



# Mothers Who Make

Coventry

# ZINE

Edition 1  
2020



# Hello!

**Mothers Who Make** is a grass roots international peer support network originating in London in 2014 with theatre maker Matilda Leyser and is now co-directed by Lizzy Humber. Dedicated to supporting mothers that hold the dual roles of mother and maker, there are currently 26 hubs, and the list is growing. Coventry's hub was founded by artists and mothers Jessica Timmis and Adele Reed in May, 2019 at The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum in the city centre and has attracted over 60 participants from all over the Midlands. This zine celebrates the hub so far and some of the varied themes discussed.

Every kind of **maker** is welcome - professional and/or passionate, working in any discipline and at any stage on their creative paths - writers, painters, performers, film makers, dancers, producers, musicians, crafters...

Every kind of **mother** is welcome - biological, adoptive, step, surrogate, foster, trans, bereaved, grand, great grand, future, to be...

Children of any age are encouraged to attend too and are integrated into hub meetings, for the dual roles of mother and artist are recognised and given equal value within all MWM events.

Thank you to all of the wonderful and inspiring mother artists from the Coventry region who attended the hub in 2019 and to those who generously contributed to this publication. Many thanks also to The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum for their ongoing support in hosting the hub meet ups and to Print Manufactory for the use of their facilities designing this zine.

- Adele and Jess

Get in touch:  
[motherswhomakecov@gmail.com](mailto:motherswhomakecov@gmail.com)

Find out more about the hub network:  
[motherswhomake.org](http://motherswhomake.org)

Cover image by Betsy Farquhar, 35 months old





Sally Butcher





Polly Merredew





Geeta Sarcar



माँ <sup>Hindi</sup>    মায় <sup>Bengali</sup>  
 M U M <sup>English</sup>

"One day, when you are a Mother, you will know how I feel."

My Mum, when I was  
8/10/12/15/18/23....

NOW I AM A MUM, I GET IT  
 what that means, the feelings  
 that can't be defined,  
 almost fluid yet the strongest  
 bond nature has ever made  
 It is hard, beautiful,  
 glorious, challenging and  
 the most rewarding and  
 the most under-rated  
 career in the world

Geeta  
30/11/2019





Adele Reed



Mélessandre Varin





26th October 2019 - Workshop with Jacqueline Donachie supported by  
Coventry Biennial of Contemporary Art

“We got really hands on with weaving my woolly timeline of LIFE and ART. Is it a coincidence that our LIFE side got completely tangled and chaotic when the children got involved? It seemed entirely appropriate and the perfect visual representation of our lives as artists/creatives and mothers.”

