



**MANCHESTER
HISTORIES**



50
CELEBRATE
LEARN
CHALLENGE

50 Years
of Disabled
People's Rights

Manchester Histories DigiFest 2020

Celebrating Alf's Act

Celebrate / Learn / Challenge

Events Programme

Friday 4th & Saturday 5th September 2020

#mcrhistDigiFest2020

Social Media

-  @mcrhistfest
-  @manchesterhistories
-  @manchesterhistories

#mcrhistDigiFest2020

www.manchesterhistories.co.uk/DigiFest2020

Symbols used in listings

A list of the symbols we are using, and their meanings are below:

 Subtitles	 South African Sign Language
 British Sign Language	 Live Caption of Transcript
 Live Captioned	 Quiet Time
 Audio Described	

Welcome

Welcome everyone to Manchester Histories' first ever DigiFest 2020, a must-see digital festival where we mark the 50th anniversary of Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Acts.

Due to Covid-19 it's been quite a journey, having to cancel the first festival in June, then developing DigiFest 2020 as our creative solution to ensure we continued to mark this important year.

Since 2019, an incredible task group and a wider steering group made up of disabled and non-disabled people have been working together to bring you this exciting programme.

One that explores the legacy of Alf's Act, celebrates talent and creativity, and prompts conversations and discussion around societal challenges disabled people face in their everyday lives.

DigiFest 2020 also features a topical mix of content sent in by the public as part of the 'open call'. We were delighted to have received over 70 submissions, all on offer for you to see, take part in and enjoy.

It's vital to look back at our histories, those that we're proud of, but also those that make us uncomfortable, to reflect and take stock, but to also look to the future to activate change. We hope DigiFest 2020 will provide the opportunity to do this, as we keep on fighting for equality for all.

The DigiFest 2020 Team



A bit about Alf Morris

Alf Morris was born and bred in Manchester and served as a member of parliament for Wythenshawe from 1964 to 1997.

Alf successfully brought in the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act in 1970, a ground-breaking piece of legislation to recognise the rights of disabled people. In 1974, Alf became the first minister for disabled people anywhere in the world.

Alf was born into a working class family in Ancoats, Manchester, and raised as one of eight children in quite poor circumstances.

He witnessed the struggles of disabled people first-hand in his own family, and throughout his lifetime campaigned tirelessly for the rights of disabled people to challenge the barriers that disabled people faced in everyday life.

Alf's most celebrated quote is this:

“If we could bequeath one precious gift to posterity, I would choose a society in which there is genuine compassion for long-term sick and disabled people; where understanding is unostentatious and sincere; where needs come before means; where if years cannot be added to their lives, at least life can be added to their years.”

We dedicate DigiFest 2020 to Alf Morris, his family and friends, and to the Act that made such a difference to the lives of disabled people across the UK and beyond.

