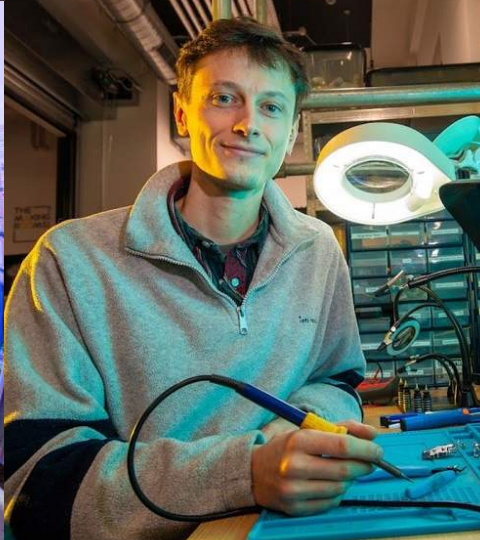
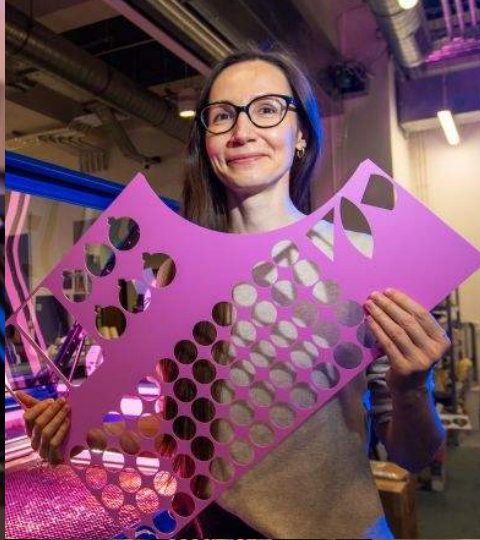


THE
MAKING
ROOMS

WE'RE HIRING



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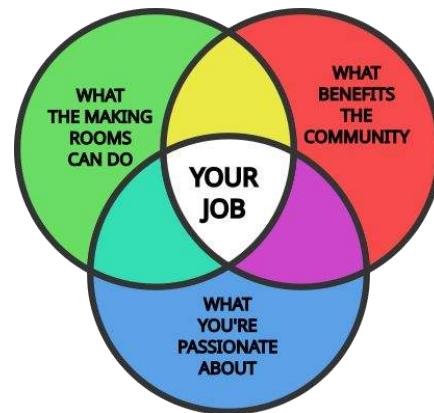




YOU

...should be this excited about
The Making Rooms!

If you're passionate, driven and
endlessly curious, we want to hear
from you!



* this is what we aim for



THE ROLE

This role is funded by BwD Place Partnership to expand opportunities within the borough's creative & cultural sector.

This means experimenting with crafts & technologies, delivering community training and adding to what The Making Rooms can do.

This could be further developing one of our existing labs, spearheading one of our new labs, or coming up with something different!



RESPONSIBILITIES

- Experimenting in the intersection between textiles, plastic recycling, or other new themes, community and advanced technology.
- Creating new projects and training programmes.
- Serving an active community of lab users.
- Supporting free and friendly public open access days.
- Ensuring that visitors are fully supported to develop skills, employability, business/product ideas, well-being and personal interests.
- Supporting the team in the day-to-day operation and administration of the lab.



THE DETAILS

JOB TITLE:	Place Partnership Associate
HOURS:	156 days (7.5 hours per day) Flexible on 3-5 days per week
SALARY:	£13.45ph *increasing in April 2027
HOLIDAY:	20 days pa (inc bank holidays)
PENSION:	6% company pension contribution
RESPONSIBLE TO:	The Making Rooms Director
RESPONSIBLE FOR:	One of our sub-labs
AVAILABILITY:	Weekend working required
DURATION:	1 Year. Permanent position potential upon review.

*You must have the right to work in the UK.

**You must live, work or have been in formal education in BwD.





INTRO

The Making Rooms is a creative hub - host to creative equipment and community organisations.

A defining feature of The Making Rooms is that we are open to everyone.

To maximise our impact, we strive to remove barriers to entry, from our 'free to the end user' model, to adopting new easy-to-use technologies.

