

Coventry

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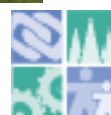
● **Schemes pave way for a better city**

● **It's blossom time for award winning parks**

● **4-page special on Coventry Local Plan**

issue 48 | october | 2014

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



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

A sleeping giant with the potential to make the top 10

Looking ahead to the kind of city we want Coventry to be in ten or 20 years time – and making the right decisions now about that future – is a really big responsibility.

I'm sure everyone would agree that Coventry can be an even better place to live, work and play. I love this city, and I'm so proud of so much of it. But I know Coventry is a sleeping giant. There's huge potential for us to become a top-10 city again, as long as we're prepared to take some big decisions now to ensure Coventry can grow and prosper.

That's why we've produced a four-page special in this issue of *Citivision* which focuses on Coventry's Local Plan – the city's blueprint for the next 20 years. We're very clear about the way ahead if we want to revitalise our city centre, create thousands more jobs for our young people and build homes for those who want to settle here, and the Local Plan explains how we're planning to achieve this.

So let us know what you think about our plans – there'll be plenty of ways for you to have your say about the future of our city over the coming weeks.

*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:

Tel: 024 7683 1081
Fax: 024 7683 1132
e-mail: communications@coventry.gov.uk

Cover story: Coventry Council House looks its finest in the summer sunshine after a major civic centre makeover was completed in August

For a city redevelopment update and more on the Local Plan – See pages 11-15

A personal message from Ken Sloane, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

I'm really pleased to be the new chair of Coventry Partnership. As a partnership of local public, private, community and voluntary sector partners growing the city and tackling poverty, and getting people into jobs is key to our joint efforts.

The partnership includes the University of Warwick, where I am also registrar and chief operating officer, along with the Council,

Coventry University, Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, West Midlands Police and many other local organisations.

It is important to raise incomes and combat financial inclusion and in this issue of *Citivision* we highlight a wide range of work that is putting down the building blocks to improve life for local people – I hope you enjoy reading and witnessing the changes on the ground.



* Ken Sloane is chair of the Coventry Partnership for the coming year.



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A book celebrating the history of Coventry pubs, breweries and beer houses is published on October 18. p15

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Call the *Citivision* 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

Written and produced by the Communications Team, Coventry City Council. Each edition of *Citivision* costs 7p per copy to write,

print and distribute to every home in Coventry. You can also pick up a copy at libraries and council buildings. *Citivision* is produced on paper from sustainable woodland and is chlorine free. The milling process also has Environmental Management Systems in place. Once read, please recycle.

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Home is just a click away

A new trailblazing website has been launched to help homeseekers find their perfect move in Coventry.

The Council has joined forces with seven other local authorities in the West Midlands to develop Localpad – an online database for landlords to advertise properties to potential tenants for free.

The easy to use site, www.westmidlandshomes.org.uk, will allow homeseekers to search

for all types of private rented homes throughout the region in one handy place.

Properties will not all be inspected by Coventry City Council but all properties advertised must have a gas safety certificate (if there is a gas supply) and an Energy Performance Certificate before an advert can be placed.

Landlords can register on the site or contact 024 7683 1919 /

1713 for information and help.

■ The Council's system to allocate social housing in the city, Coventry Homefinder, has been updated. A new policy has been introduced which sets out who can register, how properties are advertised and who is given priority for social housing in the city. For more information and a summary guide to the new policy go to www.coventryhomefinder.com.

Doing more to guard city children

A new team has been assembled to better protect children at risk of abuse in Coventry.

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) brings together 23 experienced staff from social care at the Council, police, health, community safety, education and probation. They will work together in one place so that information about vulnerable children can be shared early by key professionals and effective decisions can be quickly made to safeguard young people.

The MASH will work alongside the Council's social care Referral and Assessment Service (RAS) which is still the 'front door' for reporting safeguarding concerns.

Once an enquiry is made, partners in the MASH will come together and share information they know about the individual and their family to decide if:

- The child or young person has been harmed, or could be harmed in the future.
- The child or young person or parent/carer would benefit from support from other people who help with children and families

The MASH went live on September 15. To find out more, call 024 7683 3060 or e-mail mash@coventry.gov.uk



■ Coventry 4 Good team members prepared for the launch.

