Culture@Solihull

Covid Story Project

Call Out for Story Collectors



another Parrabbola project

As part of Solihull's current cultural programming, we are looking for a team of community researchers who will collect stories from people about their Covid experiences. We want to gather stories that explain how people have made it through the last 18 months in order to build up a big picture of how the pandemic has affected everyone in Solihull. The object is to gather experiences from across the community, of the period of the Covid pandemic so far, the period of lockdown, the losses, the changes in lives. The community positives and spirit of hope.

We will be turning these stories into some sort of creative artistic project to engage the wider borough, as well as building up a social history snapshot of this unique period of time that we've all experienced.

Anyone who lives, works or studies in Solihull Borough can apply to be part of our team – and you'll need to suggest a group of people that you'd like to interview, it might be your extended family, people you work with or meet regularly or everyone in your street. There will be a small fee of up to £500 (depending on your plans), and we will provide a training day to help you with the practicalities of audio recording which is how we'll collect the stories.

Other than a connection to the borough, there are no restrictions as to who our researchers are, and we want to make sure that we have a good cross section of people and communities involved so we will ask you to tell us who you're going to talk with. Ideally we want each researcher to plan to talk with around 10 people or families (but if you have a good idea, don't let that limit you) and we think that this might take around 2 hours per interview.

If you don't want to be a researcher but have a story you'd like to share, then we'll be making opportunities for this to happen – so keep looking out for news.

If you would like to nominate yourself to be one of our researchers, then just send an email to **culture@solihull.gov.uk** telling us a little bit about yourself and the community you'd like to research.

There's a simple set of application questions below that we'd like you to fill out and get back to us by 1st of October 2021.

We'll be making invitations to interviewers and providing training in October and would want all of the stories submitted back to us by the end of this year.

We'd love to hear from you.