Lord Morris
of Manchester

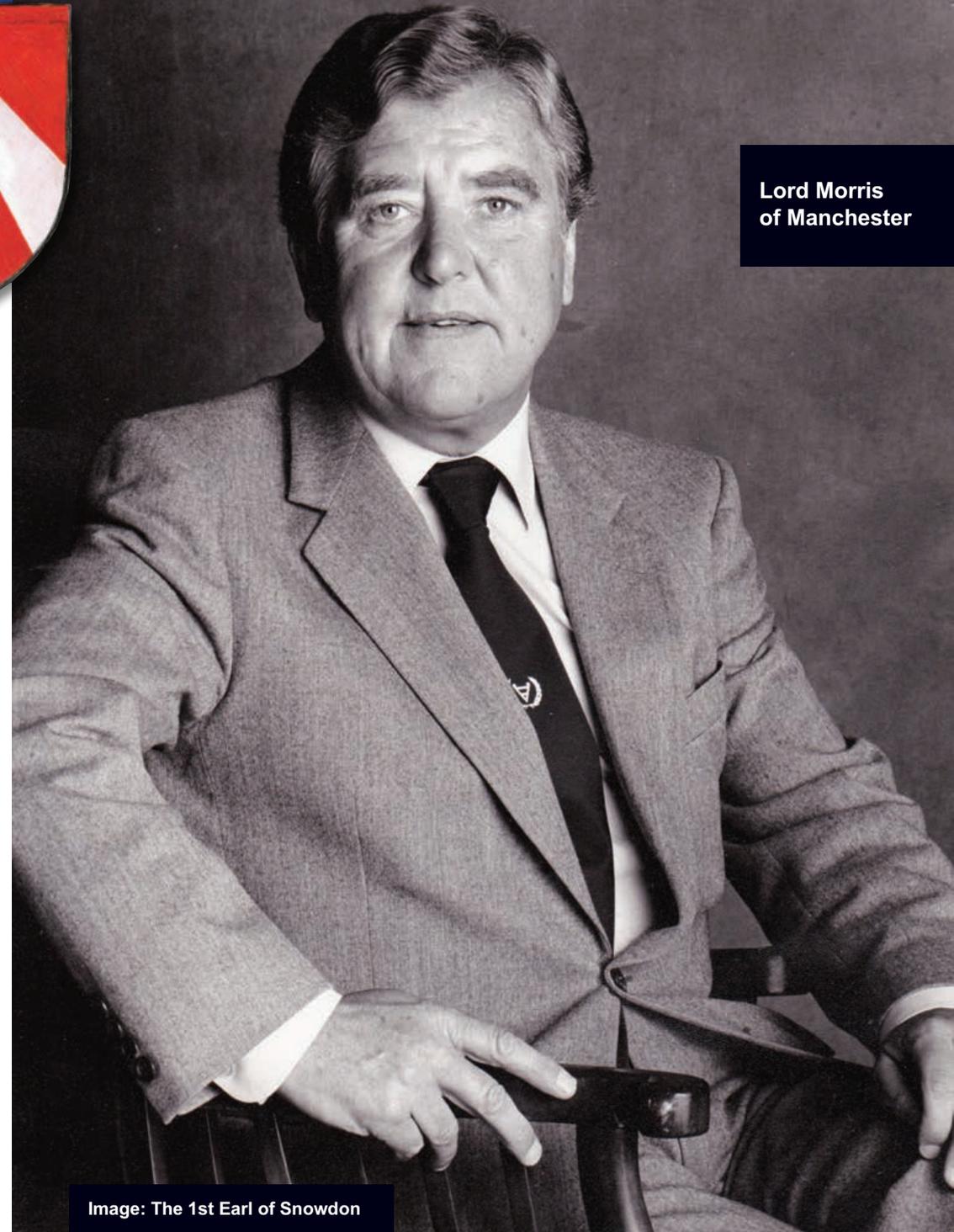


Image: The 1st Earl of Snowdon





DigiFest
2020



Jackie Hagan

Multi award-winning artist Jackie Hagan will comper the first ever DigitFest 2020. Jackie will lead us through all the exceptional digital content on offer, chat to our studio guests and have a banter with you as the show goes live across the globe!

Jackie is passionate about class, sexuality, disability and accessibility. She recently starred in and wrote an episode of Crip Tales for BBC Four and BBC America and has been nominated for a National Diversity Award and a Woman of the World Award for effecting lasting social change.