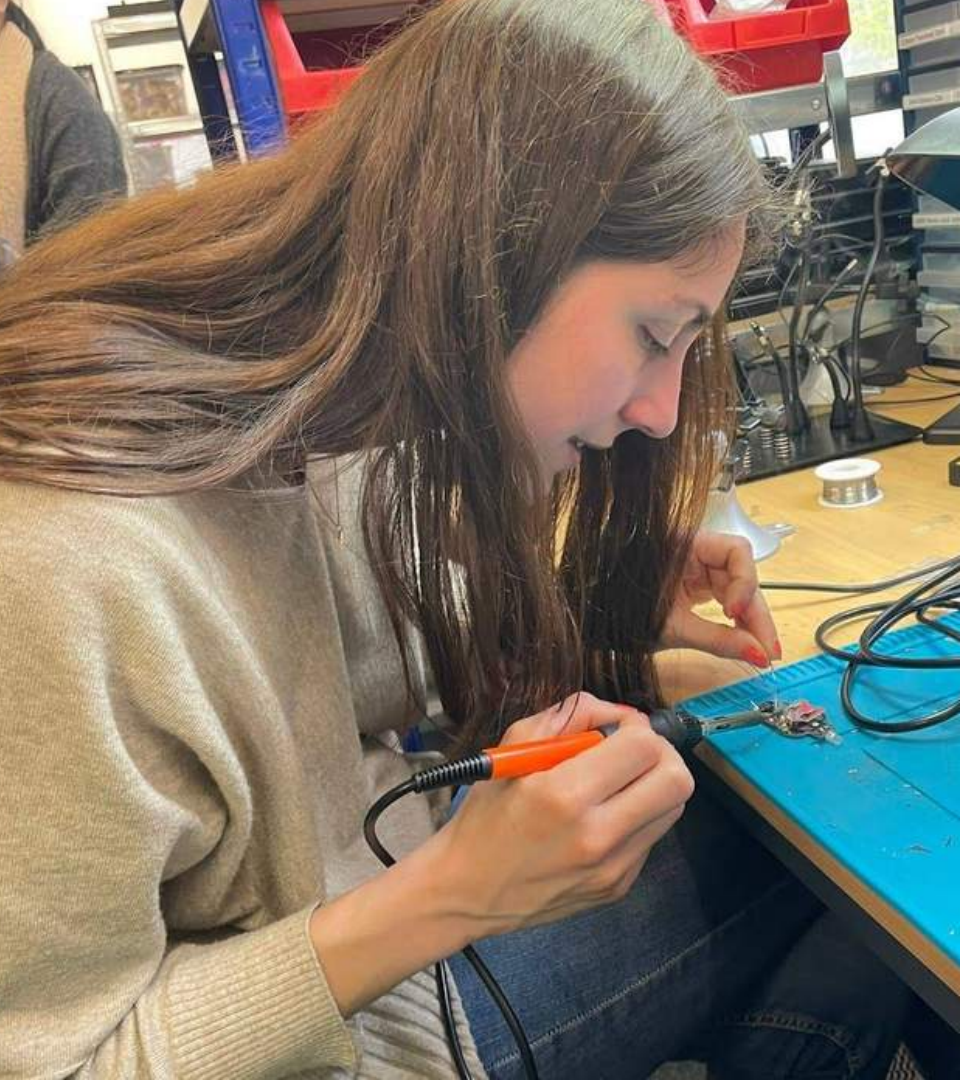


PROGRAMMES

Our programmes equip people with the skills and confidence to create, innovate, and grow.

But it isn't just about gaining new skills—it's about opening doors to new opportunities.

Our workshops, mentoring sessions, and open-access days help people turn **ideas into reality**, whether for a personal project, a new career, or a business venture.



Starting in 2001 at MIT with the aim of **empowering communities** to make "almost anything", thousands of Fab Labs have popped up across the world.

The Making Rooms opens to the public for **free every Saturday and Sunday** under the Fab Lab banner.

Over the years this has helped thousands of people gain skills and confidence.



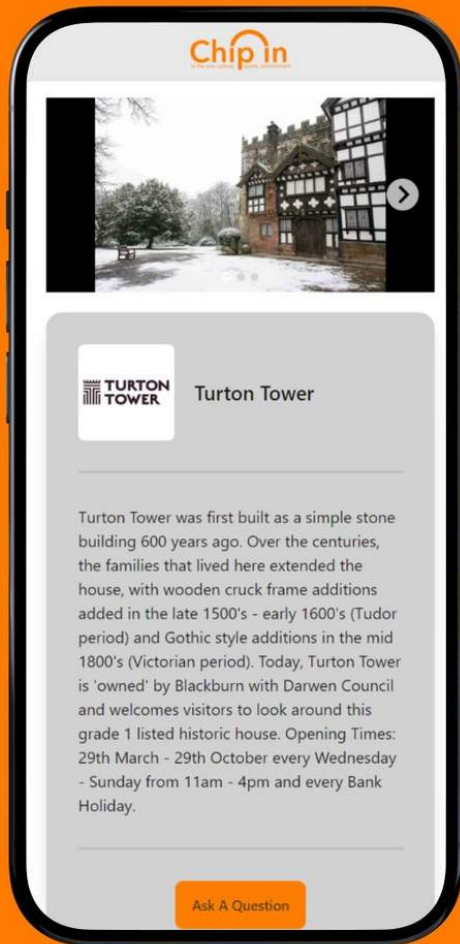
Brian Mercer
BRIAN MERCER TRUST





Re:Play is an education tool which teaches repair through hands-on exercises.

