



POSITIVE IMAGES FESTIVAL calling...

Welcome to your April 2021 update

Our news:

*Positive Images Festival's **AGM** took place by Zoom on Thursday 18th March from 12.30pm to 2.00pm. We are pleased to announce that **Shabana Sarguro** has been appointed Festival Communications Officer.

*Positive Images Festival continues to be represented at **meetings** of Coventry Welcomes Festival, City of Culture Trust, etc.

*3 members of our Executive Committee attended Coventry City of Culture Trust's **Event Management workshops**.

***Events** attended include: *Amazing Women* and Coventry Mercia Lions Club's workshop about *The History of Coventry Canal*. Coventry Mercia Lions Club has adopted a section of the canal and will be working with diverse groups to enhance the appearance and facilities by the side of the canal. Individuals and groups interested in participating in the project are request to contact Davinder Prasad through email dav.prasad@hotmail.com or ring him on 07891 058 712.

*We are participating in the virtual **Coventry Welcomes Festival**, which will be held from 14th to 20th June 2021.

*We urge all our members to support Coventry's City of Culture UK Year, which will be marked right up to May 2022. Information about your events will appear on our website. We will soon send out event pro formas.

*Positive Images Festival has been working with Coventry Association for International Friendship, UK Twin Towns & Sister Cities Foundation and Coventry & Volgograd Bond of Friendship Committee to arrange an **online summit on 23rd April to mark the 80th year of Citizens2citizens Friendship**, first started by Coventry and now widely spread across the world.

In 1941, women of Coventry, a city devastated by bombing raids, reached out to women in suffering Stalingrad (now called Volgograd). This marked the beginning of friendship between the two cities and blossomed into the Twin Cities movement.

All of our twin cities have been invited to the summit, at which an announcement will be made about the launch of the new **Twin Cities Award** on 6th October.

A grand live event will take place on the International Twin Cities Day in April 2022.

Positive images Festival is also working on a huge exhibition to mark our friendships worldwide.

And here is news from our partner organisations...

***The Albany Theatre** is thrilled to announce that their 2021 summer programme is now on sale.

***Arty-Folks** has arranged free online courses and workshops for adults feeling under the weather. This is what a participant in the Art for Relaxation workshop held in March said, "I always carry tension in my jaw and shoulders but after spending a couple of enjoyable hours in the group I felt so much more relaxed. I slept deeply for the first time in months!" Arty-Folks is also arranging free short courses and workshops to support employee Health and Wellbeing.

***Chat Central's** April newsletter carries information about their weekly calendar, on-line events, a message from a volunteer, some pictures of the amazing art work from March, and information about the *Skills for Volunteering* training starting on 26th April. For further information, contact Heather and Olugbemi at Chatcentral@vac Coventry.org.uk or call 07840 550801.

*Through its weekly newsletters, **Coventry Action for Neighbourhoods** continues to keep us well-informed about several issues. The latest issue informs us that the vacant space above Litten Tree Pub is being transformed into an arts area, likely to open in June.

***Coventry Libraries** reopen on 19th April. Appointments necessary.

***Coventry Transport Museum's** online exhibition, *Gearing up: From Saddle to Spoke*, Based on the theme of cycling, runs until 13 June 2021. The museum reopens on Monday 17th May.

***FabLab** has released its programme of April workshops for digital fabrication, laser cutting, vinyl cutting, jewellery making and much more. To book, visit www.fablabcov.coventry.ac.uk/booking

***Friends of The War Memorial Park** are busy planning a *Three-Day Centenary Weekend*, which will take place in July 2022. Exciting developments include a Sensory Garden; research into the 678 individual memorials at the park; and the Park Bench Project, where visitors will be able to hear the human stories behind each memorial bench. To join Friends of the War Memorial Park or to make suggestions, please email 100years@fwmpcoventry.org.uk

***FWT's** free wellbeing workshops for women will resume on 19th April. To book a place, contact the employment team: Tirth on 07538 093004 or tirth.hyare@fwt.org.uk Jo on 07950 813581 or joanna.selby@fwt.org.uk or Lucia on 07950 800503 or lucia.vinolo@fwt.org.uk

***Godiva Trust**, working with the Godiva Sisters, has released a video to encourage communities to keep one another safe and take up the offer of a vaccine. The link is <https://youtu.be/luF5y58mQGo>

***Graham and Sue Pountney** continue to send us quiz questions.

***Grapevine Coventry and Warwickshire** has issued a newsletter, giving details of an online summit on 29th April to which local businesses, retailers and sector reps are invited to discuss ideas for an economic build back. Free ticket link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/calling-coventry-and-warwickshires-local-businesses-and-retailers-tickets-145033183155>

***Herbert Art Gallery & Museum** announces *UnNatural History*, curated by environment organisation Invisible Dust. The exhibition, featuring over 20 international artists, will run from 28th May to 22nd August 2021. It will explore the role of the artist as an intrinsic part of the science of natural history, enabling our modern understanding of ecology, climate change, extinction and threats to biodiversity. The museum will welcome visitors back from Monday 17th May.

***Hillfields Readers Group (HRG)** has issued its March newsletter, which contains a Children's Book Quiz, information about new books and much more.

***Integrate Coventry** has issued its March newsletter, which contains some exciting updates. For further information, visit www.integratecoventryt.co.uk
The project supports refugees and other third country nationals to rebuild their lives and establish themselves within the wider community.

*Coventry City Council's **Migration** Team informs everyone that the Job Shop building will reopen on 19th April to customers with pre-booked appointments. For information about booking an appointment, please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/jobshop

Sahyadri Friends Group arranged a number of online activities and produced an activities pack to mark Holi, the festival of colours.

***This is Africa 2021-2022**, an umbrella brand, will deliver 15 exciting events during Coventry's year as City of Culture UK. The project aims to celebrate African culture & heritage; promote black-led businesses and create employment opportunities. For further information, please visit www.thisisafrica2021.co.uk

***Tile Hill Job Club & Advice** Centre's socially distanced sessions are held on Tuesday at St. Oswald's Church Hall, Jardine Crescent, between 2.00 and 4.00pm. For remote support by phone or Zoom, telephone 07824 833717 or email tilehilljobclub@gmail.com

***West Indian Community Action Group** contributed towards *British Science Week 2021* through an interview with Detective Inspector, Mr. Amar Patel

Special Days

April is **Stress Awareness Month**.

*7 April – **World Health Day**

***21 April** is **National Tea Day**, which celebrates our love of tea. We drink 165 million cups of tea a day. www.nationalteaday.co.uk

***22 April** – **Earth Day**, a worldwide event to raise awareness of the environmental issues facing the whole of planet Earth.

***23 April** – **National Shakespeare Day**

Refugee Week 2021 will be marked from 14-20 June. The theme of Refugee Week 2021, '*We Cannot Walk Alone*', is an invitation to extend your hand to someone new. Someone who is outside your current circle, has had an experience you haven't, or is fighting for a cause you aren't yet involved in.

Thoughts about future events:

***Sunday March 20 2022** will be the *International Day of Happiness*. The idea originated in Bhutan, which is reckoned to have the happiest people in the world. Can we have a think about an event around this theme?

Culture Noticeboard...

Coventry City of Culture Trust has issued its April newsletter, which contains information about events, volunteering, free online classes, job opportunities and much more...

Colin Scott
Chair



Mehru Fitter
Secretary

SUPPORTED BY

