

The My Route Exhibition Trail

June - July 2015

On and around Stratford Road, Birmingham.

About the main exhibition

Vanley Burke's photographs documenting the social history of migrant communities are known and appreciated around the world. He has been taking photographs of people in their homes and places of work for the last 40 years.

The images in this exhibition celebrate the lives and achievements of residents of Birmingham's Stratford Road, encompassing Sparkhill, Sparkbrook and Hall Green. The pictures aim to capture the spirit and energy that has transformed this area over the last 50 years.

The pictures were taken in April 2015, in the homes or places of work of the people featured. Each picture has been blown up to around 3 metres tall and positioned on the side of prominent buildings on Stratford Road. Alongside the photographs, sound pods designed by artist Brian Duffy play short audio clips where passers-by can learn more about the people featured in Vanley's images.

The My Route Exhibition Trail is curated by artist and academic Tasawar Bashir, who has lived in the area since the 1980s.

It forms the finale of Sampad's 18-month community heritage project, My Route, that has been researching and documenting the history around Stratford Road from the 1940s to the present day.

The project has been supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Stratford Road is a key arterial road linking the heart of Birmingham city with the rural town of Stratford-Upon-Avon in Warwickshire. The landscape along this corridor has seen many significant changes, the most profound of which, arguably, have happened in the last hundred years. The post-war period saw waves of migrants coming to find work in Birmingham, particularly from newly-independent India and Pakistan as well as the Caribbean and Middle East. Many settled on and around Stratford Road due to its affordable housing.

During the course of the My Route project, 46 volunteer researchers and many religious and community organisations have helped the Sampad team to research life on Stratford Road.

From this research we have produced learning resources that will appeal to intergenerational audiences, one of our most significant being the interactive touchtable map that highlights key sites of interest along Stratford Road in each decade.

The My Route archive will be available for viewing at the Library of Birmingham from Autumn 2015.

See full listings for the My Route Exhibition Trail overleaf or visit

www.myroute.org.uk

My Route Exhibition Trail - Full listings

Please note that all elements of the exhibition are open to the public for free.

THE MY ROUTE EXHIBITION

Saturday 13 June - Friday 10 July 2015

Outdoor exhibition of photography by Vanley Burke and sound pods by Brian Duffy at Stratford Road Baptist Church and the former Hubb Community Arts Centre building (adjacent to the Aldi car park in Sparkbrook).

STRATFORD ROAD INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MAP

Saturday 13 June - Friday 10 July 2015 (see details below)

Play with the interactive map and find out hidden histories of Stratford Road.

Saturday 13 June – Thursday 25 June (10am-6pm)

Muath Trust at the Bordesley Centre, Stratford Road, B11 1AR

Friday 26 June – Friday 10 July (see website for opening times).

Hall Green Library,

Associated exhibitions and events

MEMORIES OF HALL GREEN DURING WORLD WAR TWO AT HALL GREEN LIBRARY

Saturday 13 June - Friday 10 July 2015 (See website for opening times).

Exhibition detailing memories of Hall Green during World War Two.

ST AGATHA'S CHURCH AND ORGAN RECITALS

Saturdays 13 June, 20 June, 27 June, 4 July, 10 July (12pm to 3pm)

Open for tours, an exhibition & refreshments every Saturday. Organ recitals at 2pm each Saturday.

SAREHOLE MILL: CHANGING TRADE AND INDUSTRY ALONG STRATFORD ROAD

Saturday 10 June to Sunday 5 July, Noon-4pm, Saturdays/Sundays only (Education Room)

This visual exhibition will show the change in trade and industry in Sparkbrook, Sparkhill and Hall Green from the 1940s to the present day, reflecting how these areas changed from manufacturing industries – machinery, motorcycles, pins and screws to the vivid landscape of food, textiles and other consumer industries that occupy the road today.

HERITAGE TRAIL WALKING TOURS

Wednesday 17 June, Saturday 20 June & Saturday 4 July.

Dr David Richardson discusses the history of Stratford Road with special walking tours.

There are three tours per day as follows:

Hall Green, 10am – 12pm

(meeting at Robin Hood Island)

Sparkhill, 1pm to 3pm

(meeting at the Stratford Road entrance to the Shire Country Park, by the River Cole bridge)

Sparkbrook, 4pm to 6pm

(meeting outside the former President restaurant at the Stratford Road-Warwick Road junction).

To book a free place, please call 0121 446 3260 or visit www.myroute.org.uk/events

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