It's a game console with a number of 'issues' that the user has to fix. As the user fixes more of the issues, more games are available to play and the more functional the device becomes.



WE'RE ON
THE APP!



Chip in is a place-based volunteering project across local organisations for young people from Blackburn with Darwen.

Alongside delivering **mentoring and training opportunities**, The Making Rooms is commissioned with creating the Chip In volunteering platform that is now used by all partners of the project.



In 2021 we helped Blackburn Youth Zone setup the first Making Zone to engage young people in making.

We now train Making Zone staff from Blackburn, Chorley and Manchester Youth Zones on the latest technology and sustainability ideas.





The European Creative Hubs Network (ECHN) is an international community of connected spaces.

In 2023, The Making Rooms was selected to host the year's ECHN workshop, where 15 hub leaders from 11 countries stayed in Blackburn for one week to learn from our team, our partners and each other.

We
MAKE
Blackburn

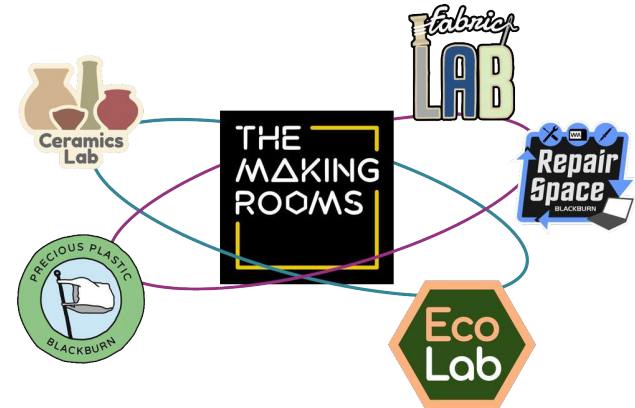


ONE SPACE, MANY...



LABS

Inspired by the new ideas spreading through creative hubs worldwide, The Making Rooms has been expanding what can be done within its walls through our thematic LABS.





Repair Space Blackburn helps people to get more from their devices, by showing them how to **fix/upgrade/maintain.**

The team has the exciting mission of training volunteers to repair 1000 laptops to donate to digitally excluded young people.

time after time



HUBB



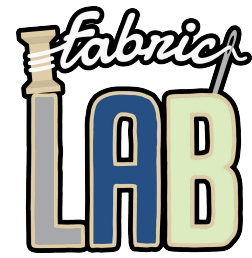


Precious Plastic Blackburn trains people how to turn **plastic waste into a valuable resource.**

We empower individuals and businesses to take charge of their plastic waste and contribute to a cleaner, greener future.

This lab connects Blackburn to the hundreds of Precious Plastic hubs internationally.





Fabric Lab Blackburn helps everyone to get started **learning about textiles** and to experiment with new technologies.

From experienced textile artists to a complete novice eager to learn, this lab welcomes everyone to explore the art of weaving, sewing, dyeing, and much more.



EcoLab Blackburn, is a research and training project for everyone interested in sustainable technology and urban agriculture.

The topics we're exploring include, hydroponics, bio-printing, urban agriculture and creating bio-materials from organic waste!



Ceramics Lab combines **centuries old techniques** with modern day technology exploring what's possible.

We are fostering a community of makers who are eager to learn, create, and push the boundaries of what can be made with ceramics.





TENANTS

Our second and third floors are home to some of the most **dedicated third sector organisations** in Lancashire alongside independent artists and technologists.

Colleagues working across organisations to effect change for local people. Often found in each others offices, the space is a hive of collaboration.



Presenting work that combines art, manufacturing, making and communities, they commission artists, a year round programme and a free family festival.

40,000+ visitors to Blackburn for the annual weekend festival

Hundreds of artists and makers

Workshops, art commissions, performances and exhibitions

Art in Manufacturing worked with dozens of artists and manufacturers.



Culturapedia®

A team of producers, communicators and project managers who work with the people of Lancashire, and beyond, to bring great art to their doorstep. In the past year they:

Engaged tens of thousands of people in libraries, village halls, community centres and markets

Programmed hundreds of paid artists into community facing spaces

Organised hundreds of performances and events

THE
MAKING
ROOMS





**WE CLEARLY NEED
MORE SPACE...**

DEVELOPMENTS

Inspired by **Blackburn Youth Zone's** new Fuzebox development, we set out to maximise our building.