**CELEBRATE
LEARN
CHALLENGE**



Jackie Hagan
Image by: Lee Baxter



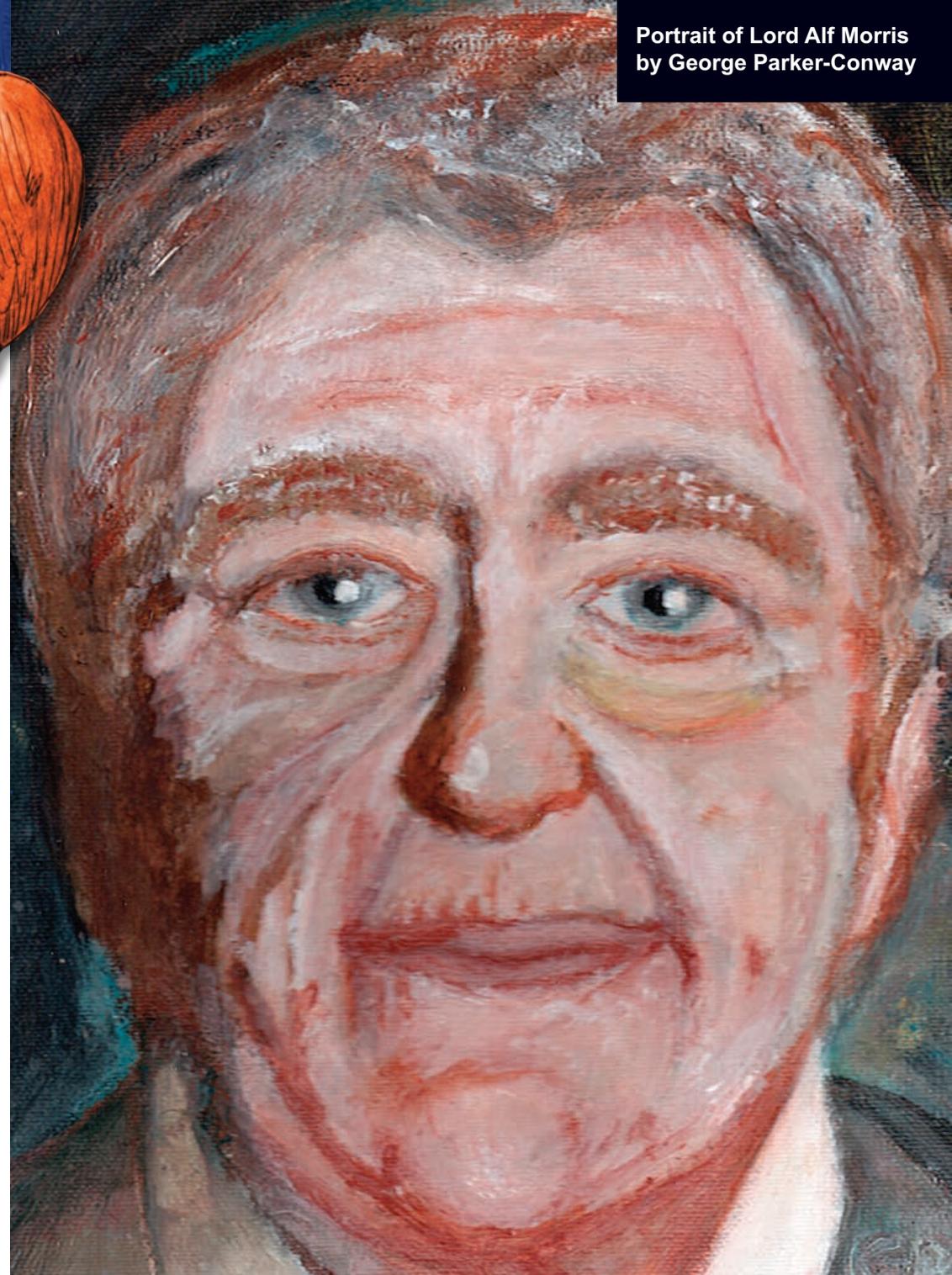


George Parker-Conway

George Parker-Conway is a Manchester based artist, he holds a Foundation Degree in Illustration from Stockport College. George has worked alongside Manchester design studio Imagine in collaboration with the wonderful Venture Arts to produce the visual identity for DigiFest 2020.

Using a portrait of Lord Alf Morris as inspiration, George has wowed us with his creativity and commitment, all you see in the design of this online brochure is a testament to his hard work and talent as an amazing emerging artist.

“I have found doing the work experience very enjoyable and satisfying and have been pleased to have worked on the project, and it has given me a sense of how to work on a live brief.”





Live: Friday 4th September

Live: Friday 4th September

Result CIC Workshop – What is Your Place in History?

Friday 4th September 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Sign up to this thought provoking, interactive workshop and get yourself into the spirit of DigiFest 2020! This 90-minute Zoom session will offer some personal insights, with an invitation to consider your own stories. Limited places, book here:

Book here to take part in the Result CIC Workshop:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/result-cic-workshop-what-is-your-place-in-history-tickets-118160002749>

It's time to 'go live' with Jackie Hagan as she takes us on a two-day adventure of digital content and more!

