



**People United**  
Creating a kinder world

## Navigating with Kindness through COVID-19



Hello to all from the People United team. We hope you are keeping safe and well.

Like many people we are currently working from home rather than from our office in Canterbury. It's weird to think that we haven't been back to the office together as a team since the middle of March, but we've adapted to working from home- using daily virtual check-ins to keep in touch and update each other on what we've got going on in our lives.

We wanted to give you a round-up of how our work has adapted to respond to life in lockdown. We've started new online work, moved some of our existing projects online, and are busy planning for a new Artist Commission. More detail below...



We're busy planning a new Artist Commission in partnership with [Compton Verney](#)- an art gallery and parkland in Warwickshire. We're looking to commission an artist or artist collective to celebrate and explore how humour can positively effect emotions and behaviour.

**Where** The grounds of Compton Verney, an art gallery and parkland in Warwickshire.

**When** August– September 2020. The successful artist(s) will need to be available to start immediately with most of the activity taking place in August.

**Who** This opportunity is open to artists at any career stage including early career and recent graduates. We are looking for distinctive ideas from ambitious artists who are interested in the relationship between creativity and kindness and whose values align closely with those of People United and Compton Verney.

We are particularly keen to work with an artist or artist collective who are based in and around the West Midlands area. As Compton Verney neighbours several counties this could also include those in North Oxfordshire, Northampton or Worcestershire. Due to the current situation with coronavirus we would prefer to work with artists who live within a commutable distance. Compton Verney is a rural venue without public transport access.

**Fee** £5,000

Click [here](#) to read full details on our website.



### *Navigating with Kindness series*



Back in early April, once we had settled into a new way of working from home, People United realised that we wanted to do something in response to the developing situation with coronavirus. We decided to repurpose our *Navigating with Kindness* prompt cards as a means to inspire people to reflect on how they were finding life in lockdown - how it had impacted their work, home and social lives and what acts of kindness they were

witnessing as people reacted to the changing world around them.

So we started a new series, and asked some of our friends, colleagues and former project participants for their input.

Since Bernadette Russell's first inspirational [blog piece](#), we've had [poetry](#), deeply personal [artworks](#), [photographs](#), [written reflections](#), [audio recordings](#) and more.

Our CEO, Janice McGuinness, has just written the final piece, in which she reflects on the series as a whole in the context of where we find ourselves now 3 months on.

Read her piece [here](#), and you can catch up on the whole series [here](#).



### [Kind Canterbury- A new artwork responding to COVID-19](#)



In April 2020, at the start of lockdown, People United invited those living and working in Canterbury, Herne Bay, Whitstable and the surrounding areas to take part in a collaborative online project, 'Kind Canterbury'. We asked people to notice, capture and share acts of kindness and to tell us about everyday heroes doing wonderful things – big and small – across our local community.

The final artwork created by our associate artist [Nova Marshall](#) is titled 'Museum of Us' and will be launched at The Beaney House of Art and

Knowledge as part of their *Museum of You* exhibition soon.

[Click here to preview the artwork and find out more about the project.](#)

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## *Help People United change the world through Arts & Kindness*

A lot of our amazing projects wouldn't be possible without the support of our generous funders, partners and those individuals who contribute to our charity. Our research shows the positive impact arts and kindness combined can have on society, from [childhood](#), into [adulthood](#), [in the workplace](#) and beyond. Our work *is* important and we need your help to ensure we can continue to foster projects that grow kindness, empathy and a sense of common humanity in the UK and the world.

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

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**A line on kindness:** *kindness can be a catalyst for change. Celebrate the everyday kindnesses you see- witness how powerful they can be.*



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