

Cultural Consortium Project Proposals for Commonwealth Games Legacy Fund

Approaching the 250th anniversary of South Street Baptist Church in 2025, we are keen to look at one of the founding ministers. George Cousens was the first ever West Indian minister in the UK and was based primarily at Cradley Baptist Church and then at South Street here in Brierley Hill, where he was later buried.

We invite you to bid on creating a research project to gather information in archive at Dudley, in books/papers and stories from the community, to create a history of George that spans his **entire** lifetime and fills in any current gaps. This could be done in partnership with the Cradley Church. The information should be produced as a booklet and information panel, available at the library and displayed in the church. An on-line version should also be produced for a wider audience.

You may also wish to look at the costs of having a plaque or permanent fixture at the church to mark the spaces connection to George and this portion of his history. In the past the church would run children's outings as part of the centenary celebrations. You may want to consider in your bid, a budget to do this as part of the study, and get local children to join in the research or celebrate in some way, by having a historically themed day with them.

You could apply for funding to; work with a professional researcher or artist, create activities around the theme of George Cousens, printing or publishing your pamphlet, creating information panels and a potential plaque. You can also apply for funds to cover a trip or celebration day with local children.

Please send a proposal (instructions below) with an outline of costs to culture@brierleyhill.net covering any finance you think you will need to outlay. Support will be given by the Brierley Hill Cultural Consortium to establish connections and plan activities, if required. This projects funding needs to complete by late November to early December 2024.

If you have your own ideas for other cultural projects in Brierley Hill, to complete between now and early December 2024, please get in touch using the same method/email address.

To bid for funding, please send us as much information as you can about your plan/idea covering the headings below (MAX two pages).

1. Your project idea.
2. Proposal of how the project will run.
3. Timeline of workshops and activities.
4. Budget for the total cost of project with a brief breakdown of spend.
5. Outputs and impact (what will your project add to the community?).
6. Any other notes you feel are relative for consideration.