



# POSITIVE IMAGES FESTIVAL calling...

## Welcome to your May 2021 update

### *Our news:*

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\*Positive Images Festival has been successful in obtaining **funding** from the Arts Council of England. This will enable us to run an expanded programme from June 2021 to May 2022.

This year the **Multicultural Craft & Food Fair** and the **Community Information Fair** will be held on the same day – **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September**.

To request a booking form and guidance notes for the Multicultural Craft & Food Fair, please email [mehru.fitter@btinternet.com](mailto:mehru.fitter@btinternet.com)

To request a booking form and guidance notes for the **Community Information Fair**, please email [positiveimagesfest@yahoo.com](mailto:positiveimagesfest@yahoo.com)

If you wish to arrange an event during the festival period, please email [positiveimagesfest@yahoo.com](mailto:positiveimagesfest@yahoo.com) so that an event pro forma and guidance notes can be sent to you.

\*Our **planning meetings** are open to all. The next planning meeting will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 12.30pm to 2.00pm via Zoom. The link will be sent out early in the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> May.

\*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.

\*Positive Images Festival joined hands with UK Towns and Sister Cities Foundation, Coventry & Volgograd Bond of Friendship Committee and Coventry Association for International Friendship (CAIF) to organise an online summit to mark the **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the modest **beginning of friendship** between 2 war-ravaged cities – **Coventry** and **Stalingrad** (later called Volgograd). We were delighted with the number of twin cities represented at the summit held via Zoom, on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

\*Meetings attended: Coventry Welcomes Festival; Twin Cities

\*Training sessions attended: Culture Diary Session; Event Management

\*Our monthly **poetry workshops**, led by Emilie Lauren Jones, continue to be held on the last Sunday of each month.

\***Coventry Welcomes Festival** will be held from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June. Our input: Putting the Flags out for Coventry Welcomes; Blackout Poetry; Positive Images Festival monthly poetry workshop. These will be online events. We thank Seyedeh Naseriniaki for her assistance in designing flyers for our events.

### *And here is news from our partner organisations...*

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\***The Albany Theatre's** Christmas production for December 2021 will be **A Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens, directed by Albany Theatre CEO and a nationally accomplished director, Kevin Shaw.

\***Belgrade Theatre's** 20 second Refugee Week video, produced for a former Refugee Week festival, got a mention in Counterpoints Arts' latest newsletter. Subscribers to the newsletter can also access an Event Organisers' Pack.

\***Chat Central** has issued its May programme, with some events taking place outdoors. Highlights include Eid Celebration, Culture Club, Art & Storytelling exhibition talk, info about online classes, and Sky Blues in the Community's Mental Health Project targeting men. For further information, contact Heather and Olugbemi at [Chatcentral@vac Coventry.org.uk](mailto:Chatcentral@vac Coventry.org.uk) or call 07840 550801.

\***Cook and Eat Well's** April newsletter covers historical events that took place in April in UK over the years. We learn that 10 April 1633 is the date when bananas were seen in England for the first time! Also included are three rice recipes, a cherry scone recipe and information about Vitamin C.

\***Coventry Action for Neighbourhoods (CAN)** continues to keep us informed about local matters. One issue informs us about the model of Medieval Coventry, displayed at the Central Library.

\***Coventry Libraries** are open for browsing, 45-minute PC use and to click and collect a bundle of books without needing to book an appointment. The doors are open at Aldermoor, Allesley Park, Bell Green, Canley, Central, Coundon, Foleshill, Jubilee Crescent, Stoke, Tile Hill and Willenhall Libraries. For computer use and click and collect services, you can still contact the library directly or use the booking form to guarantee a time slot.  
[www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries)

\***Coventry City of Peace** May newsletter informs us about the German Peace Garden in War Memorial Park, CARAG podcasts on immigration, Young People's International Peace Essay Competition, the opening of the Japanese Peace Garden, Coventry Dresden Friendship Festival, etc.

\*Each month **Coventry Transport Museum** will share highlights from their collection with us.

