

MuseumsMonthly

The latest news and announcements from Southend Museums Service.

This month...

**The Lockdown Open...
Replacing this years Essex
Open Show, the Lockdown
Open moved to Twitter!**

**Covid Collecting...
Collecting objects and
stories about living through
a pandemic.**

**Recovery plans for the
museum service in a post
Covid world.**

**How to support our Black
community.**

Southend Museums

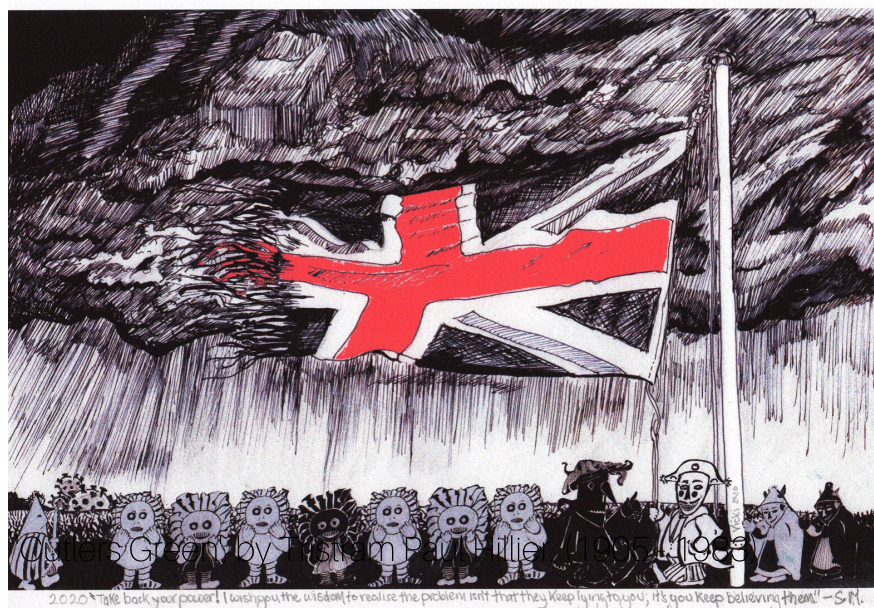
Southend Central Museum

The Beecroft Art Gallery

Prittlewell Priory

Southchurch Hall

www.southendmuseums.co.uk



'How I feel today' By Vicki J Merrick

Lockdown Open Show is a hit!

We have been so excited to see the range of work being submitted to our Lockdown Open Show taking place on Twitter. We have received a really incredible variety of work created in Lockdown with more being submitted everyday. Creating art work during this challenging time could help with mental health and well-being, so we hope you find this unique open show engaging.

You can see the work submitted to the show on our Twitter page and can also submit your own piece by simply tagging the @BeecroftGallery and posting an image of your work on our Twitter page in the Lockdown Open poster comments feed using the hashtag #TheLockDownOpen

You can follow this exhibition on our Twitter page @BeecroftGallery.

Covid Collecting

WE NEED YOU!!! We have started collecting objects and stories about living through COVID-19. We want to collect your stories and a significant object that represents your experience of living through these really challenging and unique times. We will not have room for everyone's objects in our store, however we would like to continue collecting stories and significant objects digitally once we have allotted space for all the physical donations. We will eventually showcase all the physical and digital objects in a new display that explores the significant and very personal experience of living through a pandemic, in particular how this has affected our town and community. If you would like to share your story please send an email to museums@southend.gov.uk containing an image of the object you wish to donate and a short story about why this object is significant to you, how it links to these strange times that we are all living through, along with your name, age, and where you live. The cut-off deadline for this call-out will be the 30th of June.



Gardening Gloves, Tessa Hallmann, photography by Tessa Hallmann Photography

Priory Times activity pack now available!

Based on the original Priory Times; a self-published newspaper created by the Scratton children who lived at Prittlewell Priory in the Victorian times, we now have a really exciting activity pack available to download from our website. This pack has been created with Lu Williams a local artist, zine maker and the founder of Grrrl Zine Fair. Exploring and encouraging self-publishing, this pack can be used before we reopen and after! Download the pack from <https://www.southendmuseums.co.uk/schools-groups> under related downloads.

Like the Scratton's, you can use lined notepads and photographs or your own illustrations to fill your publication. But first we should make one!

Here is a simple folding technique to make an 8 page mini-publication, also known as a 'zine':

- 1** Fold an A3 or A4 piece of paper in half 3 times. These lines describe each place a fold should be.
- 2** Now fold your paper in half.
- 3** On the folded edge, cut to the middle using scissors.
- 4** Open out your paper, you'll now have a gap in the middle. Push the edges of your paper together towards the gap.
- 5** The paper will fold into itself. Now fold in half, once all the pages are gathered.
- 6** You have your zine! You've made 8 pages from one piece of paper. You can use the inside pages for a secret poster or have room for another zine on the reverse side.

How to support our Black community.

Southend Museums Service stands with the black community in the fight against racial injustice and inequality, whilst also acknowledging the historic lack of activity and consideration for the impact our service has played in systemic racism. We will be actively addressing and challenging this as an organisation. We acknowledge that museums have a very important role to play in recognising and challenging historic oppression, and that our collections and ethics can be used to highlight issues that matter to our communities and wider audiences.

Please find a brief list of resources to engage with in order to educate and challenge yourself, and to become actively anti-racist.

Books to read:

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race - Reni Eddo-Lodge
Me and White Supremacy - Layla F Saad
White Fragility - Robin Diangelo

Listen:

About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge podcast

Donate:

bailproject.org
minnesotafreedomfund.org
blacklivesmatter.com

Social Media:

@blmsouthend
@blkivesmatter

Watch:

When They See Us
13th



Reopening our venues

We have been working on plans to reopen our venues safely, and are hoping to open the Priory refectory from the 29th of July. This could change depending on the government guidelines, however we are hoping to learn from this process in order to implement the reopening of Central Museum, the Beecroft Art Gallery and eventually Southchurch Hall. Please be patient with us as we navigate a safe and responsible phased reopening of our venues, and keep an eye on our social media channels for lots of exciting collections content in the meantime!