Opening night. Happening from 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Online listings:

- | | | |
|---------------|---|-------------------------|
| 6.00pm | Welcome to DigiFest 2020
Multi award-winning artist Jackie Hagan opens the first ever Manchester Histories DigiFest 2020. Celebrating Alf's Act & 50 Years of Disabled People's Rights. | LC
BSL |
| 6.05pm | Councillor Luthfur Rahman
Councillor Luthfur Rahman, Executive Member for Skills, Culture & Leisure, Manchester City Council welcomes in our online audiences from across the globe. | LC
BSL |

- | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|
| 6.10pm | Mat Fraser
Rock musician, actor, writer and performance artist, Mat Fraser welcomes us to DigiFest 2020, he talks about how young people are our future and how the rights of disabled people are being dismantled. | S |
| 6.20pm | The Mayor of Greater Manchester
Andy Burnham presents a short speech. | LC
BSL |
| 6.25pm | Interview time: Gill Morris
Gill Morris, daughter of Lord Alf Morris and Jules Hussey from Brazen Productions talk through Alf's life and the making of the three documentaries made in his honour. | LC
BSL |
| 6.30pm | Alf – The Man. Chapter 1
A short documentary welcoming us into the Morris family and their memories of the husband, dad, grandad and politician who became the world's first disability minister. | S
AD |
| 6.40pm | Liz Sayce
Liz Sayce OBE, Visiting Senior Fellow at the London School of Economics and former CEO of Disability Rights UK explains the impact legislation and campaigns have had on disabled people's lives over the last 50 years. | S |





Live: Friday 4th September

Live: Friday 4th September

6.50pm

Interview time: Alicia Dillon

Brilliant young actor Alicia Dillon talks to Jackie about living with chronic illness, we play her monologue 'To me, from me, one year on' and learn how Miranda Hart inspired the project 'Always Isolating'.

LC

BSL

6.55pm

The impact of Covid-19

Sally Hurst tells us about what she's been up to in lockdown in the first of our mobile phone series. Expect chickens! Visit DigiFest 2020 online gallery for Sally's artwork.

S

7.00pm

Interview time: Weasels Weasels Weasels!

Dominic Bennett lets us into his creative world of making his weasel army, followed by his short film. For more Venture Arts artwork, visit the DigiFest 2020 online gallery.

LC

BSL

7.07pm

What's on tomorrow

A sneak preview on what you can see played out on Saturday's DigiFest 2020.

S

7.10pm

Lucy Hale

Composer Lucy Hale introduces her commission of music, made especially for DigiFest 2020 in collaboration with Drake Music & Manchester Histories.

S



Image: Lucy Hale

7.15pm

Music: Georgina Aasgaard

Cellist Georgina Aasgaard plays the work of Lucy Hale live from the studio.

LC
OT

7.30pm

End Of Broadcast

See you tomorrow!

LC

BSL



Image: Weasels Weasels Weasels!





Live: Saturday 5th September

Live: Saturday 5th September

Happening from 12 noon – 6.00pm

Online listings:

- 12.00pm** **Welcome to DigiFest 2020** LC
 Jackie Hagan is back to open the Saturday live broadcast. BSL
- 12.05pm** **Interview time: Bob Niven** LC
 We chat to Bob Niven, former Chief Executive of the Disability Rights Commission. BSL
- 12.10pm** **Alf – The Act. Chapter 2** S
 A documentary summarising Alf Morris' groundbreaking Act, with voices from those whose lives it has changed. AD
- 12.20pm** **Speech – Tom Shakespeare** S
 Sociologist and broadcaster Tom Shakespeare presents his views on the impact of Covid-19 on society.
- 12.25pm** **James Holt** S
 Musician James Holt introduces and plays his commission of music, made especially for DigiFest 2020 in collaboration with Drake Music and Manchester Histories.

12.36pm **Alicia Dillon** S
 We play the full version of Alicia Dillon and friends 'Always Isolating' film.

12.40pm **The impact of Covid-19** S
 Our second series of mobile phone content about being in lockdown. Corona & Love by actor Racheal Tse & Liam's story from Venture Arts.

Image: Racheal Tse





Live: Saturday 5th September

12.45pm	WRRIGHTINNGSS ONN WALL Short film of the making of artist Barry Anthony Finan's temporary installation for British Ceramics Biennial, AWARD 2019.	S
12.55pm	Interview Time: Janet Charlesworth Artist Janet Charlesworth of Proud and Loud Arts talks to Jackie about performance 'Article 19 - UNCRPD' which you can watch on 'In-depth'	LC BSL
1.05pm	Proud Magpie Short talk on disability shame and mental health by writer Rachel Cox, also see her blog of creative writing in In-depth.	S
1.00pm	The impact of Covid - 19 Another in our series of mobile phone content about being in lockdown. Farwah from Pure Innovations, find out more about Pure after the break.	S
TIME OUT	Break – have a cup of tea time.	Q
1.10pm	Interview Time: People's History Museum (PHM) PHM talks about plans for exhibitions, activities and partnerships in the pipeline for 2021/22.	LC BSL
1.11pm	Pure Innovation Artist Sarah Bradbury introduces 'Change the Conversation, Change the Outcome' at People's History Museum.	S



CHANGE THE
CONVERSATION
CHANGE THE
OUTCOME

Image: Pure Innovation at People's History Museum





CHALLENGE



Live: Saturday 5th September

1.12pm **Pure Innovation** **S**
Artist Sarah Bradbury – Introducing Museum at Night.