- Polly Merredew







Jess Timmis





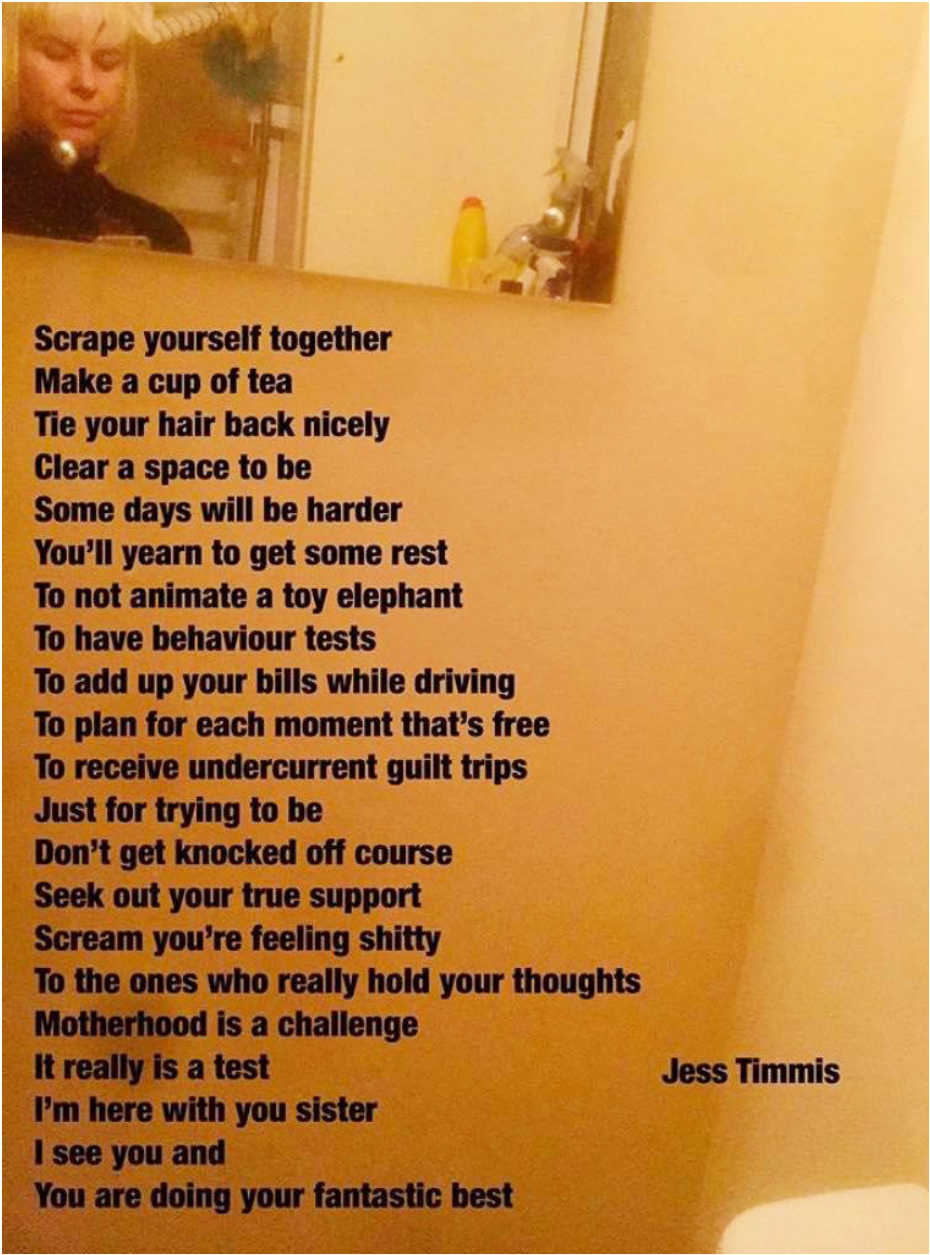
Betsy Farquhar





Julia O'Connell

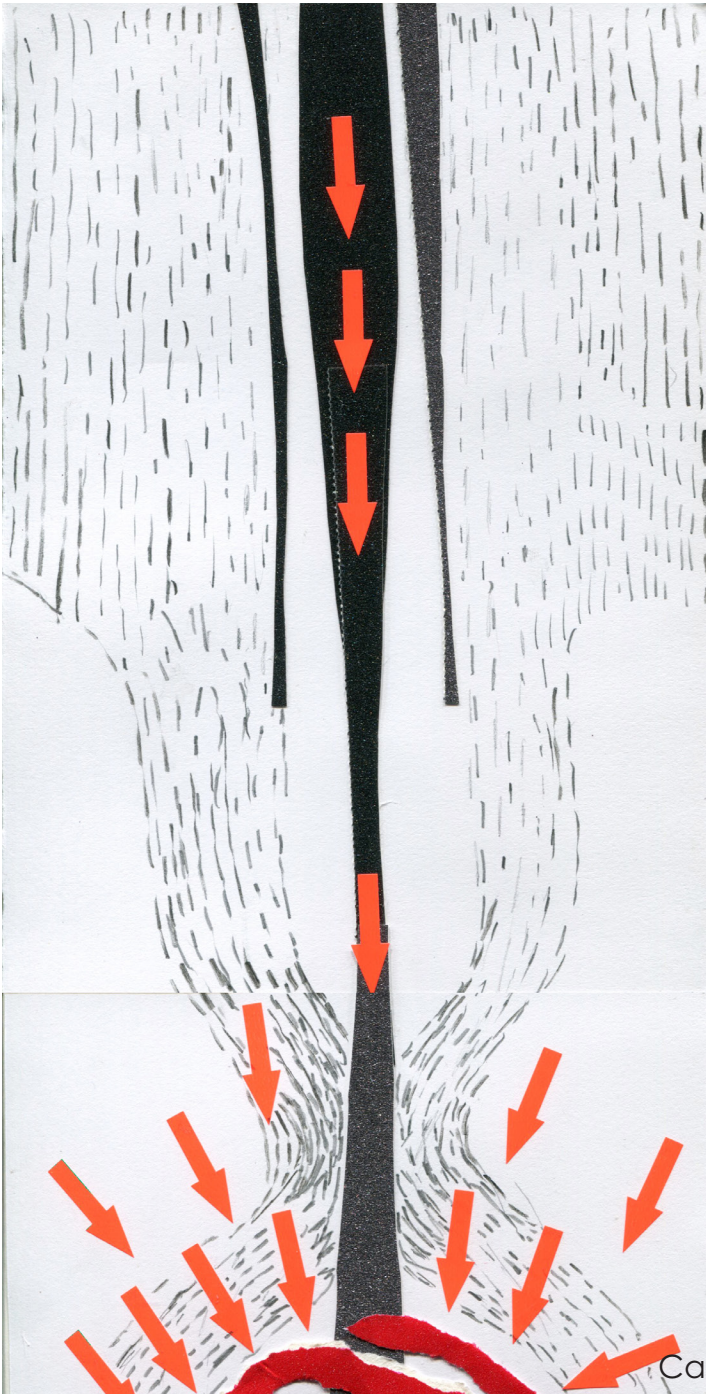




**Scrape yourself together  
Make a cup of tea  
Tie your hair back nicely  
Clear a space to be  
Some days will be harder  
You'll yearn to get some rest  
To not animate a toy elephant  
To have behaviour tests  
To add up your bills while driving  
To plan for each moment that's free  
To receive undercurrent guilt trips  
Just for trying to be  
Don't get knocked off course  
Seek out your true support  
Scream you're feeling shitty  
To the ones who really hold your thoughts  
Motherhood is a challenge  
It really is a test  
I'm here with you sister  
I see you and  
You are doing your fantastic best**