Based in our 1920s era bank on Exchange Street in the heart of Blackburn, there is a lot of potential for expansion.

Blackburn with Darwen borough council saw this potential!



BASEMENT

From bank vaults to commercial kitchens, 1 Exchange Street's basement had an active history.

Generations of Blackburnians have walked above here not knowing the beautiful space that lies below.
Let's change that!

We plan to fill this space with ceramics, metalwork, plastic recycling and device repair.



Funded by
UK Government





ROOF

Our roof will soon house a brand new training room for our EcoLab and community workshops.

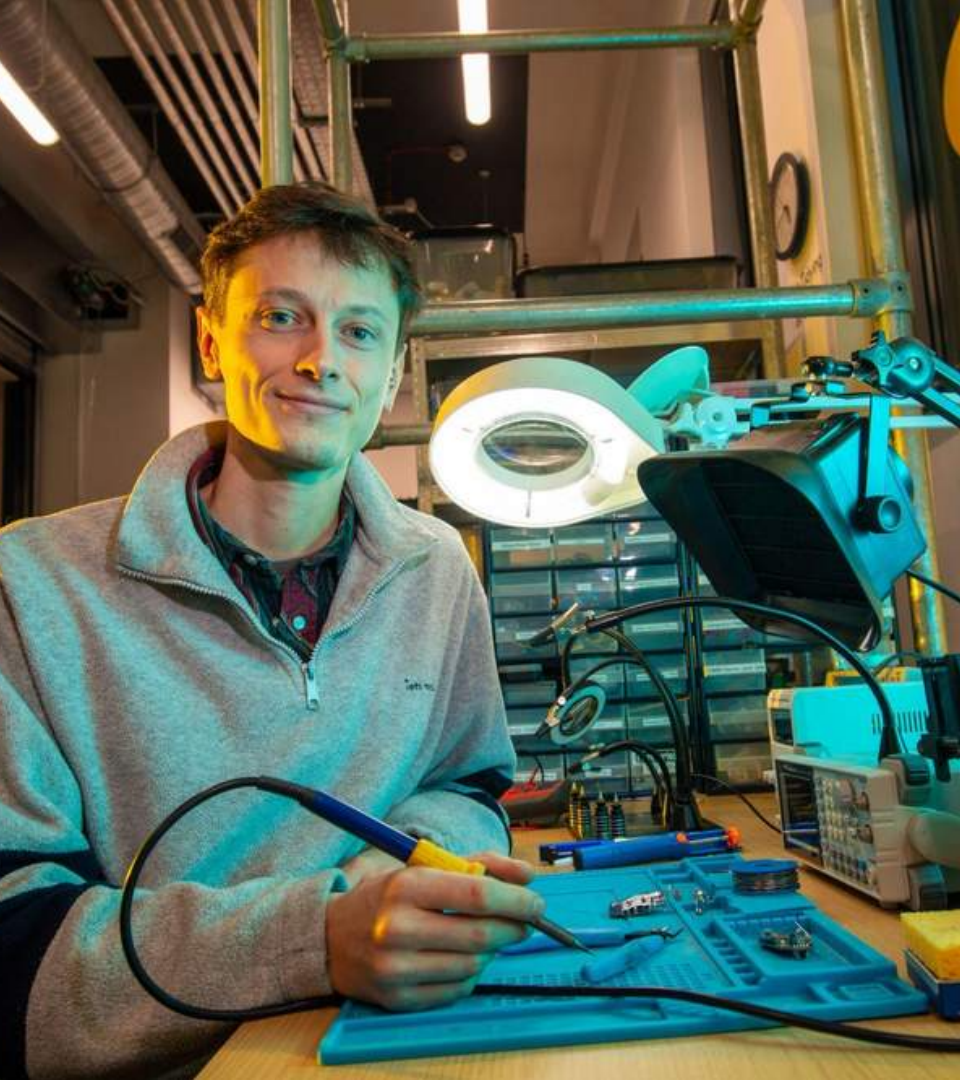
The rest of the roof space will become an outdoor terrace for robotic gardening and a geodesic dome for urban agriculture experimentation.



Funded by
UK Government







IMPACT

As makerspaces go,
The Making Rooms already has a
great range of opportunities for
people to get started making.

Everything from ceramics to 3D
printing, mould making to
electronics.

We have given **tens of thousands of
people making experiences.**
Imagine what we could do across
two more floors.



UNIVERSITY

INTERESTED?

makingrooms.org/get-involved