1.13pm **Pure Innovation** **S**
Gloria Gator – James Kingsford animation.

1.16pm **Pure Innovation** **S**
Short film about Pure Innovation and Manchester Museum’s Heirlooms project - view artwork on DigiFest 2020 online gallery.

1.20pm **Interview Time: Professor Melanie Tebbutt** **LC** **BSL**
Jackie talks to Professor Melanie Tebbutt, from Manchester Metropolitan University, about the ‘Returning Home’ project, which tells the stories of ‘delicate children’ from Manchester and Salford who spent time in Switzerland to improve their health in 1948.

TIME OUT **Break – have a cup of tea time.** **Q**

1.30pm **DigiFest 2020 The Big Debate** **LC** **BSL**
A one hour panel debate of topical issues facing disabled people, chaired by Victoria Macdonald, Health and Social Care Editor at Channel 4 News. The debate will be followed by a Q&A session, your chance to have your say.

Live: Saturday 5th September

TIME OUT **Break – have a cup of tea time.** **Q**

2.35pm **Andy Wild** **S**
Artist Andy Wild tells of his personal journey of recovery and art following a brain tumour diagnosis. View artwork on DigiFest 2020 online gallery.

2.40pm **Jessica Fay** **S**
14-year old Jessica talks about invisible disabilities and childhood.

2.55pm **The impact of Covid-19** **S**
Artists from Venture Arts - Amber and Amy share their mobile phone content about being in Covid lockdown.

3.05pm **Interview Time: Sue Caudle** **LC** **S**
Sue Caudle from DIY Theatre talks to Jackie about the challenges of converting the live performance of “Following Patient 36” to a digital platform, showcasing filmed performances.

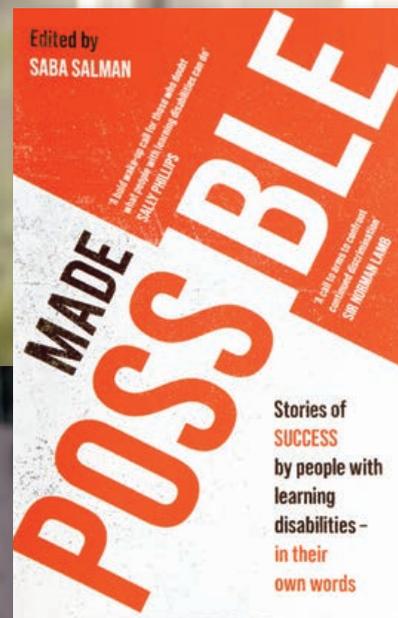
3.15pm **Manchester People First** **S**
‘What’s Stopping Ya?’ short film about summer workshops on barriers to attending and accessing medical appointments.





Live: Saturday 5th September

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 3.17pm | Interview Time: Katherine Conroy | S |
| Jackie discusses access to sport with Katherine Conroy, Ambassador for 5K Your Way, a regular South Manchester Parkrunner and due to compete in Transplant Sport before Covid. | | |
| 3.22pm | The impact of Covid-19 | S |
| Artists from Venture Arts - Bilal and Louise share their mobile phone content about being in Covid lockdown. | | |
| 3.25pm | Speech – Martin Pagel | S |
| Founding member of GMCDP / former Co-Deputy Leader of Manchester City Council. | | |
| 3.35pm | Interview Time: Saba Salman | S |
| Award-winning writer Saba Salman talks about her groundbreaking book 'Made Possible', a collection of essays on success by people with learning disabilities, influenced by her learning disabled sister. | | |
| TIME OUT | Break – have a cup of tea time. | Q |
| 3.45pm | The Deaf Camera South Africa Project | S |
| Joyful and emotional visit to a Deaf Lifeworlds exhibition by South African children and young people from V.N. Naik and Fulton Schools. | | |



Images on this page:
Saba Salman – 'Made Possible'