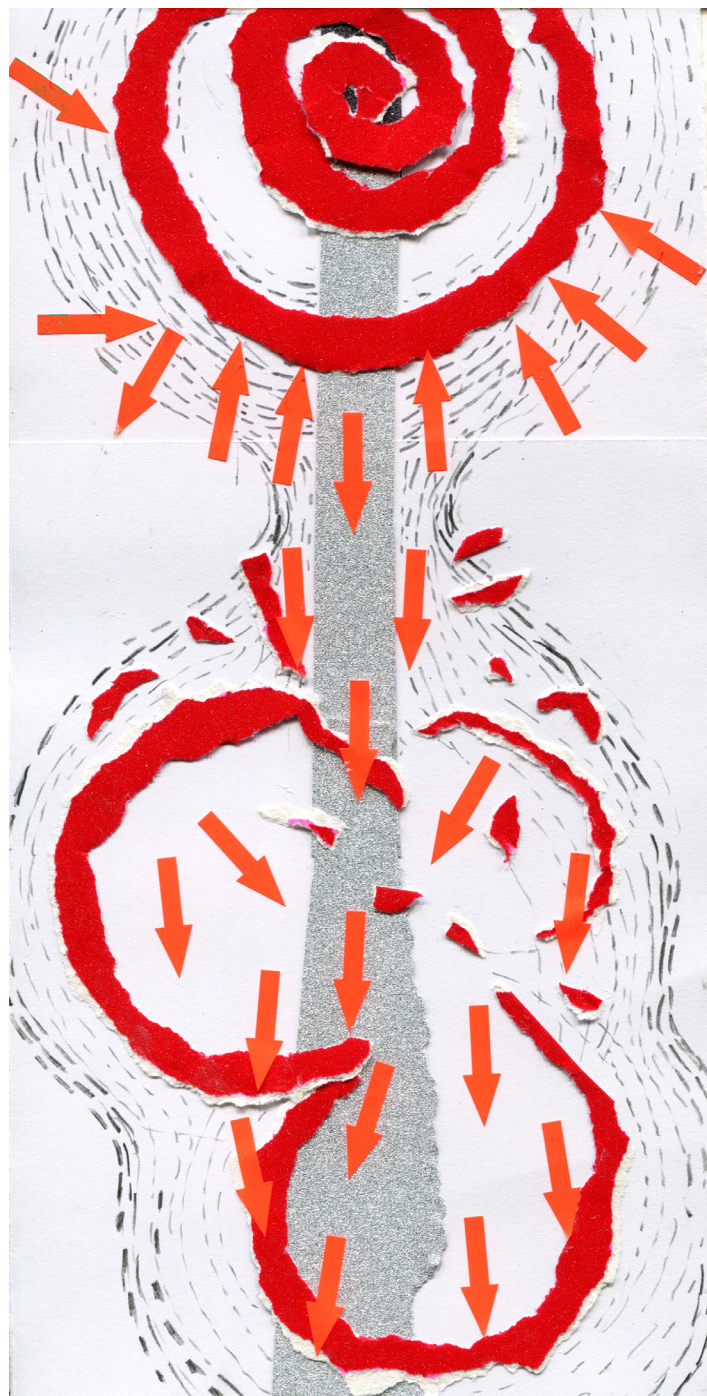
**Jess Timmis**

Jess Timmis



Caroline Hackett





MADE WHILE TEACHING MY  
2-YEAR-OLD HOW TO USE SCISSORS

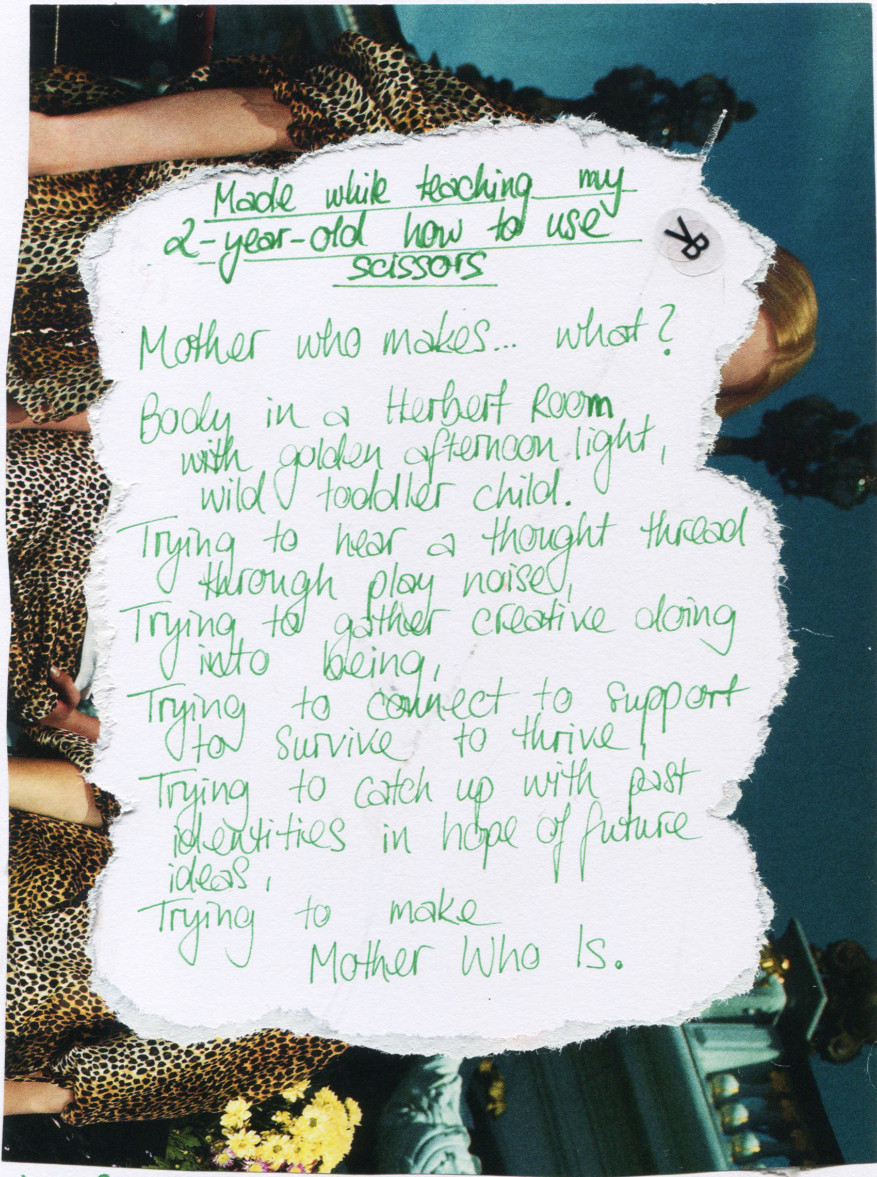
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Mother who makes... what?



Yara Richter





Made while teaching my  
2-year-old how to use  
scissors

Mother who makes... what?

Body in a Herbert Room  
with golden afternoon light,  
wild toddler child.

Trying to hear a thought thread  
through play noises,

Trying to gather creative doing  
into being,

Trying to connect to support  
to survive to thrive,

Trying to catch up with past  
identities in hope of future  
ideas,

Trying to make  
Mother Who Is.

YARA RICHTER

Yara Richter



9th August 2019 - Supper Club at The Pod, Coventry with Wax Myrtle performing live



