

citivision

INSIDE

- Trinity St points way to museum
- The city's big push on cycling

● **Playground smoking plea's a breath of fresh air**

Including: news, comments and updates from organisations across the city working together to improve life in Coventry



Stoptober

Be part of the challenge

Stoptober is back. All over the country people will take the 28 day challenge to stop smoking during October. Last year over 160,000 people successfully quit smoking for Stoptober, thanks to the wide range of quitting support on offer.

For more information search 'Stoptober' online or visit www.smokefree.nhs.uk/stoptober Alternatively, speak to your local stop smoking service or pharmacist.



● A personal message from Cllr Ann Lucas, Leader, Coventry City Council.

Great start to new term for schools

It's back to school for our children and young people and I'm pleased that we have had some positive feedback from Ofsted on the numbers of schools rated as either good or outstanding (See page 7).

In this issue of *Citivism* we also have updates on what's happening in the city, and I hope that we can build on the excellent events that we have had over the summer, including the fantastic Godiva Festival where more people attended than ever before.

Our commitment to revitalise the city centre is continuing and we want to remind people that Coventry is a place to do business and the perfect location for any organisation.

Also, with public health a key part of the Council's work, we are working with partners to tackle health inequalities in the city. There are some positive initiatives being undertaken along with efforts to manage the effects of welfare reforms and government cutbacks.

Getting the balance right between regenerating the city and protecting our most vulnerable residents is a challenge for us all and I'm committed to doing all I can to raise standards of services and enable local people to shape those services.

Don't forget if you have any comments or concerns, please get in touch via the details below as I will be happy to respond.

*You can write to Ann at The Council House, Earl Street, Coventry CV1 5RR, or e-mail her at ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk

If you need this information in another format or language please contact us:

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Cover story: *Youngsters can breathe easy in the playground, thanks to a new campaign to tackle smoking in Coventry.*

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A personal message from Charley Gibbons, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

As chair of Coventry Partnership I'm really pleased with the way organisations have continued to work so closely together.

In my other role as Chief Executive of the Citizens' Advice Bureau we have been inundated with inquiries from people who have sought advice on a range of issues and we value the support of many organisations that make up the Coventry Partnership.

Managing less resources is becoming the norm for organisations and individuals and the Coventry Partnership will especially be focussing on this at our annual conference on October 1.

The theme of the event looks at welfare reform and is a call to action that I hope will further develop the excellent links in the city between public, private and voluntary sectors.



* Charley Gibbons is chief executive of the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Coventry and has agreed to be the chair of the Coventry Partnership for the coming year.



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Call the *Citivism* newsdesk on 024 7683 1075 or write to Newsdesk, Room 27, The Council House, Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RR, or e-mail communications@coventry.gov.uk

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Talks start on frontline savings in wake of latest Government cutbacks

Consultation has started on proposals aimed at making multi-million pound savings to frontline services to enable Coventry City Council to balance its books.

The savings are being sought in response to unprecedented reductions the local authority is receiving from central government.

Coventry City Council has lost more than £34 million of government funding

over the last three years and will lose a further £37 million over the next two years – a total cut of 26 per cent of the net budget. Services including social care, housing, public safety, libraries and adult education have to make savings of £22.5 million over the next three years.

A three-month consultation has now started on six proposals that would save around £10 million of this from April next year. If adopted they would affect a wide

range of services from housing support and day opportunities to housing with care and information and support. To take part in the consultation, which ends on November 15, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/abcs.

Face-to-face drop-in sessions are also being held for people to ask questions and give their views. They will be held at the Coventry Central Methodist Hall between 2pm and 6pm on October 3 and 10am and 2pm on October 23.

Beware of the payday pariahs

The Council and the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) are calling on local people to be aware of the perils of pay day loans.

Coventry City Council has banned the top 50 payday loan firms from its IT network. The move means the firms, some of which charge annual interest rates of more than 4,000 per cent, will no longer be accessible from Council computers in the city's libraries and other public buildings.

Cllr Damian Gannon, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, said: "Payday loan firms target the most vulnerable in our society and we want to send a clear signal that they're not welcome in Coventry. We've got strong backing from our CAB and will be making sure people get information about websites that will give them sensible advice about what people can do if they're

'Payday loan firms target the most vulnerable in our society and we want to send a clear signal that they're not welcome in Coventry...'

struggling financially."

A payday loan is a short-term loan, typically a few hundred pounds to cover expenses until your next wage or salary cheque. The cash is often emergency borrowing to pay an urgent unexpected bill, or rent or utility bills.

If you're struggling to repay a payday loan, check out www.adviceguide.org.uk, or call the CAB helpline on 08454 04 05 06 or your local bureau. To make a complaint about a payday loan, contact the Financial Ombudsman Service consumer helpline on 0300 123 9 123 or 0800 023 4567 or via email complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

For practical help on dealing with money and debt issues, you can also check out the following:

■ **Money Advice Service,**
www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk
– 0300 500 5000;

■ **National Debtline**
www.nationaldebtline.org.uk
– 0808 808 4000;

■ **Step Change** <http://www.stepchange.org> – 0800 138 1111;

■ **Coventry East Credit Union,**
www.willenhalladvicecentre.co.uk/credit.html – 024 7651 1117;

■ **New Central Credit Union,**
www.newcentralcu.co.uk – 02476 633456

Andy leads city's BID for more glory



Andy Talbot, director of West Orchards Shopping Centre, is the new chairman of Coventry city centre's Business Improvement District (BID), a partnership between the business community in the city centre, landowners and the Council. Businesses contribute a percentage of their business rates to fund improvements to the city centre. Projects focus around

marketing, security, cleansing and environmental improvements. Andy, pictured above with Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment, said: "I want to make it clear to businesses my priority is to ensure there is a return on their BID levy investment and that the city centre is vibrant."



New spring date for half-marathon

The Council has confirmed GO2 as race organisers for next year's Coventry Half Marathon, which is scheduled for a new spring date of Sunday, March 23.

The event, now in its ninth year, attracts around 2,000 entrants annually.

With a number of large similar events already scheduled for the autumn, the

Coventry Half Marathon will now provide a new spring alternative for runners.

Event organisers are currently planning a full launch, including entry details and an exciting new element to the event. Runners can now pre-register at www.coventryhalf.com to be the first to hear when entries open.

Broad vista on way to museum



Work is starting on improvement works that will better connect the Transport Museum and Trinity Street with Broadgate and High Street. The first phase of the improvement works is expected to take around ten weeks. Five large bus shelters will be removed – making way for smaller ones that will enable better access for buses and easier use for people. The pavement on the opposite side of the Trinity Street bus shelters will also be widened. The bus stop at the rear of Primark will become a pick-up and drop-off stop and a zebra crossing will be installed near Sainsbury's supermarket.

Rosy outlook for garden prize winner



Adair Richards (above right) from Cheylesmore was the lucky competition winner of an iPad mini donated by city retailer KRCS. The prize was part of a promotion highlighting the city's annual Coventry in Bloom. Store manager Zachary Pegram, who also lives in Coventry, said: "We were 100 per cent behind the competition, and we're happy to get involved in anything that can make a difference." Adair added: "I've never owned a tablet – it's great." KRCS opened five years ago and is located in West Orchards shopping centre.

Scheme offers jobs target for trainees

A new finance trainee programme is being piloted in Coventry, specifically targeted at young people who are not in education, employment or training.

Trainees are employed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), who are overseeing their training programme and work.

Coventry City Council has offered placements to two young people Amritpal Kang and Stephanie Jones.

After 12 months the trainees will be able to apply to work for employment providers where vacancies exist, they will have obtained an AAT Level 4 qualification and they will be part CIPFA qualified.

The Council is also offering a range



■ Cllr Damien Gannon congratulates new trainees Amritpal Kang and Stephanie Jones.

of other apprenticeships that will help to nurture accountants of the future.

Cllr Damien Gannon, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finances and Resources, said: "This is an excellent scheme and will offer long term job prospects for local young people."

Henley's

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Council pair join police night patrol

Two councillors joined Council officers and the police for an insight into the night time environment of the city centre.

Councillors Phil Townshend and Ed Ruane joined police patrols in a bid to understand issues affecting residents and visitors to the city centre at night, including anti-social behaviour, drinking and begging. At 4am, they visited the environments that rough sleepers find themselves in.

Cllr Townshend, deputy leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities, said: "It's a great way for us to get a deeper understanding of issues that affect Coventry city centre at night."

Cllr Ruane, Cabinet Member for Housing and Heritage, said that combating anti-social behaviour in the city and addressing the problems that rough sleepers face were important issues that needed to be addressed.

Libraries mark a centenary chapter

Three Coventry libraries will be enjoying centenary celebrations next month.

