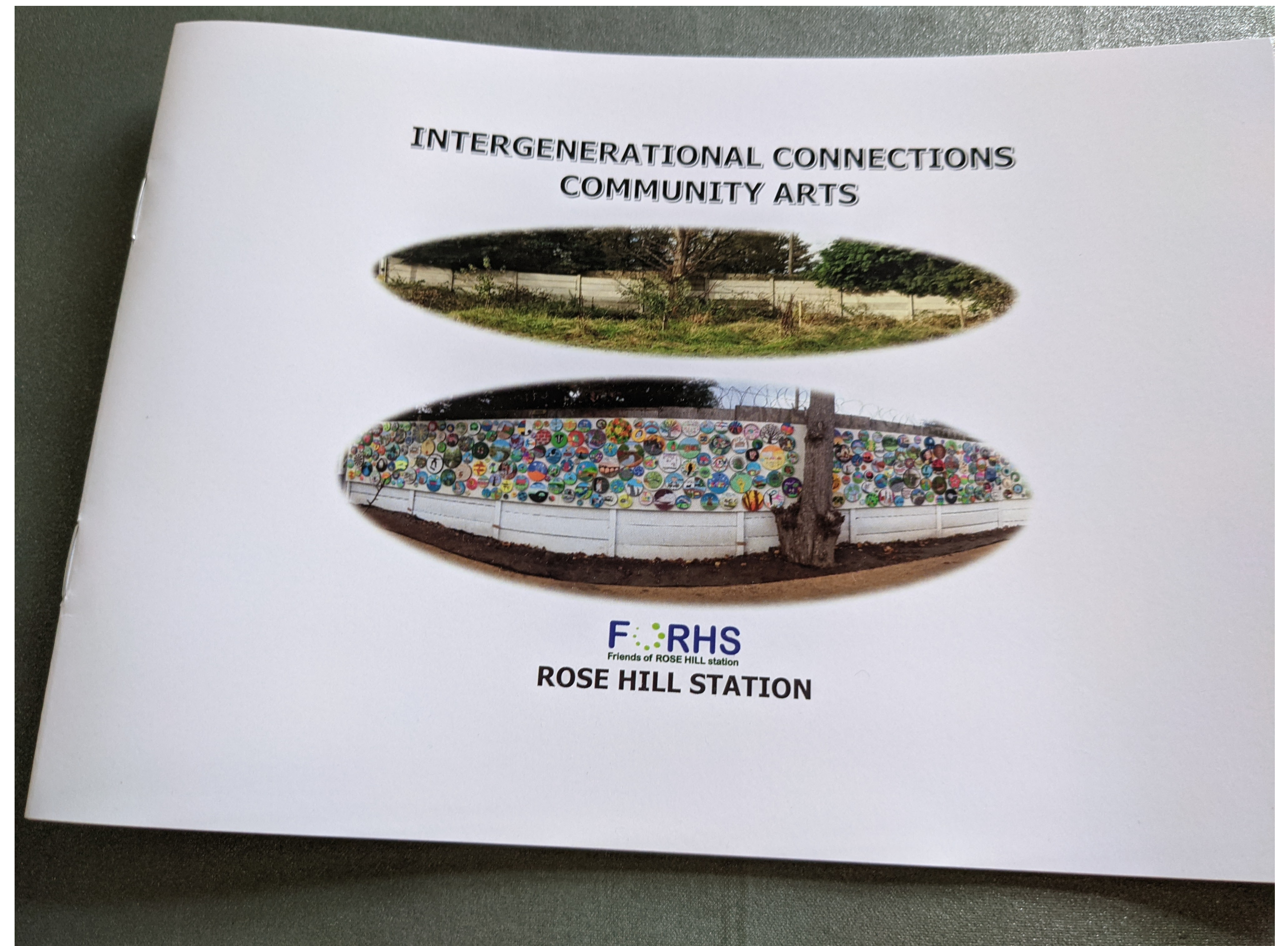
With Support From:



Resource Booklet

The story isn't over after all

- Part of the legacy of the project
- School and Adult groups are invited to use the simple exercises in the booklet to share knowledge across generations
- And to reflect on their community
- ...with particular reference to Rose Hill Station



My Effort!