Live: Saturday 5th September

- | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|
| 3.53pm | Scottish Sensory Centre
Dr Audrey Cameron's talk on using sign language to unlock science education for Deaf children. See also Tedx Talk on 'In-depth'. | S
BSL |
| 4.03pm | Zanna Jane
Fashion Design Graduate of Central St Martins, shows her, filmed at home in a field with family members in response to Covid restrictions. Her inspiration: a deaf person in a hearing world. | S |
| 4.06pm | Interview Time: Louise Stern
Jackie chats to American writer and artist Louise Stern, who works around ideas of language, communication and isolation and introduces her short film Signs. | LC
BSL |
| 4.11pm | Signs
Short Film Signs. | S |
| 4.20pm | Alf – The Legacy. Chapter 3
50 years on from Alf's Act, where are we now and how far do we still have to go? | S
AD |
| 4.28pm | Lived Experience
Excerpt from Paul Mittler's experience of growing up as a disabled person and views on the future over on 'In-depth'. | S |
| 4.32pm | Lived Experience
PHD student Phillippa Vincent-Connolly talks about her lived experience of growing up as a disabled person. | S |

Live: Saturday 5th September

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------|
| 4.46 pm | Lived Experience
Artist Charlotte Peters Rock introduces 'If We All Stand Together' featuring her grandson who has autism and complex learning difficulties, full piece by Charlotte on 'In-depth'. | LC
BSL |
| 4.55pm | Interview Time: Dominic Tinner
The Seashell Trust's Head of Fundraising, Dominic Tinner, talks about Alf Morris' connection and impact on the charity, its near 200 year history and plans for the future. | LC
BSL |
| TIME OUT | Break – have a cup of tea time. | Q |
| 5.05pm | GMCDP Discussion
Rick Burgess leads a discussion with members of the Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People. | LC
BSL |
| 5.25pm | Ollie Hyland
Ollie Hyland introduces his commission of music, made especially for DigiFest 2020 in collaboration with Drake Music & Manchester Histories. | S |
| 5.35pm | Grand Finale
In the grand finale the fabulous Bee Vocal Choir have recorded a short video telling us all about their amazing work and sing us out with two wonderful songs! | S |

Please note listing times and content may be subject to change.



In-depth: Saturday 5th September

Happening online from 10.00am – 12 noon.

The day starts with your chance to take part in a workshop or browse through a variety of digital content that explores stories, views and the histories of disabled people.

You choose what you want to watch and when.
This content will remain on-line after DigiFest 2020.

Online listings:

I've Got Friends

Venture Arts Short Film – Frances Heap.

Splatland

Venture Arts Short Film – Frances Heap.

Liberating Isolating

Venture Arts Short Film – James Dresser.

Hobgoblin Limbo

Venture Arts Short Film – John Powell Jones.

DAN - Disabled People's Direct Action Network

Dennis Queen chats to fellow Danners about their history, activities and future aims.

S

Pure Radio

Pure Radio interviews members about the impact of Covid-19, featuring Ruth's wonderful singing.

S

In-depth: Saturday 5th September

Germination (Extract) Transmission

Laura Grace Simpkin's evocative recording of an extract of a personal essay detailing months spent at home in and out of hypomania.

S

Cripchat

Peter Marshall and Shabaaz interview Boston based Dara Baldwin Director of National Policy for the Center for Disability Rights.

S

GMCDP

A film outlining a history of Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People and The Disabled Persons Movement.

S

It's Been Carnage

Dennis Queen's response to the impact of Covid-19 on the disabled community.

S

Paul Mittler

Paul talks about his education growing up as a disabled young person in 1970s and thoughts on the future

S

Deaf and Dementia

Talk by Dr Emma Ferguson-Coleman, Research Fellow at University of Manchester.

S

BSL

Disability and The Tudors

Talk by Phillippa Vincent-Connolly, PHD student at Manchester Metropolitan University.

S

Making Trails and Barrier Breakers

Digital theatre performance by young people from Oldham Theatre workshop.

S



In-depth: Saturday 5th September

Unique Human & Different Voices

New BAFTA / BFI short films and interview featuring Sam Downie (Autistic Filmmaker and Actor) and Michael Smith (Autistic Filmmaker and Director).

S

Article 19 – UNCRPD – Proud and Loud Arts

Watch artist Janet Charlesworth's full performance here.