Earlson, Foleshill and Stoke libraries are among more than 600 libraries built across Britain by Andrew Carnegie, a Scottish-born American businessman. In all 2,509 Carnegie libraries were built between 1883 and 1929.

Coventry's three libraries will be celebrating their 100th anniversary on Saturday, October 19. For more information, follow your local library on Twitter and Facebook.

Meeting room

Anyone looking to set up a club or needing a meeting room can take advantage of the Community Space at the Ricoh Arena.

Available for both regular and single bookings, there is a selection of furnished rooms accommodating two to 150 people.

The Ricoh Arena Community Space is available for hire from 8am-9.30pm seven days per week, and catering including refreshments and buffets can be arranged if required.

For further details, call 07766 142238 or email: info@ricohcommunity.co.uk



■ Cllr Phil Townshend joins Grapevine service users and staff to highlight the campaign against hate crime.

Helping you deal with hate

Coventry City Council and members of the city's Grapevine Centre have joined forces to highlight the issue of hate crime.

Hate crime can affect anyone and a new easy to read booklet covers racist, disability and homophobic hate crime in three cartoon-style stories created and acted out by people from Grapevine. It gives vital information and tells everyone how to report it so they do not suffer in

The centre enables them to speak up about their lives and get involved in their communities...

silence. Any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by hostility towards someone based on their disability, race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation is a hate crime. The new information booklet was officially launched by members of the Grapevine Centre

and Cllr Phil Townshend, deputy leader of the Council. Grapevine works with adults with learning disabilities in Coventry. Based in Spon End, the centre works alongside people to enable them to speak up about their lives, get involved in their neighbourhoods and communities and get new skills and experiences.

The booklet is available from the Grapevine Centre in Doe Bank Lane, Spon End, local libraries and police stations.

Police drive to beat the car crooks

A campaign by West Midlands Police is urging motorists to remove all valuables and secure their vehicle before they leave it.

The Cash on the Dash campaign reminds motorists to remove valuable items from their car to avoid vehicle crime and lock out car thieves.

Sat navs, mobile phones, sunglasses, loose change and passports have all been stolen from vehicles across Coventry, often when left on display on seats and dashboards or stashed away in the glove box.

Police are also urging trades people to think about their vehicle security and the potential impact upon their livelihoods as in recent weeks there have been 12 offences of tool thefts from vans.



One van owner in Stoke had drills, spanners, screwdrivers and various power tools stolen from his Transit van overnight.

The tools were valued at around £400, but the damage to the van alone is estimated at £500.

The public are urged to call police on 101 if they see any suspicious behaviour or to contact the independent charity Crimestoppers in confidence on 0800 555 111.

£600 rap for dog fouling offender

A Coventry man has been ordered to pay more than £600 after being found guilty of failing to clean up after his dog.

Pawel Bojarski was found guilty in his absence at Coventry Magistrates following the offence that took place on Morris Common, Stoke Heath, in January.

The 40-year-old, of Clay Lane, Stoke, was spotted by one of Coventry City Council's patrolling Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers failing to clear up after his dog. Bojarski was issued a fixed penalty notice for the offence which is a £75 fine, reduced to £50 if it is paid within 10 days. No payment was received and at Coventry Magistrates in August, Bojarski was fined £200, ordered to pay £390 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

The move is part of an on-going crackdown by the Council to improve the cleanliness of streets, parks and open spaces. Since August last year, almost 250 penalty notices have been issued.



■ Celebrating success: Louise Soden, Ofsted's regional director for the West Midlands, with Councillor David Kershaw CBE, Coventry City Council's Cabinet Member for Education, Ernesford Grange pupils Hanif Jimca and Sophie Bagley, Ernesford Grange head teacher Chris Pennington and student Elif Okten.

Ofsted ratings boost for pupils

The number of Coventry pupils attending a good or outstanding school has risen by more than 6,000 in the last academic year.

Threequarters of children and young people now attend a good or outstanding school. More than 64 per cent of primary-aged children now attend a school rated by Ofsted as good or outstanding – a 22 per cent improvement over the last 12 months.

In secondary schools the picture is even better, with 81 per cent of pupils attending a good or outstanding school and 75 per cent in special schools. The improvements mean more than

6,300 children and young people will attend a good or outstanding school in September than at the beginning of the 2012 academic year.

Cllr David Kershaw CBE, Cabinet Member for Education, believes the improvements are the result of a strong partnership between the local authority and schools.

Cllr Kershaw said: "To achieve such a significant increase in a relatively short space of time is testament to the hard work of our schools' headteachers, teachers, Governors and students and the support and challenge given by the local authority."

Warm welcome for new headteachers



■ Lord Mayor Cllr Gary Crookes and Cllr David Kershaw welcome new primary school headteachers to the city.

Double joy for city engineers as business lands rare ISO accolade

Coventry business Tracemark Precision Engineering Ltd is celebrating two notable successes – moving to larger premises in Lythalls Lane and being awarded ISO 9000 certification.

Only three per cent of UK businesses have been awarded the accreditation, marking Tracemark's success as testament to their focus on delivering excellent service and customer care.

Tracey Unwin, Tracemark's quality manager, said: "It's been an exciting few months having secured the ISO award and moving to bigger premises. The whole team pulled together and I'm delighted that our hard work paid off. The award really helps in our aim to expand our business. We've been very lucky to have received a



■ Cllr Lynnette Kelly of Coventry City Council admires the engineering skills of Tracemark's Mark Sephton and Nick Unwin.

lot of support from Coventry City Council."

Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment, said: "It's great to see a local manufacturing company doing so well and I'm pleased that we have played a part in their success."

Starting secondary school in September 2014?

If your name's not down, you won't get in!



Parents have to apply for their children's secondary school place to the City Council between September 1 and October 31 2013.

If you need support in making this decision, contact Coventry's Choice Adviser, who offers FREE, independent and transparent advice about schools and the application process

Contact Chris Firth on 024 7683 3792 or e-mail chris.firth@coventry.gov.uk



www.coventry.gov.uk



Campaigners on the march to tackle human trafficking

A group of local people were in Coventry city centre recently campaigning against human trafficking. Coventry ACT got together to spread awareness about human trafficking in Coventry and to educate others and empower communities. The group, who are from different

backgrounds, from students to teachers to community workers, are hoping that if communities report the crime, it will make it harder for the traffickers to operate in that community.

Rachel Wade, who has a lead role on the group said the

campaign is building momentum with an expanding membership.

For details visit Facebook: Stop The Traffik Coventry ACT, join the group at www.stophetraffik.org/GBR/Coventry/1 or go to Twitter: @COVstoptraffik

Digital lab the way forward for business

A new digital lab based at Coventry University's Technology Park is offering help to small businesses in the West Midlands to integrate the latest technologies into their business and boost productivity.

The Touch Digital tech lab – which is backed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

advantage of five days of free expert advice and practical support in the new lab, where they can try out new technologies first-hand and explore ways to use them for their business needs.

A separate initiative – the Eco Business project – is also helping small businesses with grant funding towards efforts to save costs on energy, transport and waste

reduction. The Eco Business project offers grants of up to £2,400 to help businesses aid their transformation to become cost

efficient, and includes advice on processes such as recycling and redesigning packaging.

To learn more about this and about the Eco Business initiative, visit www.touchdigital.eu or www.ecobusinesswm.co.uk.

and run as a collaboration between Coventry and Aston universities – features interactive touch screen tables, an array of smart devices and a state-of-the-art 3D printer.

Small and medium firms in the region will be able to take

It's access all areas as website takes off



Chris Wade gets on the Go with DisableGo

A website that highlights accessible venues in the city is growing from strength to strength.

More than 1,000 city venues are covered on the DisabledGo site after it was set up just over a year ago. Chris Wade, a Council employee, said: "I can find out about access to city venues before leaving home rather than facing barriers when I arrive."

All the buildings featured in the guide have been visited and thoroughly assessed so that, with just a few clicks anyone can plan to

visit fully accessible venues based on their needs. By supporting the DisabledGo guide, Coventry City Council aims to ensure the provision of good local information for residents and for visitors to the city so they can all take advantage of the many great things that Coventry has to offer.

Council customer service staff have also had training on how to use the site and to help disabled people get around and about in the city.

For details visit www.disabledgo.com

Organisations rally to respond to welfare reform

Organisations will be looking at ways to respond to welfare reform at a major conference.

Coventry Partnership is holding a conference at the Welcome Centre, Parkside, under the banner *Welfare Reform in Coventry working together – challenges and opportunities*.

The event will enable people from dozens of businesses and organisations

in the city including Citizens' Advice Bureau, Whitefriars Housing, the Council and other voluntary agencies, to discuss the current impact of welfare reform.

