

# Coming to Coventry

## Stories from the South Asian Pioneers

Look carefully at the photographs and read the accounts of the lives of Coventry's earliest migrants from South Asia. Answering the following questions will help you to discover their cultures and the conflict (and cooperation) they experienced.

What caused the earliest migration into Coventry in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?

Why did Coventry continue to grow in the 20<sup>th</sup> century?

When did migration from South Asia begin?

Name four regions of South Asia from where migrants arrived in Coventry

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Sketch a map of South Asia and label these countries

How did the migrants arrive in the UK? How much did the journey cost?

Is it true that the first migrants expected to stay in Coventry forever?

Who lived at 11 Crabmill Lane?

What was the score in the hockey match between the Indian Workers Association and the teacher training college?

Watch the video loop. What ideas did white residents have about the newly arrived migrants from South Asia?

**Why was there a strike at Sterling Metals, Nuneaton in 1958? How was this conflict solved? Do you think this was fair?**

**Read the newspaper article about the teaching of English in Coventry schools. What message do you think this article is giving its readers?**

**List three problems faced by the members of the new Asian communities in finding employment.**

- 1
- 2
- 3

**Find three ways in which the new Asian communities maintained their culture after arriving in Coventry.**

- 1
- 2
- 3

**Find three ways in which the new Asian communities integrated (joined in with, became part of) into the existing culture of Coventry.**

- 1
- 2
- 3

**What did the Indian Workers Association, formed in 1938, try to achieve?**

- 1
- 2

**When did the Indian President visit Coventry? What was his name?**

**Which event at Foxford School is featured in the exhibition?**

**Write words you could use to describe the experiences of the early South Asians when they came to Coventry.**

**How have the events discussed in this exhibition affected your city?**