



POSITIVE IMAGES FESTIVAL calling...

Welcome to your July 2021 update

Our news:

A number of events forming part of Positive Images Festival 2021 took place in June:

***Coventry Against Racism's** zoom meeting, with two excellent speakers – Councillor Dr Kindy Sandhu and Jacqueline McKensie, a top immigration lawyer.

*Our contribution to **Coventry Welcomes Festival** included three events:

- Blackout Poetry*, led by Theo Ioannou and Emilie Lauren Jones. One of the participants was a published poet! Participants found the session beneficial – they had learned a new way of creating poetry.
- Putting the flags out for Coventry Welcomes*, facilitated by Kate Hills, Emilie Lauren Jones and Seyedeh Naseriniaki. One of the participants found the workshop good for her mental wellbeing.
- The *PIF Monthly Poetry Workshop*, delivered by Emilie Lauren Jones on YouTube, was extremely well-attended and very well-received.

*Donna Bridgewater's photography exhibition, ***Getting Through This***, began its journey at the Central Library. The exhibition presents a series of portraits that display powerful messages.

This is Africa** series of events was launched on 25th June, with ***We are Warriors - an exciting, colourful and imaginatively produced programme of music and dance. The Lord Mayor, Councillor John McNicholas, and Chenine Bhatena, Creative Director of Coventry City of Culture Trust, spoke very positively about the contribution of diverse communities. The High Commissioner of Sierra Leone graced the occasion.

Forthcoming events:

*Official Launch of Positive Images Festival through **the free Multicultural Concert of Music & Dance**, on 31st July, 7.00pm-10.00pm, at the Ukrainian Centre. The link

to obtain tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pif-launch-multicultural-concert-of-music-and-dance-tickets-161258024091>

***Multicultural Craft & Food Fair** and **Community Information Fair** on 4th September, 10.00am-4.00pm in Broadgate.

For information about future events, please visit our website www.positiveimagesfestival.co.uk

Our celebrations will go on right up to May 2022. So keep sending us information about your events.

Meetings attended: Twin Cities; Coventry Moves Religious Leaders; CAIF AGM; South Asian Leaders; and Sacred Space meetings.

Our ***next festival planning meeting*** will be held on ***Thursday 22nd July*** from 12.30pm to 1.30pm via Zoom. Our planning meetings are open to all.

And here is news from our partner organisations...

***Albany Theatre's** July newsletter has information about performances and festivals.

*In partnership with acclaimed theatre company **Paines Plough and Coventry UK City of Culture 2021** Belgrade Theatre presents **Roundabout** - a festival of world-class plays performed in a pop-up theatre in the grounds of Moat House Leisure and Neighbourhood Centre in Wood End. To buy tickets, visit <https://www.belgrade.co.uk/events/black-love/>

***Chat Central for Youth** newsletter for June contains information about activities available for 16-25 year olds. Its July newsletter covers on-line and live events and much more. For further information, contact Heather and Olugbemi at Chatcentral@vacoventry.org.uk or call 07840 550801.

***Cook & Eat Well's** latest newsletter includes 3 fish recipes; a cake recipe and information about: Salt in our diet; Ways to help the environment; and food labels.

***Coventry Action for Neighbourhoods'** newsletters include information about Palmer Lane Open Green Space, the Japanese Ambassador's presentation to the Lord Mayor's Peace & Reconciliation Committee and much more.

*Coventry **City of Peace** Newsletter and **UNA Coventry Branch** Newsletter inform us about: Coventry Hiroshima Day on 6th August; Coventry Peace Festival; Rising Global Peace Forum; Coventry-Dresden Friendship Festival, International Young People's Peace Essay Competition 2021 (www.youngpeoplespeaceessay.org) and much more...

***FWT** has circulated Integrate Coventry's June newsletter, mainly focused on Volunteers' Week and Refugee Week. FWT's MAMTA Child & Maternal Health programme is offering universal phone support to all BAME pregnant women in Coventry. To book a place on face-to-face parent craft sessions,

please email MAMTA@fwt.org.uk Also as part of Integrate Coventry, FWT is offering free online workshops every Friday 11.00-12.00 to support Refugee & Leave to Remain Women.

Please call Zivar on 07508 517654 or Maryam on 07399 511927 to join FWT online activities and services. Email: Zivar.sahaf@fwt.org.uk or Maryam.baboli@fwt.org.uk

***Godiva Trust** has created a Covid Memorial Garden with 4 new rose beds at the War Memorial Park, to remember all those who lost their lives during the pandemic and to mark Coventry's Year as UK City of Culture. For further information:

<https://coventryobserver.co.uk/news/covid-memorial-rose-garden-officially-opened-in-coventry-park/>

*An exhibition of the works of artists shortlisted for the Turner Prize will be held at the **Herbert Art Gallery & Museum** from 29th September 2021 to 12th January 2022.

***Sahil** is organising free online classes on Health & Wellbeing every Wednesday from 12.00 noon to 1.00pm. For further information, please ring 024 7663 8754 or 07974 669 365.

*We continue to receive quiz questions from **Sue and Graham Pountney**.

Culture Noticeboard...

*City of Culture Trust has issued its June **Collaborative City newsletter**.

*An exhibition in partnership with Orbit and City of Culture is taking place from Monday 2nd August until Saturday 7th August between 10.00am and 12.00 pm at Broad Street Meeting Hall.

The exhibition will include works by Coventry artist Andy Farr called Portraits of Coventry, more information is available

here. <https://www.orbitcustomerhub.org.uk/publications/campaigns/coventry-uk-city-of-culture-2021/portraits-of-coventry/>

Artwork from the Foleshill Creates at Home project exploring what 'home' means using a variety of mediums will also be on

display. <https://youtu.be/9GKSfK7StQE>

***The Youthful Cities Digital Storytelling Lab** is looking for Coventry artists aged 18-25. For further information about the programme, visit

<https://www.thespace.org/resource/youthful-cities-digital-storytelling-lab>

For your information and action...

*Employability tips will be provided in Explore Coventry's 4 week course. For more information, Text "Call me" to 07484 513939 or ring 0800 842 842.

*For advice about energy efficiency, please ring NEA on 0800 304 7159 or visit www.nea.org.uk/advice/make-a-referral

***A bakery course** for refugee women is starting in September. Information sessions will be held from 19th to 23rd July. Contact: Rachel Casali through email rachel.casali@proofbakery.co.uk or on 07931 434 785.

*The wider Migration meeting will be held on 19th August 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

*On Saturday 24th July local services from **Families for All Hubs** will be showcased in Churchill Avenue in Foleshill, from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

Colin Scott

Chair



Mehru Fitter

Secretary

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