The event in association with Coventry Churches will analyse what community and voluntary organisations are doing, as well as statutory agencies – and to look ahead to what else can be done to

reduce the effect of changes to benefits and tax credits.

The conference will focus on the national and local impact of reforms and will include market stalls and workshops. It will also highlight what the city is already doing in response to the welfare reforms.

For details visit www.coventrypartnership.com



Council leader Ann Lucas (top left) shows her support for the campaign to mitigate the effects of recent welfare reforms.

+Cycle Coventry+Cycle Coventry+Cycle Coventry+Cycle Coventry+

■ Cllr Rachel Lancaster joins cyclists for one of the recent Skyrides.



Bikers freewheeling on road to fresh air and fun

Coventry has witnessed a cycling revolution this year with the start of the Cycle Coventry project.

Its sponsorship has covered some major events in the city, including the Godiva Awakes cycle-powered Ring Road ride, the televised final of cycle speedway on Hearsall Common and the Coventry Festival of Cycling.

Cycle Coventry also teamed up with British Cycling to offer guided Skyrides every Sunday around the Coventry area and over 300 people of all abilities have taken part, including many families who took advantage of a traffic-free ride around the War Memorial Park. More are planned for next year.

Work to improve key shared cycle and pedestrian routes in the city has already begun, with the first phase of Sowe Valley complete. Further work is soon to follow which will connect the route through to University Hospital and Henley College.

Plans to improve routes to Canley station and into the city

'This year has been really good for cycling in Coventry and there has been a great spirit following the British success at the Olympics...'

centre along Hearsall Common are currently being finalised and the cycle network across the Warwick University campus will be complete by the end of the month.

Over 120 people who either live, work or study in Coventry have also benefitted from free cycle training courses throughout the summer.

If you haven't been on one yet and are keen to improve your cycle skills – whether you've never been on a bike or just want to improve your cycle confidence – make sure you book on to one. You don't even have to have a bike as they can be provided for the course. These free courses will continue through the autumn and winter, weather permitting.

Cllr Rachel Lancaster, Cabinet Member for Public Services, said: "This year has been really good for

cycling in Coventry and there has been a great spirit following the British success at the Olympics. Lots of people have enjoyed the free Skyrides and the ride the Ring Road event at Godiva awakes and it's been encouraging to see people of all ages trying cycling.

"I'm looking forward to improving my cycle road skills soon as I'm booked on to one of the courses and I'd encourage anyone else who is thinking about signing up, to do so.

"The Cycle Coventry project isn't over and more training courses are planned throughout the year. There are also cycle maintenance courses people can book on to as we will be continuing to work closely with employers to make it easier for staff to cycle to work.

"Of course, the largest part of the project will continue to see key routes across the city continue to be improved for both cyclists and pedestrians to access places of work, leisure and public transport by working with Centro."

Heritage landmark takes centre stage

For the sixth year running the Weaver's House in Upper Spon Street was one of the attractions open for the Heritage Open days.

The weekend events saw dozens of volunteers who were helping to showcase Coventry's sometimes overlooked and hidden gems.

Weaver's House, former home of 16th century weaver John Croke, is part of a terrace of six timber-framed cottages which date from 1455 and which were saved from demolition in the late 1990s, when Spon End Building Preservation Trust was formed.

Since then, a £2.2 million project has seen the renovation of all six cottages



and the Victorian Courts behind them, to demonstrate how buildings evolve through time.

The Weaver's house, situated at 122 Upper Spon Street, has been restored to represent what an early Tudor artisan's house would look like, complete with replica loom on the upper floor, where weaver John Croke would have plied his trade.

Cllr Ed Ruane, Cabinet Member for Housing, Heritage and Sport, said: "The Weaver's Cottage project brings to life the real stories of Coventry's past, with ancient crafts still being practised and demonstrated."

Coventry's Heritage Open Days are an annual event organised by a team of volunteers including the Coventry Society and Coventry City Council in association with English Heritage.

For more information about the Cycle Coventry project and tips on how to get started, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/cyclecoventry

+Bravery Awards+Bravery Awards+Bravery Awards+Bravery Awards+

Quick-thinking Josh rescues crash driver

A teenager who came to the aid of an elderly woman trapped inside her vehicle after it rolled over has been praised by police and honoured with the Chief Constable's Young Persons Award.

Joshua Edwards, 16, was leaving Woodlands School in Coventry when a green Ford Fiesta overturned and rolled several times after colliding with another car in Broad Lane just after 3pm on 12 September last year.

The 86-year-old driver of the Fiesta was trapped in her car, suffered serious injuries and was clearly shaken up by what had happened.

Joshua gave the woman first aid and stayed with her until emergency services arrived and even then remained with her until she was taken to hospital for treatment.



■ Joshua Edwards receives his award from Deputy Chief Constable Dave Thompson.



■ Claire Chetwynd, Deputy Chief Constable Dave Thompson and Richard Chetwynd.

...and have-a-go couple are honoured

A have-a-go hero and his new bride who together thwarted an armed robbery at a Coventry store have been presented with Good Citizens awards by Deputy Chief Constable Dave Thompson. In July 2011 Mr Chetwynd visited the One Stop Shop on Wheelwright Lane only to walk into an armed robbery; the attacker was threatening the staff with a

knife and demanding they hand over cash. A violent struggle ensued as the robber tried to leave the shop and Richard's head was smashed against the glass door. His then fiancée who was waiting in the car saw the commotion and leapt into action. Running into the store, Claire jumped on the robber and helped Richard wrestle the man to the ground.

Roger's a city high-flyer!

Roger Smith receives the Good Citizen Award 2013 from Lord Mayor Cllr Gary Crookes for his outstanding work on founding and maintaining Coventry's aircraft preservation movement. Roger founded the Midland Aircraft Preservation Society in 1967, and worked tirelessly to develop the Midland Air Museum. If you would like to nominate a good citizen, visit www.coventry.gov.uk



Chance to have say on local issues

If you want to have a say in your local area, neighbourhood forums are the ideal place. The meetings are held every three months in locations across Coventry. The forums are attended by ward councillors, local police and street service officers. Forthcoming forums are listed below (7pm except where stated):

- October 1 – **Wainbody**, Finham Park School;
- October 2 – **Upper Stoke**, Clay Lane Medical Centre (6.30pm start);

- October 3 – **Wyken**, Wyken Community Centre;
 - October 3 – **Woodlands**, Tile Hill Library, Jardine Crescent;
 - October 8 – **Westwood**, Xcel Leisure Centre;
 - October 9 – **Henley**, Henley Community Centre;
 - October 15 – **Binley and Willenhall**, WEET Centre;
 - October 16 – **St Michael's**, Hope Centre (6pm start).
- For further details, contact www.coventry.gov.uk/neighbourhood



TV Dragon is slayed by resolve of city's Raynald

City College Coventry student Raynald Andrew-Kinyanjui has been named the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy Inspirational Student of the Year 2013.

He received his award at a ceremony at Freemason's Hall, Covent Garden in London attended by the Duke of York, who is Patron of the Peter Jones Foundation, and entrepreneur Peter Jones.

Originally from London, Raynald Andrew-Kinyanjui had a background of gang violence. He was stabbed 10 times and in 2011 moved to Coventry seeking a better life. He began at the college soon after arriving.

"He started at the college on a Level 1 Business Course before progressing to Level 2 and then gaining a place at our Peter Jones Enterprise Academy," said Amrik Johal, programme area manager. "The award recognises his amazing achievement and he should be very proud."

TV Dragon Peter Jones, CBE, said: "It is fantastic to celebrate the next generation of entrepreneurs."

All City College Coventry students on the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy successfully completed the Level 3 Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship.

The academies offer BTECs and Apprenticeships in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship; these are the first qualifications of their kind for 16-19 year olds in the UK. The qualification was written by Peter Jones CBE in partnership with Edexcel.

For more information, visit www.pjea.org

Salute our global games heroes!

Eighteen young athletes and swimmers recently took part in the International Children's Games in Windsor-Essex, Canada.

Around 1,500 athletes from 84 cities in 32 countries took part in what was the 47th annual summer games.

In 2005 Coventry hosted the ICG and for many years was the only city in England to take part.

Coventry's original involvement followed from its twinning links with countries following World War Two.

Clr John Mutton, who is the chair of Coventry's organising committee for the ICG said it was a

tremendous event leaving a lasting memory for everyone involved.

He said: "I'm so pleased that we were able to take part and would like to thank all of the sponsors who have help to fund the city's participation. All the young competitors and



coaches were excellent ambassadors for the city," he added.