June 2019 hub meeting

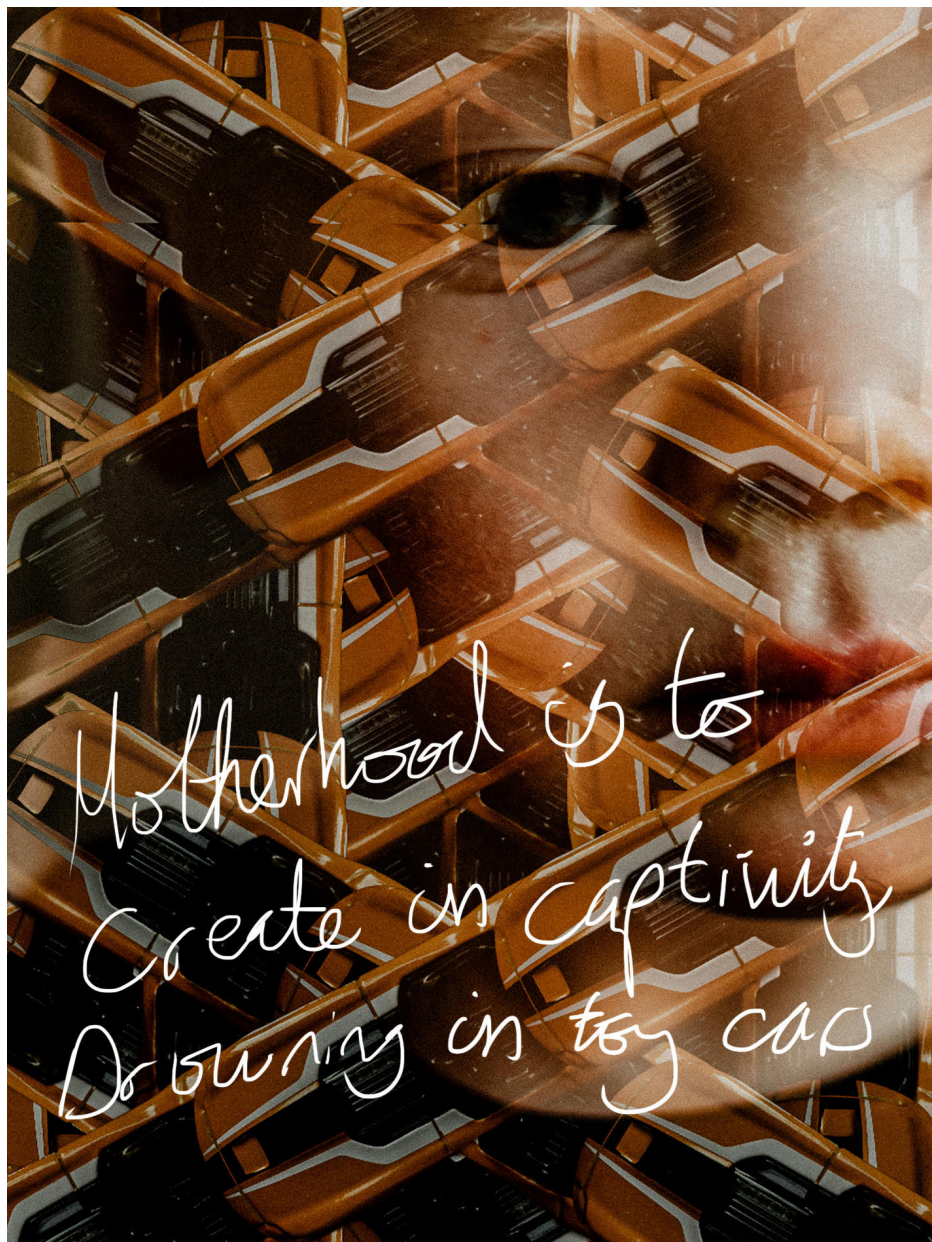




27th June 2019, guests on BBC radio



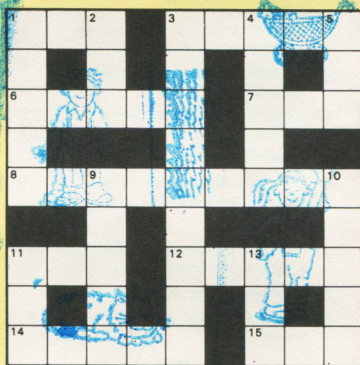
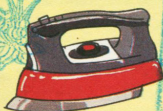
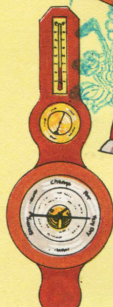
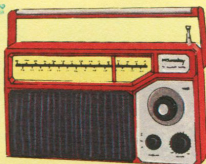
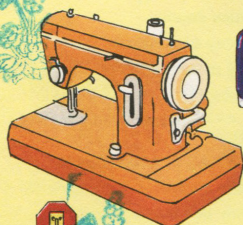
November 2019 hub meeting



Sinead Patching



# Puzzle 16



DOES  
THIS  
START

Amr

Woman. Mother. Healer.

If I let you see my soul  
Would you look away and  
weep?

My Soul is Etched  
With Ancient Scars  
My wounds are many and  
deep.

But I am far from  
Helpless  
Or hopeless  
I am No Damsel in distress

I am a powerful woman  
With a Creative fire  
Flowing through  
My veins  
Milk pouring from my breasts.