Making it easier to help charity

A new approach that will make it easier for businesses and people in Coventry to help local good causes has been launched in the city. The launch of Coventry 4 Good advises people how they can help charities through the giving of time, skills, resources and money. Coventry 4 Good

has been developed as a recognisable brand to promote the work of local voluntary and community groups and to encourage local people and businesses to help them. The city is currently the only 4 Good city in the Midlands. For more details, visit vacoventry.org.uk

FarGo Village a shrine to creativity

A smorgasbord of events at FarGo Village this autumn marked a milestone in the development of the area as a creative quarter within Coventry. The economy of the area is set for a major boost with the addition of a host of creative industries involving music, performance, exhibition space, cafés, design and markets. FarGo aims to bring a piece of the London creative scene to Coventry, and is central to the regeneration of Far Gosford St. For more information, visit www.fargovillage.co.uk



Are you in line for help with those winter fuel bills?

One in four people in Coventry are living in fuel poverty and spending over 25 per cent of their income on their fuel bills.

With the cost of heating homes rising even more than last year, it's more important than ever to make sure homes are keeping you as warm as

possible without heating bills soaring through the roof.

This October, Coventry Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) and partners across the city are running Big Energy Saving Week from October 20.

As part of the week, the Council's fuel poverty team will

also be launching a new thermal map to see how much energy is being lost through city rooftops and advise what money is available to help with insulation.

To find out more, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/heatmap and see if you are eligible for help.



■ Sniffer dog Murphy takes a breather.

Long arm of the paw sniffs out the tobacco bandits

More than £2,000 worth of illegal tobacco has been seized by Coventry Trading Standards with the help of two four-legged friends.

Officers raided four city shops and a vehicle and recovered a haul of illicit products including 375 packets of cigarettes, 80 packs of hand-rolling tobacco, 40 packs of shisha tobacco and seven bottles of vodka. The stash was found with the help of Alfie and Murphy (pictured above), two specialist sniffer dogs provided by Wagtail UK and funded by the Department of Health. They worked with Trading Standards officers from the Council and a police licensing officer. Cllr Phil Townshend, the Council's Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities, said: "With a little help from our four-legged friends, Alfie and Murphy, our officers and police have been able to remove potentially deadly counterfeit tobacco and alcohol from the streets of Coventry."

The goods seized had a total street value of £2,033.50.

Schools bucking the trend

Coventry schools have bucked national exam trends in A-Levels and GCSEs. Sixth form students achieved the best pass rate since records began in A Level, AS Level and in vocational qualifications – with more than 98 per cent achieving an overall pass, exceeding the national average for the second consecutive year. Schools also celebrated bucking a national trend with a rise in the number of students achieving the highest grades in English GCSEs. The number of students achieving A*-C in English jumped by 6.8 per cent. There was a slight dip in results for mathematics.

Top marks as school welcomes pupils and staff

A new £3.9m building has opened its doors to more than 400 Coventry pupils as part of a major national school building programme. St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, in Knoll Drive, has become only the second in the country to open as part of the Education Funding Agency's Priority School Building Programme. The first was Whitmore Park Primary, Coventry, which opened in April. The two-storey building boasts bigger classrooms, wider corridors, a new



library and reception area and a state-of-the-art kitchen. Councillor David Kershaw, Cabinet Member for Education, said: "Securing the funding and managing this project to completion in 12 months demonstrates our determination and commitment to delivering excellent facilities to our children."

Most of the school had been operating from temporary accommodation since May 2009 after its old 1950s building was demolished for safety reasons. It is part of a programme which will see a total of £27.5m spent on new school buildings and facilities in Coventry over the next two years.

Life in the fast lane!

A Coventry company is celebrating being the first business to claim a grant to connect to superfast broadband, thanks to the Super Connected Coventry project...

The Builders Merchants Federation (BMF), based on Coventry Business Park, employs 11 people and the whole team will now enjoy high-speed connectivity. BMF moved to Coventry in 2013 from their previous head office in London, and improving their internet connection is the latest step in their development.

Managing director John Newcomb said: "Our members are right across the country, so the move from London to Coventry was an important step to offer better service to our members. We now offer a meeting hub for members here in the Midlands, but of course more and more of our services and operations now need to be online. Being a part of a Super Connected Coventry is a vital part of our IT strategy."

Super Connected Coventry is a Connection Voucher Scheme that provides financial support towards the cost of high-speed connectivity solutions. It's open to small or medium-sized enterprises and



Leading the way are (from left) Ben King (chief executive, WarwickNet), Peter Hindle (chairman, Builders Merchants Federation), Cllr Kevin Maton and John Newcomb (managing director, Builders Merchants Federation).