\***FabLab** has issued its timetable for blended online and face-to-face workshops in May. For further information, please visit [www.fablabcov.coventry.ac.uk](http://www.fablabcov.coventry.ac.uk)

\***Gabrielle Back** is organising a Climate Change Poster Competition for schools. Entries to be sent by 15<sup>th</sup> July to: Gabrielle Back, 3 Underhill Close, Finham, Coventry CV3 6RB

\***Godiva Trust** has produced a video "Covid through the eyes of a child". Link for the video: <https://youtu.be/dPv10qmjHa4>

\*Graham and Sue Pountney of Styvechale Open Gardens continue to send us quiz questions.

\*Free tickets for the '*2 Tone: Lives & Legacies*' exhibition at the **Herbert Art Gallery & Museum** are now live. The exhibition will run from 14 May to 12 September 2021. Also an exhibition of works by the 5 groups shortlisted for the Turner Prize 2021 will be held at the Herbert from 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to 12 January 2022. The winner will be announced on 1<sup>st</sup> December at an award ceremony at Coventry Cathedral.

\***Hillz FM** has released information about radio training courses. For information about these, ring 07851 9976 369 or email [youth.admin@hillzfm.net](mailto:youth.admin@hillzfm.net)

\***UNA Coventry Branch** has issued its May newsletter, which covers Climate Change, Green Week 2021, the University of Warwick's year-long programme of events from May 2021 to April 2022, etc.

\***Voluntary Action Coventry** has issued its May newsletter, covering: registration of volunteering opportunities; Improving Lives course; Health & Social Care News; funding news. It also has a link to a poem composed by a person with lived experience of poverty.

\*To see an advisor about **WATCH** services, ring 024 7655 0564 or email [reception@watchcharity.org.uk](mailto:reception@watchcharity.org.uk)

\***Wriggle Dance Theatre** is hosting a 1 day Early Years Symposium on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. To register now for your FREE place please click the link below. Places are limited.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wriggle-dance-early-years-symposium-registration-150314920975?aff=luca>

## *For your information/action ...*

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\*To watch the video of an **International Women's Day** event, aimed at South Asian women, please click

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejeogvzaTvY&t=242s>

\*The Department for Education's **Holiday Activities and Food Programme** (HAF) has provided Coventry funding for free Summer Holiday Clubs and Activities with nutritious food to be made available for school-age children eligible for benefits-related free school meals in Coventry. Youth leaders, those running a holiday club, or people interested in running a holiday club for children or visiting holiday clubs to teach or deliver a session in crafts, sports, cookery or life skills or have resources to share that could help run a Holiday Club are requested to email [hafprogramme@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:hafprogramme@coventry.gov.uk)

## *Special Days*

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**16-21 May 2021 is Mental Health Awareness Week.**

## *Culture Noticeboard...*

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\*Coventry City of Culture Trust informs us that the first **tickets** for our year as UK City of Culture have gone on sale. People can also visit the Trust's new shop at 31-35 Hertford Street to browse products by local makers, to book tickets and find out more about Coventry's Year as UK City of Culture.

\***Coventry City of Culture Trust** is looking to build a cohort of City Hosts to help welcome visitors to Coventry in 2021/2022. City Hosts will be the face of 2021, meeting and greeting, helping with wayfinding and recommending what's on and where to visit, providing a crucial extra level of support for those with access needs and making everyone feel most welcome in our city. To find out more, visit [www.coventry2021.co.uk/cityhosts](http://www.coventry2021.co.uk/cityhosts)

\*Nor Aziz and Sahyadri Friends Group will be members of a South Asian artists' collective, which will plan the **Carnival of Lights**.

\*Coventry's first **Coloured Synergy Festival** brings together three multicultural festivals, Embracing Africa, Sahyadri Colours of India, and Caribbean Cultural Fest in one location to celebrate culture, talent and creativity. The explosive **one-day event** will be on **Saturday, August 7th, 2021** at **Coventry Rugby Club**.

\*Coventry City of Culture Trust and The Albany Theatre are bringing the **Generate Festival** to the city. The festival will take place outdoors across multiple weekends in August. The deadline for application is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. The Trust will offer a grant to successful groups. For further information, phone **Darren Knapton** on 07826 521 729 or email [darren.knapton@albanytheatre.co.uk](mailto:darren.knapton@albanytheatre.co.uk)

\***Walking Forest**, a non-residential camp centred on environmental activism, will be held from 27-30 May. For further info <https://coventry2021.co.uk/get-involved/walking-forest-call-out/>

*Colin Scott*  
**Chair**



*Mehru Fitter*  
**Secretary**

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