\*Mother, I see you. \*

Mother, I see you  
Listening  
Laughing  
Feeding  
Weeping  
Creating  
Cleaning  
Loving  
Heart open wide.

A living breathing Goddess  
Emerging.  
Vulnerable and raw  
Again and again  
Day after day.

Oh, Mother, I see you  
Arms outstretched

Holding  
Embracing  
Nurturing  
Nourishing  
Supporting  
Children  
Lovers  
Sisters  
Friends  
Strangers

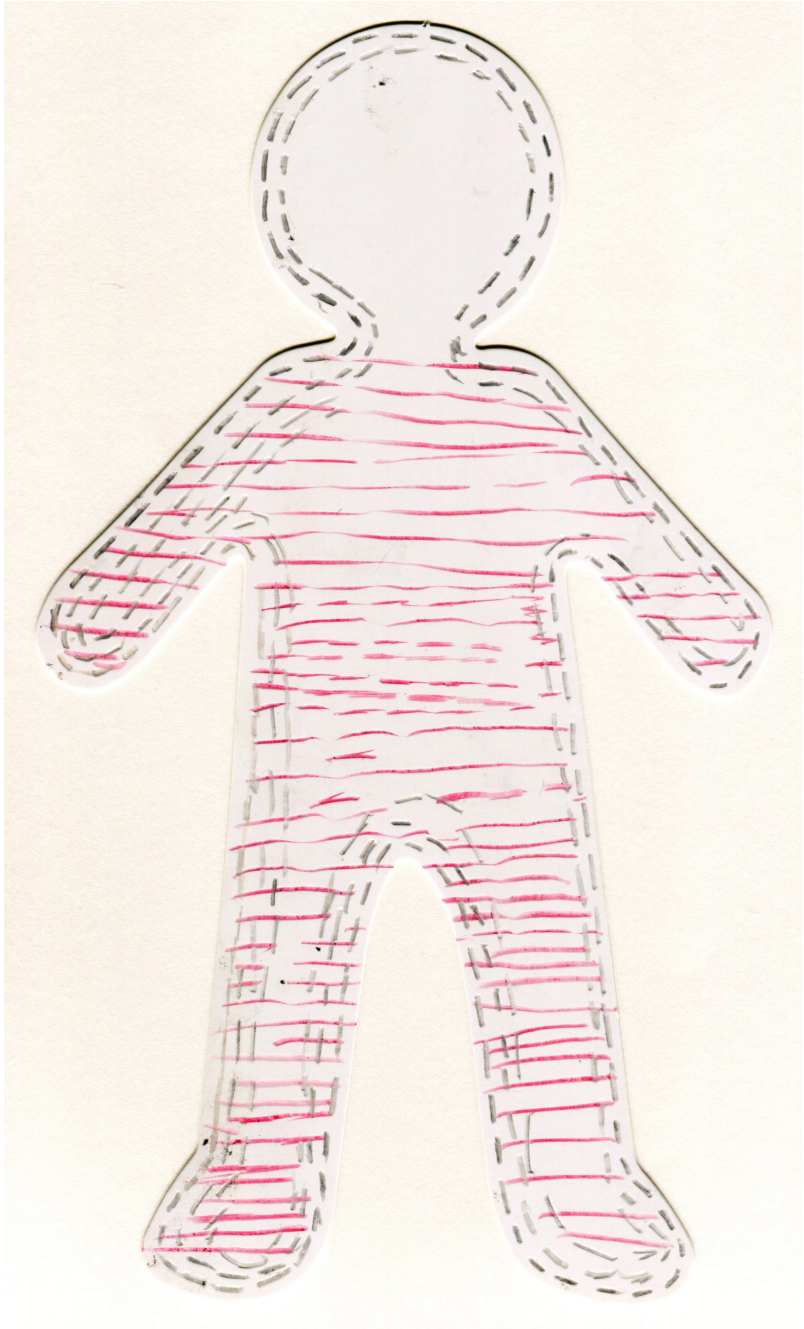
A living breathing miracle  
Giving all of yourself  
Again and again  
Day after day.

