



Positive Images Festival calling...

Welcome to your October 2020 update

Our news:

*Our **Peace Festival poetry competition** on the theme of neighbours is proving to be popular. By the 6th day of the month-long competition, we had a total of 29 entries, some of which have come from Ireland, Spain, Taiwan, India and other parts of UK.

***Positive Images Festival** extends greetings to everyone for Black History Month. We invite people to enter our Black History Month competition. The competition and entry form are attached.

***Emilie Lauren Jones' We Speak Poetry** project continues to flourish. To hear David Copson recite a poem, please follow the link https://www.theherbert.org/whats_on/1533/thirteen_ways_of_looking David is a Coventry poet and Creative Writing tutor, whose family is from Cuba.

To listen to a poem by Ugandan Oscar Munir, click the link <https://youtu.be/NlbaSx6JNqs>

The link for the September poetry workshop is <https://youtu.be/k00R1Jmtyl8>

Accessible Workshop (for those new to poetry or who want to take things at a slightly gentler pace): <https://youtu.be/GKVEQePCn1k>

Matloob Bokhari, who enjoys writing poetry, requested Emily to read his poem. His comment about the video: *Wow. Greatest gift I received from Emilie. The beauty of your style of reading lent extraordinary beauty to my poem."*

To hear a poem by Daniel Kay (author of *View From a Wheelchair*), click <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hq7YvBbsr9c&t=9s> . Daniel composed the music and his sister Lisa took the photographs. The poem is read by his mum Angie.

And here is news from our partner organisations...

***The Albany Theatre**, which has been awarded a £250k grant as part of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund, announces the reopening of its doors to a limited audience. Its forthcoming programmes include comedy with Paul Sinha (Chaser), an evening with Kevin and Joanne Clifton (Strictly Come Dancing) and an evening with the award-winning writer Andrew Davis.

***Arty-Folks Coventry** is running a free online course for adults who are experiencing depression, anxiety and mental health issues.

To enrol: <https://tinyurl.com/yxo3mhas>

For more information visit: <https://tinyurl.com/y2dbrz4t>

***Belgrade Theatre**, in partnership with **Mind** charity is holding a free online workshop on 22nd October at 7.00pm to support the mental health of young Black men. Workshop booking link: <https://www.belgrade.co.uk/events/boys-to-men-mind-taster-workshop/>

***Cook & Eat Well's** September issue covers fish suppers, recipes for cakes you can bake and tips from NHS for a journey to Better Health.

***Coventry Action for Neighbourhood** continues to produce its weekly newsletter.

***CAIF** (Coventry Association for International Friendship), **Coventry /Dresden Arts Exchange**, the **Twin Studios Project** and **Coventry PhotoMiners** are planning to stage a 'Friendship Festival' during the month of November 2021 – Peace Month in Coventry – in the year of the UK City of Culture. CAIF & Coventry-Dresden Arts Exchange have a strong tradition of developing artistic and cultural links with Coventry's twin city of Dresden in Germany. For further information or information on how to contribute, please contact – caif18@btinternet.com

***Coventry City Council's Migration Team** has produced its first quarterly newsletter. One of the highlights is the story of Hasnaa, a Syrian refugee, who used her sewing skills to make masks, which she then donated.

***Coventry City of Culture Trust** has announced the launch of Community Connectors skills development programme.

***Coventry Libraries'** latest newsletter carries information about volunteering opportunities, free training and an appeal for bike donations. Coventry Libraries' Click & Collect Services are available from Foleshill, Stoke, Tile Hill, Allesley, Willenhall, Canley and Jubilee Crescent Libraries. People can order a

bundle of books to pick up at an appointment time. Tel: 024 7683 2314 or visit https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/126/libraries/3592/covid-19_coronavirus_and_libraries Coventry Libraries would also like to share the recommended poetry list for National Poetry Day 2020 [Click www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/NPD-2020-Trade-Campaign-Book-Groups-List.pdf](http://www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/NPD-2020-Trade-Campaign-Book-Groups-List.pdf)

***FWT** staff are continuing to support women in Coventry across social, health and economic work streams. The 'Your Future, Your Integration' team from FWT continues to offer FREE online 'coffee morning' workshops every Friday 11-12, for women in Coventry, with specialist support for Refugee and Leave to Remain women.

***Godiva Sisters Trust** has made a film to celebrate Godiva Day. Click on the link: <https://youtu.be/lr-0W8Nb0XE>

13 Ways of Looking*, a new show bringing together 13 artists and curators, opened at **The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum on 2nd October. For further info, visit https://www.theherbert.org/whats_on/1533/thirteen_ways_of_looking

*The **Highlife Centre** has released information about a documentary produced by young people to highlight three topical issues in our society today: Hate crime; Covid-19 and its impact on communities and Black History/ Black Lives Matter/Black Future
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXEPi4VJ5B8>

***Hillfields Readers Group** October newsletter includes the shortlist for the Booker Prize, a book review, information about books on radio and TV and a book quiz.

***Sahil Project** has announced the winners of its poetry competition held in September. Sahil's online Bollywood & Bhangra classes take place every Tuesday 5.00-6.00pm. Classes are easy to join on Google meet.
Link: <https://meet.google.com/iei-aqdh-vjz>

*Sue and Graham Pountney of **Styvechale Open Gardens** continue to send us quiz questions. Anyone interested in this stimulating challenge, is requested to contact us.

***United Nations Coventry Branch** and **Coventry City of Peace** have issued their October newsletter.



For your information/action:

*As part of **National Hate Crime Week (10-17 October)**, a short film has been created to highlight the harmful effects of Hate Crime and to encourage the reporting of Hate Crime. Link: <https://youtu.be/kBeQzbnw5aU>

*News from **Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies**, University of Warwick: The Walter Rodney Lecture 2020 will be held on 27th October at 5.30pm. The speaker is Professor Jorge L. Giovanetti Torres of the University of Puerto Rico. His presentation is entitled: Caribbean Hostile Environments: Black British Migrants before the Windrush. To attend this online lecture, please email f.viala@warwick.ac.uk



Did you know?

10th October is World Mental Health Day.

16th October is World Food Day.

24th October is UN Day.



MiFriendly Cities Project has been chosen as a finalist in The Innovation in Politics Awards 2020.

Colin Scott
Chair

Mehru Fitter
Secretary