For more information about Article 19 – UNCRPD please visit:

<https://proudandloudarts.com/article-19-access-site-for-audiences/>

S

Meet the Blind Woodturner – Henshaws

Chris lost his sight in 2008 aged 44 and has become the only sponsored professional blind woodturner in the country

S

Proud Magpie

Writer Rachel Cox talks about disability shame and mental health, see also

<https://theproudmagpie.wordpress.com/2020/08/15/she-sounds-fine/>

S

Scottish Sensory Centre

Gary Quinn from Heriot-Watt University describes the work of the BSL Glossary Project, developing new science terminology.

S

BSL

Workshop – Disability Pride

Take part in the Disability Pride Workshop hosted by

Breakthrough UK via Zoom. 10.00am - 11.00 am

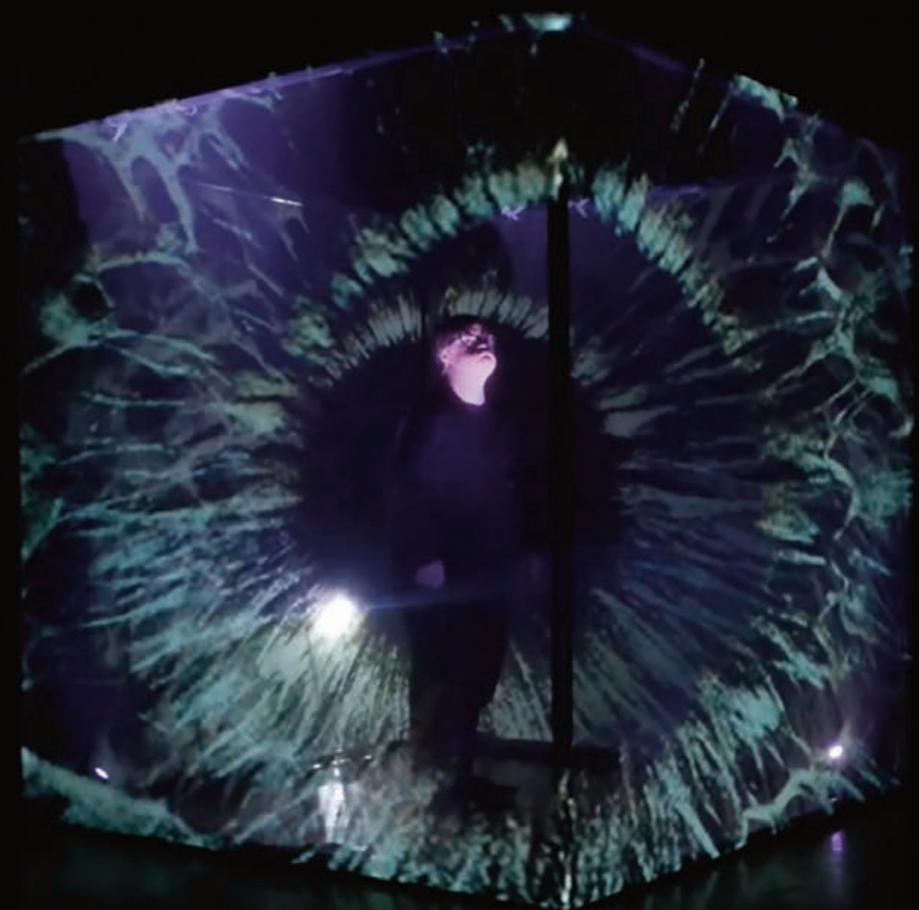
Click the link below to sign up. Places are limited.

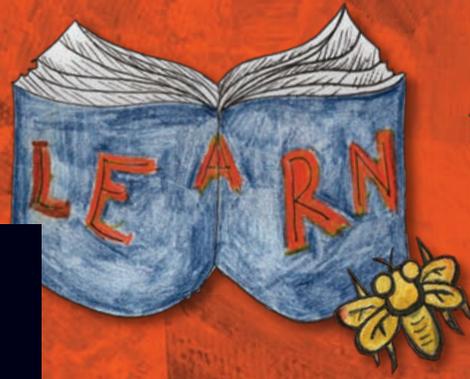
Book here to take part in the Workshop:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/breakthrough-uk-workshop-tickets-117622256335>

Image:

Article 19 – UNCRPD – Proud and Loud Arts





Exhibitions

Exhibitions

Take a tour of the DigiFest 2020 online gallery, where you can see a splendid array of artists and arts and cultural organisations work, and discover the story of Joseph Howarth from Oldham.