Mother, I see you  
Transforming  
Shifting,  
Healing  
Shedding  
Slipping off each worn out skin

A living breathing work of art  
Reborn again and again  
Day after day.

I know at times  
You feel invisible  
But, mother  
I see you  
I see you.





Caroline Hackett



Geeta Sarcar



From the Eye of God sprouts  
the seed. The Eye of God takes  
back the power of the matured  
fruit to renew it for new life. . .

BUT  
WHO  
MADE  
YOU  
KINGMAKER?



Emmeline Walker

Premarital Agreements -  
Do I Need One?

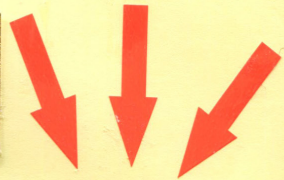
Preparing for  
Baby

Back to  
Nature

Exciting times are ahead



Little Bean



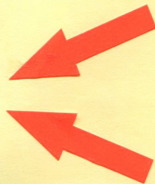
It's Time

Help

Action-packed

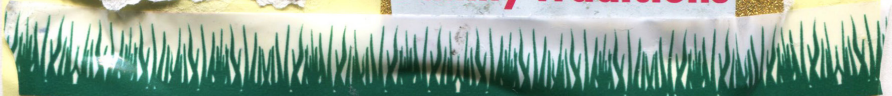


SUPER  
POWERS



Little Cracker's

Family Traditions



Chloe Morgan

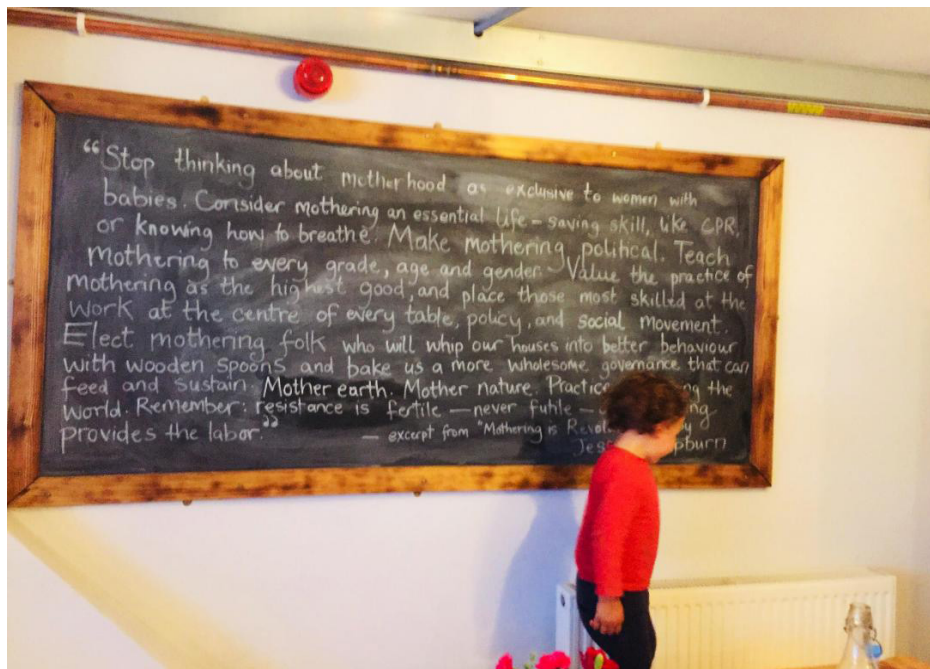




Adele Reed







9th August 2019 - Supper Club at The Pod, Coventry.  
Quote by Jessica Hepburn

## Full list of contributors

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