Since the 1968 Games were first held, 37,000 children have been in competition at 43 Summer Games and 4 Winter Games. The International Children's Games and Cultural Festival has

become the world's largest international multi-sport youth games, and is a recognised member of the International Olympic Committee.

The Coventry team members are aged between 12 and 15. Many achieve personal bests in their events.

Citivism survey

Citivism is produced four times a year and delivered to homes across Coventry. It is packed full of contact details so that you can quiz us on the Council's work, and is an important way for you to give us your feedback and views on what matters most to you – whether it's community safety,

cleaner streets, better education or improved shopping facilities. That's why we'd like you to take part in this, our latest readership survey. The questionnaire below should take no more than five minutes to complete, and should be completed and returned by Friday, October 18.

Send the completed questionnaire to *Citivism* magazine, Coventry City Council, FREEPOST CV 3098, Coventry CV1 5RR, or email us on communications@coventry.gov.uk
*All responses will remain confidential and will be held securely.



Tell us what you think...

■ Do you receive this magazine at home?

Yes No

■ Are you aware that *Citivism* is produced by Coventry City Council?

Yes No

■ How informative do you find *Citivism* magazine in terms of the information it contains?

Local events: Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

Local news: Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

New city developments:
Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

Councillors: Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

Health: Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

Household issues: Very Quite Not very
Not at all I do not read this section

■ How do you prefer to access news and information about Coventry? (Please tick as many as apply)

Citivism Local newspaper Local radio
Other publications Face-to-face Website
Telephone Twitter Facebook e-mail

■ Do you have any suggestions for improvements to *Citivism*?

Your two-page guide to what's new on the healthcare scene around Coventry

Organ donation gives breath of life to grandmother Monica...

A council training officer is calling on local people to sign the organ donor register after her mum's successful double lung transplant.

As many as three people die every day waiting for a life-saving organ transplant and there are more than 10,000 people in the UK on the waiting list.

Debbie Horton-Rayner got in touch with

Coventry Citivision to tell her experiences as a daughter watching her mum suffer from emphysema.

She says that unless people have experienced close up the deterioration of a loved one, they can't begin to understand how precious a gift it is to be an organ donor.

Debbie said: "My mum, Monica experienced really bad symptoms in 2006, was hospitalised,

and needed oxygen to walk from the kitchen to the bathroom. It also affected her ability to talk.

"Mum has five devoted grandchildren (aged 3 to 11) and it was so sad because she couldn't hold her youngest and found it really difficult to interact with them."

Debbie added: "It was horrible to watch. It is so hard to get a viable lung transplant and only 50 per cent of people make it through their first year."

Peter Horton, Monica's husband of 42 years had to retire early to become a full time carer.

In July 2011 Monica had the transplant. Someone's tragedy offered a lifeline and with the care and support of nurses and doctors and the effectiveness of anti-rejection drugs Monica, now 63 from Whoberly, has continued to make a recovery.

"Almost immediately after the operation I could see a difference," said Debbie.

Two years later and Monica Horton is a weekly visitor to Atrium Health Centre – a specialist NHS venue in Coventry for people who are undergoing rehabilitation for a range of medical symptoms.

Monica said: "I'm alive and I am so grateful that my donor chose to give a new life to me. I love coming to the health centre. It helped to come here before the operation and my visits continue to help me now."

You can sign the organ donation register by going to www.uhcw.nhs.uk/organdonation, or calling 0300 123 23 23 or text SAVE to 62323.



■ Proud Debbie centre, stands in between her dad Peter and mum Monica gearing up to get her exercises underway.

Local help is at hand to help you care for crucial eyesight

Coventry health experts have been encouraging people to get an eye health check as part of national eye health week. Suresh Munnyal, a local optometrist and chair of the local professional eye network, said: "Loss of psychological security, basic skills such as mobility, communication and appreciation of our surroundings, as well as potential loss of occupation are some of the factors affected by sight loss. In Coventry there are about 60 qualified optometrists with

the necessary skills to advise people on how to enhance quality of life through better sight and help detect and prevent sight loss."

In 2011 Coventry had 2.66 per cent of its population with some degree of sight loss – 8,460 people. It is expected that by 2020 there will be 9,990 or 2.68 per cent. The most common causes are diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration and glaucoma.

Cllr Alison Gingell, Cabinet

Member for Health and Adult Services, said that with the right checks and lifestyle people can manage the better. For details, visit www.visionmatters.org.uk or twitter @myvisionmatters. For details of free eye checks, visit www.nhs.uk. For information and support in managing sight loss, contact the Visual and Hearing Impairment Team at Faseman House, Faseman Avenue, on 024 7678 5354. E-mail visual&hearing.impact@coventry.gov.uk



■ Optometrist Suresh Munnyal with a member of staff at his Bell Green eye care centre.

Campaigning steps up to tackle smoking



■ The smokefree play area was launched with year three pupils at Stivichall Primary School at the popular play area at Coventry's War Memorial Park.

Smokers are being challenged to move towards a healthier life by signing up for Stoptober, the 28-day non-smoking challenge during October.

The national campaign is being supported in Coventry with health advisers calling on people to quit smoking for a month to help them stop the habit for good. Research shows that people who quit the habit for Stoptober and manage to stay off tobacco could gain an extra week of life for every 28 days they are smoke free. As well as the health benefits, quitting tobacco will save the average smoker more than £150 per month. Last year 160,000 people successfully completed the Stoptober challenge, saving a combined total of £25 million.
www.stoptober.co.uk

Breathing fresh air at play

Smokers are also being asked to stop lighting up as they watch their children play in around 50 Coventry City Council-owned, outdoor play areas as part of a new campaign.

The idea is part of a Coventry Smokefree Alliance bid to ensure that local children have the right to play in areas that are free from tobacco smoke and that are not littered with cigarette butts.

It is also hoped that the campaign – believed to be the first in the West Midlands – will make Coventry's children's play grounds a nicer and cleaner places for families to visit. The initiative was developed after research carried out by the Alliance – made up of a range of partners from across the city – showed that 95 per cent of

respondents supported the idea of smokefree playgrounds. There are no plans for any strict enforcement. The Alliance has put up signage to act as a simple deterrent.

Cllr Joe Clifford, chairman of the Coventry Smokefree Alliance, said: "This campaign is about encouraging adults not to smoke in areas where children are playing. Our local research tells us that the vast majority of parents – whether they are smokers or not – are in favour of not smoking at play areas.

"Furthermore, national evidence shows us that the more that children see smoking, the more likely it is they will grow up to be smokers themselves."

Mental health helpline

World Mental Health Day on the October 10 helps raise awareness of people struggling to cope with stress, depression or severe mental ill health. At Mental Health Matters, a helpline operates every day of the year for people seeking help. Mental Health Matters has a team of highly trained and experienced support workers using counselling skills to provide emotional support, guidance and information. For details Call us 0800 61 61 71 Text us 07786 202242 or Email us timeonline@mentalhealthmatters.co.uk

Caring for dementia sufferers

Dementia currently affects around 800,000 people in the UK with around 3,600 living in Coventry. By 2015, the numbers are expected to rise to almost 4,000.

Coventry is becoming a dementia-friendly city, in order to support people to live well with the illness.

The aim is to enable those affected to maintain their independence by raising their awareness and reducing the

stigma of dementia.

The term 'dementia' describes a set of symptoms that include loss of memory, mood changes, and problems with communication and reasoning. The most common are Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia.

For more information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/dementia or also visit www.dementiafriends.org.uk

Can you help shape future?

Your local hospital is looking for members of the public to help shape its future.

University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust wants to become a Foundation Trust, which means our patients and members of the public can become 'members' of the organisation. You can be involved in shaping the future of your healthcare services as well as getting regular news updates and invites to exclusive events. So far our members have already helped us with suggestions with our annual report, volunteered at the nature reserve at University Hospital and attended our Medicine for Members' Events on age-related macular degeneration, skin diseases and heart health. Coming up we have events for our members on arthritis of the neck and spine and diet and nutrition.

Becoming a member is free and all you need to do is fill out a membership form. This can be done online at www.uhcw.nhs.uk/foundation-trust/membership or by contacting our FT membership manager Andrea Phillips on 02476 964747 who can help you fill in the form over the telephone.

Libraries are just the tonic

GPs and other health professionals will now be prescribing a trip to the local library instead of pills, for many sufferers of depression and anxiety in Coventry. All Coventry libraries are part of the national Reading Well Books on Prescription scheme from the Reading Agency charity and the Society of Chief Librarians. All 17 city libraries now have a core list of 30 titles covering issues such as anxiety, phobias, panic attacks, sleep problems and eating disorders and works with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guidelines.

What did your Council do?

