

Coventry Telegraph

Stoke Park School pupils Blitz poetry workshop!

15:25, 2 March 2015

By **Alan Harris**

School teams up with Coventry University to mark 75th anniversary of Coventry Blitz



Students who took part at the poetry and creative writing workshop

Pupils from [Stoke Park School and Community College](#) teamed up with [Coventry University's](#) creative writing students to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the [Coventry Blitz](#).

Nearly 20 pupils, accompanied by their teachers Alice Byrne and Kathy Darlison, took part in a three-hour poetry reading and workshop aimed at inspiring a poetic memorial tribute to those who died in the Nazi bombing of the city.

Alyson Morris, course director for English and Creative Writing at Coventry University, said: "It was impressive to see how well the event was organised by Year 3 student Matthew Barton, and how successful it was overall.

"Matthew had even organised poetry performances by several creative writing students, which received favourable comments from other University staff on originality and professionalism.

"I could see that pupils from Stoke Park School thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon of poetry and performance, and I understand that poems written by the pupils will now form part of a memorial dedicated to the Coventry Blitz."



The poetry and creative writing workshop at Coventry University



The poetry and creative writing workshop at Coventry University

Kathy Darlison, English tutor at Stoke Park School, said: "Matt and the other creative writing students set up a really exciting and interesting afternoon for our students. There was a range of sessions prepared for us: a very informative presentation on the do's and don'ts of poetry writing, which highlighted a lot of very useful tips for our learners especially when considering the structure of poems.

"The students then led informal workshops whereby our students could share their work and receive really useful and personalised feedback – this was something they thoroughly enjoyed and I know they also found it useful discussing the university student's different paths and how they've developed as writers.

"The Stoke Park pupils loved the poetry performances and all stated that that was a real highlight. It gave them a real flavour for university life and the camaraderie that you have on your course."

<http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/stoke-park-school-pupils-blitz-8753162>