



POSITIVE IMAGES FESTIVAL calling...

Welcome to your August 2023 update

Our news:

*On Saturday 8th July, the Ukrainian Hall in Leicester Causeway was the venue for our annual **Multicultural Concert of Music and Dance**, compered by Kate Hills. This free concert showed that Coventry is awash with talent. The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress were in attendance.

Our stars of the evening included: Veselka Youth Dancers and Singers, who charmed the audience with their spellbinding performance John Oswin, who sang songs to the accompaniment of his guitar; young dancers from the Raja Shivaji Dance Group, who treated the audience to Indian dance; Kadence Music, whose members showed their mastery over drums; Highlife Youth Vision Choir, who sang with tremendous energy and enthusiasm; and King Bayan Singers, who had the audience tapping their feet and clapping as they sang songs in Ukrainian, Polish and even Hindi!!!

During the interval, attendees ate with relish free refreshments -samosas and chick pea curry.

The generosity of the audience enabled us to raise £185 for the Ukrainian relief fund.

This year, saw a vast increase in audience, including Ukrainian refugees from Coventry and nearby areas.

*From September onwards, we will start **planning Positive Images Festival 2024**, when we mark our 30th Anniversary. By membership request, we have changed the day of our meeting from Tuesday to Thursday. The new meeting time will be from 1.45pm to 3.00pm. All meetings will be held at the Central Library as well as via Zoom. Here are the dates of future meetings: 21 September, 19 October, 23 November and 14 December.

And here is news from our partner organisations:

***Albany Theatre** has partnered with Coventry College to offer a Level 3 BTEC Production Arts two-year course in technical and production skills. Places are still available for this course starting in September. For further information, please visit <https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/courses/level-3-diploma-in-production-arts/>

***CAN** (Coventry Action for Neighbourhoods) newsletters provide information about: anti-social behaviour; restoration work on the Sherbourne River; the 4th Coventry Biennial, taking place in Coventry & Warwickshire from 6th October 2023 to 14th January 2024; Coventry Charterhouse Association....

*Information from **Coventry Libraries**: Warwickshire Cricket Board's free cricket sessions for girls (for further information, gabbybasketter@edgbaston.com); local author, Chris Arnot, will talk about his new book – *Coronation Streets: England then and now*, at Tile Hill Library on 14th September and Jubilee Crescent Library on 18th September.

*On Fridays from 10.30am to 11.30am, a free Conversation Café takes place at **Cheylesmore Library** for those wanting to improve their spoken English.

***Coventry Ambassadors** have issued a report regarding their involvement in the Commonwealth Games 2022, for which they contributed 1921 volunteer hours over 19 days. EnV are recruiting City Host volunteers to support Coventry's Art, Music, Sports and Heritage events. Interested individuals can apply online at www.env.uk.com/cityhosts

*New book by two members of **The Friends of the War Memorial Park**:



Gill Mills and Robert Bristow's book, *The Remembrance Trees of Coventry's War Memorial Park*, is a beautifully produced tribute to the people behind the plaques. Published by The **Friends of The War Memorial Park**, the book, priced at £7.50, is available to buy from the Visitor Centre in the Park or via the Friends Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofthewarmemorialparkcoventry/>

*The **Herbert Art Gallery & Museum's** latest newsletters highlight: 2 exhibitions – *Legacies, Memories, Belonging & Work on Walls*; *Lunt Roman Festival*; on 26th and 27th August from 10.00am to 4.00pm; activities on offer during the summer holidays; and Coventry Transport Museum's thematic workshops;

*The exhibition ***What we wore: Stories of South Asian textiles and fashions*** can be viewed at **St Mary's Guildhall** up to 30th September. On 2nd September from 2.00pm to 3.00pm, there will be a talk on garments worn by the diasporic South Asian community in the UK and East Africa. The exhibition and associated activities, taking place in the South Asian Heritage Month, mark collaboration between St Mary's Guildhall, Hardish Virk and Coventry Artspace. There is a booking fee of £1, which can be paid at reception on arrival.

***UNA Cov News** and **Cov Peace** newsletters carry information about: the International Day of Peace – 21 September; Creative Kindness display at Coventry Central Hall; Sixth Form Reconciliation Half Days from 19 to 21 September at Coventry Cathedral, and much more....

For your information/action:

***Coventry City Council's Arts, Culture and Heritage Newsletter** informs us about Albany Theatre's partnership with Coventry College to develop a new BTEC in Production Arts. For more information, please visit

<https://www.albanytheatre.co.uk/btec-in-production-arts-in-partnership-with-coventry-college/> ; Beneath your Feet event on 29th and 30th July at Charterhouse <https://www.historiccoventrytrust.org.uk/whats-on/beneath-your-feet/>

***The Big Tree**, part of the *10,000 Stars for Coventry* project, is on display at the Central Hall until 23 November.

***Bands in the Park** will continue to take place up to 17 September in many of Coventry's beautiful parks on Sundays from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. For information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/bandsinparks

*Bookings are now open for 150 amazing, free activities arranged by **Coventry Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)**, from 24th July to 1st September – all with free food provided. For information about eligibility and details of activities, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/haf

*The Government has set out new plans to improve the lives of disabled people. A consultation has been launched and will close on 6th October.

***Refugee Week 2024** will be marked from 17th to 24th June. The theme will be announced before the end of the year.

*Coventry's **Heritage Open Days** will be held from 8th to 17th September.

www.positiveimagesfestival.co.uk



Colin Scott
Treasurer

Kate Hills
Chair