Cllr Damian Gannon, Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) outlines the Council's end of year performance report which highlights where the Council has improved and how satisfied residents are with local services. Last year (2012/13), the Council continued to face unprecedented cuts to its budget. By working more efficiently, the Council saved £10.9 million, while ensuring that essential services remain available to the people who need them. The report shows that 71% of the Council's headline measures either improved or stayed the same, and 85% of residents surveyed are satisfied with the way the Council runs things. The following are some of the facts and figures from the report. A full report is available at www.coventry.gov.uk/performance/. A new Council Plan is being drawn up for 2014 onwards to reflect new priorities.



Jobs and growth

Jobs

Job Shop

160 people visit the Coventry Job Shop every day.

The Council helped 1,388 people into a job.

54
now

54 people started an apprenticeship in the Council.

Looking for a job? Speak to one of the advisers in the Coventry Job Shop.
1 Bulyard Coventry City Centre

Better pavements, streets and roads

Roads

74
miles

74 miles of carriageway and 11 miles of footway was improved.

Fly-tips

11%

Working with local residents, fly-tipping was reduced by 11%.

Waste

39%

39% of the city's waste was recycled.

Find out which roads are going to be repaired at coventry.gov.uk/hmp/.
Learn about the recycling incentive scheme at coventry.gov.uk/recycling/

Support and celebrate our young people

Schools

More pupils in good or outstanding schools:

	July 2012	Aug 2012
Primary	64%	(122%)
Secondary	81%	(11%)

The Council has worked closely with schools to help them improve.

Exams

57%
2013 provisional

g o o d
G C S E

57% achieved 5+ A*-C at GCSE including English and Maths.

Children's services

619
Looked After Children

619 children in the care of the local authority (March 2013)

Whatever children bring, you're not alone! for help and advice with the challenges of parenting visit www.coventryparent.co.uk

Protect our most vulnerable residents

Homelessness

976
homelessness cases prevented

976 households were prevented from becoming homeless.

Self-directed support

91%

91% of social care users in long-term community care choose the support they receive.

Anti-social behaviour

25%

25% reduction in anti-social behaviour incidents recorded.

Report anti-social behaviour to It's Your Call.
024 7683 1300

Nationwide success for Belgrade Theatre

* A scene from *Marriage at the Belgrade Theatre*.
Set and costumes by Belgrade Production Services, picture by Robert Day.



The Belgrade Theatre's commercial enterprises, which include Belgrade Production Services (BPS) and events and conferencing, have increased their earnings for the theatre by £150,000 in the last year to £500,000.

The theatre rents out its facilities for events and conferencing, the introduction of commercial theatre workshop programmes for children and young people and the creation of BPS, which makes costumes and sets for theatres around the country.

Belgrade Production Services also retains a

pool of skilled workers in the city at its workshop on Red Lane. During 2012/13 the company provided almost 12,600 hours of work for freelance and casual carpenters, welders, props makers, scenic artists and wardrobe technicians, in addition to the Belgrade's core staffing.

The Belgrade Theatre's Executive Director Joanna Reid said, "We're working hard to earn more and to diversify our income streams so that we can continue to produce and present high quality theatre and a full programme of community work for the city and region. We're proud to be

such a major contributor to the quality of life for the people of Coventry, and to be responsible for generating £4.5 million in the local economy too."

The theatre's work with young people and local communities, carried out via the Belgrade Community and Education Company, has continued to be an integral part of the theatre's programme. In the last year nearly 10,000 children and young people participated in a total of 678 workshops, both at the theatre and at outreach venues around the city.

For details visit www.belgrade.co.uk

Summer of fun

The Discover our city programme of summertime events proved a big hit this year, attracting crowds to the city centre for family activities. A beach in Shelton Square with deckchairs, a surf simulator and a bouncy castle



proved highly popular, as did free sports activities, popular children's TV characters, a roller-rink disco and Saturday morning cinema. A Discover our city booklet featured a host of activities and promotional offers, including discount vouchers from many popular city-centre retailers.

Leading Sikhs welcome cultural show

Leading figures from the Coventry Sikh community went along to The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum recently to show their support for a major exhibition showcasing Sikh culture.

Entitled *Sikh Fortress Turban: A British Museum Tour*, the new exhibition features the fortress turban, which is known as a Dastar Boonga, and is a type distinct to the original Sikh warriors, the Akali Nihangs.

The turban's tall, conical structure is like a tower or fortress which would protect both the hair and the head in battle. The turban is tied by entwining long hair with the cloth. Symbolic ornaments and small weapons, such as steel quoits, daggers, swords and tiger claws, were secured to it for easy access during battle, and to provide further protection.

Cllr Malkiat Auluck, who has been a councillor for the Foleshill area of Coventry for 11 years, said: "The exhibition gives our local Sikh community, and members of the wider Coventry community, the chance to learn about the history of the Sikh faith and to celebrate our city's cultural



■ Cllr Auluck with Cabinet Member for Heritage Ed Ruanne at the Sikh turban exhibition.

diversity." He added: "I arrived in Coventry in 1965 with expectations of making a successful life and living in a great city with many opportunities. "The exhibition, which is free, runs until November 17.

For more information, visit www.theherbert.org

Eastern promise

Coventry will be celebrating the biggest International East Asian Film Festival outside London at the end of October. The East Winds Film Festival, supported by the Council, Nissan and Coventry University, returns from October 31 until November 3 for its third year at Square One, The Hub, Jordan Well. Twelve exclusive films will be screened over four days, showcasing popular East Asian cinema. Tickets are £5 (£3.50 students), with an early-bird festival pass available for £20. For details, visit www.eastwindsfilmfest.com



The National Minimum Wage rates will change from 1 October 2013 to:

- Workers aged 21 and over – **£6.31** (increasing from £6.19)
- Workers aged at least 18 but not yet 21 – **£5.03** (increasing from £4.98)
- Workers under 18 but above compulsory school leaving age – **£3.72** (increasing from £3.68)
- Apprentice Rate* – **£2.68** (increasing from £2.65).

The National Minimum Wage promotes workplace fairness and makes work pay.

The Pay and Work Rights Helpline provides free, confidential advice in over 100 languages, and SMS updates on request. You can call on **0800 917 2368** (call charges may apply) or find more information **online at GOV.UK** (www.gov.uk/your-right-to-minimum-wage).

** For Apprentices under 19, or 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship.*



www.facebook.com/nmwage

**Your area
Our impact**
The University of Warwick's contribution to Coventry

The University of Warwick's economic impact on Coventry has been valued at £222million per year, which equates to £4.3million every week, or £610,000 every day of the year.

This is one of the key conclusions in a report by independent consultants SQW Ltd who were commissioned by The University of Warwick to carry out a study into the economic, social and cultural impact of the university.

Economic Impact

The £222million of economic

impact in 2011/12 was largely the result of student and staff spending in Coventry. Over 13,100 University of Warwick students were living in Coventry, either on campus or

in private accommodation, and in total their expenditure was worth £132.3million to the city. And the 2,600 members of University and Students' Union staff who live in Coventry created an additional £54million of expenditure.

Job Creation

Direct employment at the University and Students' Union is equal to 2,254 full time jobs, while that £222million of economic impact was worth an additional 4,739 full time jobs in Coventry.

Supporting Businesses

£36.2million per year is generated by University and Students' Union purchases of goods and services from 504 Coventry businesses.

The University also owns and manages the University of Warwick Science Park, which provides a full range of business support services to companies in Coventry and the

£222m

...that's the annual value of University of Warwick to the local economy



second largest Arts Centre in the UK. 30% of the visitors to the Arts Centre every year are from Coventry. An independent study estimated its total value to the local community to be £27.7million per year. Warwick Volunteers is one of the UK's largest and most popular

student volunteering schemes. It attracts 2,500 registrants each year and provides opportunities to volunteer in schools, with young people, with adults, on environmental projects, on justice and human rights, and in one-off projects across the community.

Recently 700 trees were planted in Canley Brook by a team of Warwick Volunteers and local residents; and the Warwick Volunteers mentoring scheme alone has been estimated to have a social-economic worth of £1million to the local community.

Regional Impact

The Regional Impact Study looked at not only our impact in Coventry but across the wider West Midlands. Regionally the economic impact of the University of Warwick has been valued at

£520million per year, which supports around 15,500 full time jobs.

The University of Warwick is a globally connected university, and one of the leading



universities in the UK, but it is also firmly rooted in this region and is proud to contribute to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Coventry.

wider West Midlands region. Over 1,800 companies have benefitted from these services in the last 8 years, 66 new companies have been created, and 291 jobs safeguarded. The Science Park is currently home to 140 tenants across four sites.