Happening online all day and after!

Click here to view the gallery content:

<https://manchesterhistories.myportfolio.com>

Pool Arts

Furiously Mad

The Exhibition explores 300 Years of Legal Insanity and reveals the legislative history relating to the treatment of people described as "Furiously Mad" in a legal document in 1714 - through to the more recent treatment of the mentally ill.

Venture Arts

Conversations Series ii: Other Transmissions

Conversations with Outsider Art. Is the category 'Outsider Art' liberating or isolating? Venture Arts artists explore the question using Musgrave Kinley Outsider Art Collection at Whitworth Art Gallery as reference. Also showcasing other artists' work.

Gallery Oldham

Joseph Howarth - A Landmark Life

Joseph Howarth was born into a working-class Oldham family in 1786. He was blind from birth and became such a popular and notable character in the town that when he died a statue was erected in his honour. He served as the Oldham town crier for 40 years – a fixed and familiar point in a rapidly changing town.



Image: Joseph Howarth - Gallery Oldham





Exhibitions

Pure Innovation

Heirlooms at Manchester Museum

Artists from Pure Arts Studio visited Manchester Museum for three creative workshops with the theme of heirlooms to tie in with the Heritage Futures exhibition. The artists explored the Museum and drew Museum objects from the past.

Henshaws

How I See My World

Joan, aged 69, has macular degeneration and the condition Charles Bonnet Syndrome (CBS), which can cause hallucinations. Joan began sketching her visions, presented in this exhibition.

John Rylands Library

The 66 Club, Goulden Collection

Archives of The 66 Club for young deaf adults founded in April 1966. Its primary purpose was to be a club for the deaf community who were aged under 35 years.



Image: Henshaws, How I See My World





Exhibitions

START

Inspiring Minds

Using the arts and horticulture as a vehicle, START helps remove the stigma around mental ill health by fostering a common interest amongst individuals from all walks of life. Artists' work showcase.

Andy Wild

The Patient Experience

Andy Wild has a brain tumour and epilepsy. In living with his illness he expresses the empowerment he gains through his art, exhibited at Waterside Arts Centre.

Louise Stern

Signs

American writer and artist Louise Stern, who works around ideas of language, communication and isolation presents her project 'Signs' that explores translating the deaf self.

Click here to view the gallery content:

<https://manchesterhistories.myportfolio.com>



Images on this page: START, Inspiring Minds



How to get involved

Let us know you are coming to the live broadcasts.

Click here to book your viewing slot for Friday 4th September 6.00pm – 7.30pm or Saturday 5th September from 12 noon onwards.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/manchester-histories-digifest-2020-tickets-117618962483?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

It's all FREE!

You can come for the whole time or just drop in when you feel like it. There are three main web links that you can click on to view the content or take part in DigiFest 2020:

For the Live broadcasts click here:

(Please also chat to us via the online chat)

www.manchesterhistories.co.uk/DigiFest2020

For the online exhibition click here:

<https://manchesterhistories.myportfolio.com>

For In-depth click here:

<https://manchesterhistories.co.uk/whatson/page.aspx?ID=297>

Please note all of the above links will not be available to view until DigiFest 2020 starts on 4/5th September 2020.

Access information

We are aware that people will come to DigiFest 2020 with a range of access requirements. Our programme guide will tell you about the different access features of each item through the symbols next to the titles in the programme (see below for symbol list).

All online content will be subtitled and all live content will have live captions and also have BSL (British Sign Language) interpretation. Audio description is also included in featured work only where the visual content is not clear from the spoken language commentary.

If you use software to magnify online content or screen readers for any written text, our online format will work with these.

If any of the programme content items are particularly noisy, busy or include flashing images our host will let you know. We have also included in the programme times that are calm and quiet for anyone needing 'time out' or who would just appreciate something relaxing.

A list of the symbols we are using, and their meanings are below:

 Subtitles	 South African Sign Language
 British Sign Language	 Live Caption of Transcript
 Live Captioned	 Quiet Time
 Audio Described	

Thanks

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to DigiFest 2020, especially to all the people who sent in their content via the open call, and to those who have kindly donated to the Crowd Funder.

Enormous thanks to all funders and partners



Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this programme is correct. We apologise for any errors or omissions that may have occurred.