Supporting Manufacturing

WMG (formerly the Warwick Manufacturing Group) at the University of Warwick has developed a close relationship with Jaguar Land Rover, a major employer in the region. JLR has relocated 180 of its Research and Development staff to campus as part of a programme which will generate £100million of collaborative research over 10 years. The University's relationship with JLR has also led to the development of the National Automotive Innovation Campus, a £100million state-of-the-art new centre which will be located on the university's campus and will bring further employment and investment to the city. The NAIC will create and develop new vehicle

technologies to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels, and to lower CO2 emissions.

Supporting Local Health and Education

The University of Warwick brings many additional benefits to Coventry and the wider region which the SQW report also highlights. 520 Warwick Medical School students undertook placements in the region's medical

facilities in 2011/12, many of those in Coventry GP surgeries and at University Hospital Coventry.

In terms of medical research the £400million Clinical Trials Unit at the University's Medical School is undertaking 24 separate trials across four major work streams including cancer research and injury prevention and management, providing patients in the region with access to cutting-edge treatments. The work undertaken at the Clinical Trials Unit has already been credited with raising the quality of clinical practice in the local area.

Meanwhile the University of Warwick's Institute of Education admits around 500 students each year, and 66% of its trained teachers find employment in the region, many in Coventry schools. The University also hosts the West Midlands Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training, which provides information, guidance and specialist training to the region's Further Education, and Adult, Voluntary and Community sector teachers and trainers.

Excellence in Higher Education

The University of Warwick was ranked as the leading Midlands University by all four major UK university league tables in 2012/13. Currently, over 6,400 Warwick graduates live in Coventry with hundreds more living in the region but working in the city.

Culture and Community

The Warwick Arts Centre is at the heart of the campus and is the



To find out more about Your Area, Our Impact and the Regional Impact Study, visit: www.warwick.ac.uk/yourarea

FOSTER AND ADOPT FOR COVENTRY

We have children in Coventry waiting for families who can give them a warm secure loving home.

FOSTERING

We are currently recruiting for Short Breaks, time-limited and long term foster carers.

If you become a foster carer with Coventry City Council you'll have:

- an opportunity to develop new skills and a new career paid for and supported by the Council
- extensive training and support, including qualifications to develop a professional career in child care
- a hugely rewarding role that makes a massive difference to a child or young person's life and
- generous fees and allowances.

To find out more call us today on
024 7683 2828

We will offer you support and guidance throughout each step of the process.

ADOPTION

If you haven't thought about adoption, could you?

We are looking for people who have:

- the time, space and patience for children
- the energy to give children a really positive experience of life
- commitment to provide a family home for life.



City park flying high

■ The stylish new Visitor Centre at the War Memorial Park, and (inset below) Cllr Abdul Khan, who hailed the award of Green Flag status for the venue.



The War Memorial Park has scooped the prestigious Green Flag Award for the first time after Keep Britain Tidy agreed it met its strict criteria of being beautifully maintained and having excellent facilities.

Since receiving its Heritage Lottery Funding to improve and restore many features in the park, the War Memorial Park team has been successful in obtaining the Green Flag award and hopes to retain it each year.

The city has four other Green Flag parks, which means they are some of the best parks and green spaces in the UK. The four other parks which have maintained their

Green Flag status are Coombe Country Park, Caludon Castle Park, Allesley Park and Longford Park.

Councillor Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member for Energy and Environment, said: "It's great news that five of our parks in the city have the prestigious Green Flag award. The awards show people that we really value our green spaces and want to provide the best facilities and environment for residents and visitors."

Green Flag Award scheme manager Paul Todd said: "A Green Flag Award provides national recognition for the hard work and dedication of all parks managers, staff and volunteers."



Festive lights date

This year's Christmas lights switch on will be taking place on Sunday, November 24 in Broadgate. Those who attended last year's event will remember it was an enjoyable day for all the family with live music, performances and guest appearances, so make sure you don't miss out this year! Full details will be featured in the next edition of *Citivision*. Information will also be published at coventryandwarwickshire.co.uk

Divorce courses

A six-week course that supports people moving forward from divorce and separation is being launched in Coventry. It starts with an informal dinner at 7pm followed by short talks and opportunities for discussion in small groups, finishing at 9.30 pm. Course dates and times are as follows:

- October 10-November 21 at Kenilworth – contact Jane at janebates@hotmail.com
- January 2-February 6 at Coventry – contact Tricia at triciapaj@hotmail.co.uk

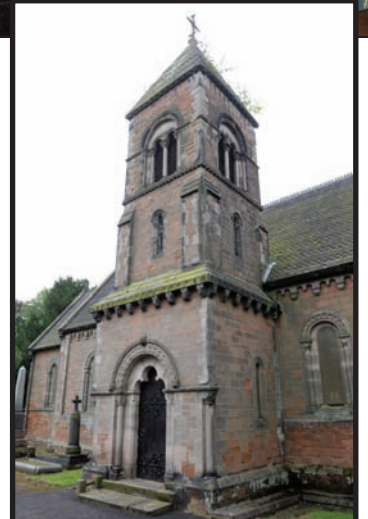
Chapel's hidden secrets on show



An array of paintings of famous Coventry characters was unearthed at the recent Heritage Open Weekend.

The pictures, including portraits of poet Philip Larkin and Sir Frank Whittle, were found at the Anglican Chapel (right) in London Road Cemetery.

The venue was one of around 40 buildings normally closed to the public that were opened up. The rare pictures were among the many eye-catching artefacts on view.



Martial arts expo kicks off in style



The UK's largest annual event for martial arts opens its doors on October 19 and 20 for TMAX 2013. Now in its fifth year, Martial Arts Expo features some of the UK's biggest talents. The event focuses on healthy living and full details can be found at www.themartialartsexpo.com

Heralding in a season of culture

Here are some of the things you can enjoy this autumn in and around Coventry

OCTOBER

Until Nov 3 – Quentin Blake: As Large as Life, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum. Exhibition of Quentin Blake works commissioned by hospitals and health centres to produce a therapeutic effect on patients. Free. Check out

www.theherbert.org

Until Nov 17 – Sikh Fortress Turban, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum. Unravel the stories of the Sikh turban and discover how and why turbans symbolise Sikh faith and identity. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org

Until Jan 5 – War Effort, Coventry Transport Museum (10am-5pm). The new temporary exhibition throws the spotlight on the British motor industry's huge contribution to wartime production. Free. Call 024 7623 4270.

Until Jan 5 – Keeping Up Appearances: Fashion Through Two World Wars. Discover the link between women's clothing and their roles in society between 1900 and 1950s. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org

3, 4 & 5 – Tiny Tot explorers: Art Play sessions, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (10.30-11.30am & 1-2pm). Popular art play sessions encouraging children aged 1-3 to explore and investigate through sensory play. Booking required. £2. Check out www.theherbert.org

3 – The Sixteen Choral Pilgrimage, Coventry Cathedral (7.30pm). The Choral Pilgrimage tour, entitled The Queen of Heaven, sees Harry Christophers CBE and his choir perform glorious music in churches and cathedrals across the country.

9 – Coventry Women In Wartime, Coventry Transport Museum (lunchtime talk, 1pm). A talk about life for Coventry's women during World War II. Free, but advanced booking recommended at www.transport-museum.com. Call 024 7623 4270.

If you've an event you'd like listed, contact the *Citivism* newsdesk, Room 27, The Council House, Earl Street, Coventry CV1 5RR or e-mail communications@coventry.gov.uk

Snooker champs set for Ricoh

The inaugural Champion of Champions snooker event is to be staged at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry in November.

Barry Hearn, chairman of World Snooker and Matchroom Sport, made the announcement during the World Snooker Championship in Sheffield.

A top prize of £100,000 will be available for the winner of the 16 player tournament which will take place in the Jaguar Exhibition Hall between Tuesday, November 19 and Saturday, November 24.

Barry Hearn said: "We are excited to be bringing world-class snooker to the Ricoh Arena. This is a new tournament which we are confident will capture the public's imagination."

Liz Cooper, marketing director at the Ricoh Arena, said: "Potentially we could be seeing three-time world champion Ronnie O'Sullivan, current world number one Mark Selby from Leicester, four-time world champion John Higgins and China's most successful player Ding Junhui in action."

11 – City of London, Fauré Requiem tour, Coventry Cathedral (7.30pm). This concert celebrates the beauty of our magnificent and awe-inspiring churches, with performances of some of the most well-known and uplifting sacred music.

13 – Fungi Day! Fungi Foray, Coombe Country Park (10.30am-12.30pm). Celebrating National Fungi Day with resident fungi expert. £6, to include bowl of mushroom soup and a roll. Suitable for 16+. Call 02476 453720. Check out Coombe.countrypark@coventry.gov.uk

13 – Mushroom Madness, Coombe Country Park (1-3pm). Mushrooms will be demystified on this fun family trail, making basic ID charts and with an arts and crafts session in the classroom. £4pp (under 5s free if accompanied by paying adult). Call 02476 453720.

15 – Herbert Illuminations Talk (12.30-1.30pm). Theatre Absolute's Julia Negus speaks about the 100 project which combines plays, textile installation and film to mark the commencement of the First

World War. Check out www.theherbert.org

19 – 100, presented by Theatre Absolute, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (1.30pm). A cross arts project by award winning Coventry company Theatre Absolute which considers the hundred-year commemoration of the First World War. Booking required. £6. Call 024 7629 4774 or book online at www.theherbert.org.

24 – Autumnal Garden and Arboretum Tour with cream tea at Heron's Café, Coombe Country Park (1-3pm). Enjoy a walk through the famous Victorian Gardens and the Arboretum. Your guide will take you through the restoration programme and changing garden landscapes in Autumn. £8pp. Call 02476 453720.

25 – Drink and Draw Big Draw, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (8-11pm). Every kind of doodler welcome – it's all about the fun! Bar open from 8pm. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org.

26 (Until Nov 3) – The Big Draw: Pockets of Plenty, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (10.30am-12.30pm & 1.30-

3.30pm). The studio space walls will be filled with pockets for children to open and reveal an object from the collection, which will then inspire the art work for that day. Free. Drop-in event, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Check out www.theherbert.org.

26 (Until Nov 3) – Wartime Half-Term Activities, Coventry Transport Museum (times vary). Wartime-themed activity trails and crafts during the school holidays. Admission free, crafts and trails £1-£3. Call 024 7623 4270.

27 – Misty Forest Painting Lesson, Coombe Country Park (11am-2.30pm). Would you like to learn to paint the Misty Forest Scene? Join resident Artist Michelle Stamper in the Heron Café. £30 (all materials included, £10 non-refundable deposit required). Contact Michelle on 02476 689309.

28 (until Nov) – Half term family activities, Coventry Cathedral. During the week, there's the chance to learn all tales of the saints on the West Screen, as well as the Wednesday 'make and take' activities.

28 – Rag Rugging Workshop, Coventry Transport Museum (11am-1pm). Learn how to use recycled scraps of fabric to create a mini rag rug. £4 – book in advance at www.transport-museum.com Call 024 7623 4270.

29-30 – Fishing for Beginners, Coombe Country Park (10am-12.30pm). Have a go at fishing with the help of fishery officer. All equipment provided. Suitable for 8 years+. £4. Call 02476 453720.

29-31 – Spooky Stories in the Street with Halloween Photo Competition, Coombe Country Park. Come meet some creepy characters this half term for some spooky stories in the Visitor Centre (1pm). Get your costumes on and take your picture in our **Halloween photo booth** (10am-5pm). Email them to us for a chance to win an annual car parking pass worth over £40. Free. Call 02476 453720.

For a full list, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/events

30 (Also Nov 1) – 1940s Hair Workshop, Coventry Transport Museum (3pm). Vintage stylist Sarah Russell introduces you to hairstyles of the period, including victory rolls, pin curls and pompadours. Places limited, booking recommended. £12.50pp, which includes a take-home 1940s hairstyling kit. Book online at www.transport-museum.com Call 024 7623 4270.

31 – The Lab, Coombe Country Park (2-3.30pm). Join the scientists in their experiments. Will you survive their gruesome grub and monster meddling? This interactive Halloween session may give even mums and dads a fright. Please note, any allergies must be made known at time of booking. £3pp (under 5s free if accompanied by a paying adult). Call 02476 453720.

31 – Fashion Recycling Workshop, Coventry Transport Museum (11am-1pm). Use vintage Singer sewing machines to give your worn-out clothes a new lease of life. £4 – book in advance at www.transport-museum.com Call 024 7623 4270.

31 – Collection Conversations, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (11am-1pm). Handle items from

the natural history, archaeology and social history collections. Curators will be on hand to answer your questions. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org.

NOVEMBER

3 – Wartime Family Day, Coventry Transport Museum (10am-4pm). A full day of wartime-themed activities for the whole family. Free. Call 024 7623 4270.

5 – Gunpowder Plot Walk and Afternoon Tea, Coombe Abbey Hotel (1.30-4pm). Guided walk and talk about Coombe's place in the Gunpowder Plot. This fascinating talk will finish with a full afternoon tea. £20pp. Suitable for adults. Call 02476 453720.

9 – Exhibition Insight: Behind the Fashion, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (11am). Enjoy a detailed talk about some fascinating objects in the Herbert's costume collection and hear about women's lives between 1900 and 1960. Booking required. Check out www.theherbert.org.

10 – 3rd Battalion Sikh Regiment (Rattrys Sikhs) & Captain Thomas Rattray, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum

(2pm). Illustrated talk on the Rattray Sikhs, one of the most decorated battalions of the Sikh Regiment. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org

10 & 17 – Wartime Sunday, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (Noon-3.30pm). Learn about the Second World War through object handling and craft, with something to take home. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org

16 & 17 – Christmas Craft Fair, Coventry Transport Museum (10am-4pm). Huge variety of stalls selling handmade gifts. Free. Call 024 7623 4270.

19 – Cultural Imperialism: How the Romans Conquered with Dormice, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (12.30-1.30pm). Dominic Russell lays bare the stories of the Roman army in success and disaster through analysis of three great conflicts; the Boudican Revolt, the Teutoburg Forest and Cannae. Free. Check out www.theherbert.org

19-24 – Champion of Champions snooker event, Ricoh Arena. A top prize of £100,000 will be available for the winner of the 16 player tournament which will take place

in the Jaguar Exhibition Hall.

22 (Until April 21) – The Body in Art from Dürer to Freud, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum. Works by Albrecht Dürer, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Barbara Hepworth, Helen Chadwick and Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud. Tickets at £4 can be purchased online or in the Herbert. Check out www.theherbert.org

23 – The Mad Cap: Vintage Sewing workshop, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (2-4pm). Informal workshop for beginners and more advanced creatives alike. £3. Check out www.theherbert.org

24 – Campers Christmas, Coventry Transport Museum (2-6pm). An array of camper vans gather outside the museum. Free. Call 024 7623 4270.

DECEMBER

7 – Frost Fair, Coventry Cathedral Ruins (11am-3pm). The iconic Ruins will be providing the atmospheric shopping experience, offering the opportunity to purchase unique and special gifts for family and friends. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

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I BABLAKE

Cllrs Galliers and Kershaw hold regular surgeries: Coronation Club, Keresley Rd 12 noon -1.00pm on the first Saturday of the month. Allesley Parish Church Hall, 5-6pm on the second Monday of the month or contact them directly as below:
Cllr David Galliers: 07973 780871 or e-mail david.galliers@coventry.gov.uk twitter @davidgalliers www.facebook.com/Allesley CoundonAndKeresley www.bablakelabour.com
Cllr David Kershaw CBE: 024 7671 1107 or 07850 664576 or e-mail david.kershaw@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Andrew Williams: Call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail andrew.williams@coventry.gov.uk

I BINLEY & WILLENHALL

Cllr Dave Chater: For an appointment or home visit call 024 7667 2619 or 07759 062733 or e-mail dave.chater@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE: For a home visit or appointment call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail ram.lakha@btinternet.com or ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr John Mutton: Call 024 7683 1039 for an appointment or advice.

I CHEYLESMORE

Cllrs Foster and Noonan hold regular surgeries: Cheylesmore Community Centre 6.30-8pm on last Wednesday of each month (except December) or contact them directly as below:
Cllr Kevin Foster: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or e-mail kevin.foster@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Noonan (Deputy Lord Mayor): Call 024 7683 3048 (day) or 024 7650 5109 (evenings) or e-mail hazel.noonan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Harjinder Singh Sehmi: Last Friday of the month at Cheylesmore Social Club, Quinton Park, 6-7pm or call for an appointment on 07507 687268 or 07956 491443 or e-mail harjinder.singhsehmi@coventry.gov.uk

I EARLSDON

Cllr Allan Andrews: Happy to help where I can. Will visit at home or the Council House. Please call for an appointment on 024 7683 1276 or e-mail allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk or follow on twitter @allanandrews
Cllr Michael Hammon: Call 024 7644 8585 for an appointment or e-mail michael.hammon@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ken Taylor OBE: Call 024 7667 3717 for an appointment.

I FOLESHILL

Cllr Tariq Khan: For an appointment call 024 7683 1039 or 07415 534267 or e-mail tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Abdul Salam Khan: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 07903 847160 or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Malkiat Auluck: Second Tuesday of the month 6.30-7.30pm at Foleshill Community Centre, Foleshill Rd or call 024 7663 7965 for an appointment.

I HENLEY

Cllr Lynnette Kelly: Call 024 7671 1682 or e-mail lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Kevin Maton: Call 07941 827229 or e-mail kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ed Ruane: Call 07817 218137 or e-mail ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk. Surgery at 4pm on the third Thursday of every month at Moat House Leisure Centre, Winston Ave, Henley Green.

I HOLBROOK

Cllr Joe Clifford: Every Wednesday, 6.30-7.30pm at Holbrook Community Care Assoc, Holbrooks Lane. Call 024 7646 5315 or e-mail joseph.clifford@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Rachel Lancaster: Call 024 7636 0021 or e-mail rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.

Cllr Ann Lucas: Call 024 7683 1103 for an appointment., or e-mail ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk. Surgery on first Monday of each month 9.30-10.30am at Holbrook Health Centre, Wheelwright Lane.

I LONGFORD

Cllr Linda Bigham: First Friday of every month 3.30-4.30pm at Longford Primary Care Centre, Longford Rd, and 5.30-6.30pm at Scout Headquarters, Aldermans Green Rd. Last Friday of every month 6-7pm at St Thomas' Parish Church Hall, Longford Rd. Please call 024 7636 0898 to make a surgery appointment.
Cllr George Duggins: Second Saturday of every month 12-1pm at Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Rd and 1.15-2pm at Royal Hotel, Old Church Rd. Second Sunday of every month 11.30am-1pm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave or call 024 7683 1003 (day) or e-mail george.duggins@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Lindsay Harvard: First Saturday of every month 10.45-11.45am at Scout Hut, Aldermans Green Rd and 11.45am-12.45pm at Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Rd. First Sunday of every month 11am-12 noon at the Church Hall, St Thomas' Parish Church, Longford Rd, and noon-1pm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave. Call 024 7667 5717, or e-mail lindsay.harvard@coventry.gov.uk

I LOWER STOKE

Cllr John McNicholas: If you have a problem, need help or advice. I can visit you in your home and be contacted on 024 7683 1039 (day), 024 7650 4037 (evenings) or e-mail john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Phil Townshend: Call 024 7683 1034 (day) for details of surgeries or e-mail philip.townshend@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Catherine Miks: Call 024 7683 1039 or 07415 534274 or e-mail catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk

I RADFORD

Cllr Mal Mutton: Call 024 7630 4497 or 024 7683 1039 for an appointment or e-mail mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Keiran Mulhall: Every Tuesday at Radford Social Club, 226, Radford Rd, CV6 3BQ from 6.30-7.30pm. Also Radford Social Club on the first Sunday of the month 11.30am-12.30pm. Or call 024 7683 1039 for an appointment.
Cllr Tony Skipper: Available to see Radford residents at Coventry Coachmakers' Club, 72 Radford Rd, CV1 4BY. To make an appointment or to leave a message, call 024 7683 1039.

I ST MICHAEL'S

Joint surgeries every second Friday of the month 5-6pm at St Anne and All Saints Community Hall, Acacia Avenue.
Cllr David Welsh: First Saturday of each month, 12-1pm at the Redeemed Christian Church of God (former Howitzer Club), Albert St. Third Friday of each month, 3-4pm at the Regeneration Office, 121-124 Far Gosford Street. Call 07956 307 437 or e-mail david.welsh@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Naem Akhtar: Surgeries every first Tuesday of the month, 5-6pm at Hillfields Youth Centre, Yardley St. For an appointment call 07747 003141 or e-mail naem.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk.
Cllr Jim O'Boyle: Second Saturday of each month, 12-1pm at Zeenat Restaurant, Cambridge St, Hillfields, fourth Saturday of month, noon at Transport House, Short St. Call 024 7669 4873 or 024 7683 1039, or e-mail jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk

I SHERBOURNE

Cllr Seamus Walsh: Call 07956 546983 or 024 7683 1039 (day), or e-mail seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Alison Gingell: For an appointment call 07541 741617 or e-mail alison.gingell@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Damian Gannon: For an appointment call 07725 536259 or e-mail damian.gannon@coventry.gov.uk

I UPPER STOKE

Cllr Kamran Caan: For an appointment or home visit, call or text 07730 111101, or e-mail kamran.caan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Sucha Bains: Barras Green Social Club, Coventry St, between 12 noon-12.45pm every Saturday or call 024 7645 9484.
Cllr Colleen Fletcher: For an appointment text 07939 111992, (will be happy to call you back) or call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail colleen.fletcher@coventry.gov.uk

I WAINBODY

Cllr John Blundell: Call 024 7683 1276 (weekdays) or 024 7641 9794 (evenings and weekends) or e-mail john.blundell@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment; will gladly visit.
Cllr Gary Crookes (Lord Mayor): For an appointment call 024 7683 3048 (day) or 024 7646 1777 (after 6pm) or e-mail gary.crookes@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Tim Sawdon: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk

I WESTWOOD

Cllr Maya Ali: Surgeries every third Thursday of the month, 4.30-5.30pm at the Tanyard Community Centre, Tanyard Close, Coventry, CV4 9TS. For an appointment call 07949 653 656 or e-mail maya.ali@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr David Skinner: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024 7646 8106 (out of hours) or e-mail david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Sandy: Surgeries held at The Lime Tree Club, Templar Ave second Saturday of the month from noon-1pm and every fourth Saturday of the month from 11.30am-12.30pm at Canley Library, Prior Deram Walk. For an appointment call 07949 900445 or e-mail richard.sandy@coventry.gov.uk

I WHOBERLEY

Cllr Dan Howells: If you require help or advice I can visit you in your home or at a time and place convenient to you. To arrange an appointment call 07540 083974 or e-mail dan.howells@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Jayne Innes: Surgeries every fourth Saturday of the month except December, July and August from 12 noon at Allesley Park Library. Also you can ring 02476 405 132 or email jayne.innes@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment or home visit outside these times.
Cllr Bally Singh: Regular Surgeries are held every third Saturday of the month 10am-noon at St Mary Magdeline Centre, Sir Thomas White Rd. Also morning chat every first Friday of the month 8.30-9am at Stoke Bakery, Allesley Park. Call 07779 256898 for an appointment, or e-mail bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk

I WOODLANDS

Cllrs Hetherton and Thomas hold regular surgeries on the fourth Friday of each month at Tile Hill Library, Jardine Cres from 5-7pm
Cllr Patricia Hetherton: Please call 07985 811881 for an appointment or e-mail patricia.hetherton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Steven Thomas: For an appointment call my residents' hotline 07535 423796 or email steven.thomas@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Julia Lepoidevin: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1276 (day), 07944 458 751 or e-mail julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk

I WYKEN

Cllrs Thay, Abbott and Sweet hold surgeries every third Friday 6.30-7.30pm at Wyken Working Men's Club, Ansty Rd, Wyken.
Cllr Robert Thay: For an appointment call 07875 031851 or email robert.thay@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Faye Abbott: For an appointment call 07944 996294 or e-mail faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Sweet: For an appointment or home visit call 024 7661 6273 or e-mail hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk

Cabinet Members

Cllr Ann Lucas, Leader Policy and Leadership
Cllr Philip Townshend, Deputy Leader, Community Safety and Equalities
Cllr Damian Gannon, Strategic Finance and Resources
Cllr George Duggins, Children and Young People * (Cllr Jayne Innes, Deputy)
Cllr David Kershaw CBE, Education * (Cllr Dan Howells, Deputy)
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Cllr Rachel Lancaster, Public Services
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 C Cllr Steven Thomas

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Coventry MPs

Bob Ainsworth MP
 Coventry North East
 Call 024 7622 6707
 e-mail ainsworth@parliament.uk
Jim Cunningham MP
 Coventry South
 Call 024 7655 3159
 e-mail emmal.davies@parliament.uk
Geoffrey Robinson MP
 Coventry North West
 Call 024 7625 7870
 e-mail robinsong@parliament.uk

European MPs

West Midlands Region

CONSERVATIVE - Malcolm Harbour, Philip Braddon, 285 Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common, Coventry, CV7 7EL. Call 01676 530621 or 01676 530297
LABOUR - Michael Cashman, Terry Duffy House, Thomas Street, West Bromwich B70 6NT Call 0121 569 1923
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - Phil Bennion, Haunton Manor Farm, Haunton, Tamworth M79 9HN
UKIP - Mike Natrass, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD Call 0121 333 7737
WE DEMAND A REFERENDUM - Nikki Sinclair, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD Call 0121 359 5933

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