'The project is helping to bring superfast and ultrafast broadband to businesses across the city...'

voluntary organisations with slow or incompatible broadband service in Coventry.

Councillor Kevin Maton, Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment, said: "The Super Connected Coventry project is helping to bring superfast and ultrafast broadband to businesses across the city. It's critical that businesses and organisations in Coventry can access and use the latest superfast and ultrafast broadband connectivity. I'm delighted

that the BMF is the first to sign up. I am sure they will be the first of many."

Coventry-based WarwickNet is providing BMF's connection. Chief executive Ben King said: "We are really pleased to connect the first customer for the project."

The scheme is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and is part of the national Super Connected Cities scheme. For more information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/broadband

College's care for struggling youngsters earns top award

Hereward College has been awarded the prestigious **Buttle UK Quality Mark** in recognition of its commitment to young people in and leaving care.

Buttle UK, the largest grant-giving organisation in the country directly supporting children and families living in poverty, awards the **Quality**

Mark to colleges and universities which commit to support a young person who has been in care, to access further and higher education.

To receive its **Quality Mark**, Hereward College had to demonstrate that it has a **robust strategy in place to ensure that students from a care background can access a**

package of support – financial, pastoral and educational.

Susan Mueller, Buttle UK Quality Mark manager, said: "Hereward College has amply displayed its dedication and initiative to helping young people leaving care to receive an education."

To find out more, visit www.buttleuk.org

Playtime in the street

Harewood Road, Whoberley, was closed to traffic for two hours of fun one day in August as children and adults enjoyed Coventry's first Play Streets event. Badminton, bike riding and skipping were among the games on offer, all designed to get people fit and build community spirit.

Organiser Siobhan said: "We may not live on a main road but it's still dangerous. When I saw the play streets initiative I had to take part, I wanted to give my girls the chance to play safely and meet new friends on our doorstep." You can apply to set up a Play Streets event on your street by visiting www.coventry.gov.uk/playstreets.

A riveting read

Coventry Libraries and Information Service is hoping to get as many people as possible to read Rachel Joyce's *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* as part of Coventry's Big City Read campaign which runs until June 2015. The idea is to get readers to share their views on the novel, and on reading in general, and perhaps to put their thoughts to the author when she visits the city's Central Library on October 15 (7pm). Joyce's book comes highly recommended by readers as being inspiring and a good boost for everyone. Councillor David Kershaw, cabinet member for education said: "This campaign is aimed at adult readers in the city. We are going to do whatever we can to encourage people to read."

The right note

Armonico Consort's AC Academy is one of the UK's biggest providers of music and arts education – and now the group is tuning up Coventry. AC Academy Coventry East runs on each Wednesday at St Mary and St Benedict Primary School, Leigh Street, from 4.15pm to 5.30pm. AC Academy Coventry West runs on Monday afternoons from 5-6.15pm in the school hall at St John's Primary School. For more details, visit www.armonico.org.uk/ac-academy, or contact Laura Bree on 07587 700740 or at edadmin@armonico.org.uk

Free education

The University of Warwick's Centre for Lifelong Learning is offering two free courses, providing an opportunity for people to gain experience of higher education. The courses enable students of all ages to progress on to either a part-time degree or a further education teaching qualification. To find out more, call 024 7615 1155.

Coventry's bumper summer of activities included the Coventry Godiva Festival, a family fun day, Giant Games, the Coventry

Beach, Get Active Week and Sports Week. The line-up was put together by the Council and Coventry BID. Councillor Faye

Abbott, Cabinet Member for Community Development, Co-operative and Social Enterprise, said: "It has been a fantastic

What a fabulous



Families revel in the atmosphere at this year's Coventry Godiva Festival, which featured Coventry band The Selector. Elsewhere there was hoo-la-hoop fun (below right) and an indoor cycle challenge.

This summer's Coventry Godiva Festival once again broke crowd records with over 125,000 visits over the July weekend.

But the great news doesn't stop there, with an estimated £7.8million worth of economic activity generated by visitors, suppliers and event organisers involved in the annual event, up from £4.5m in 2013.

The success of the event has also been emphasised, with figures showing over 24,000 attendees were from outside the city, injecting additional money to the local economy. The estimated direct economic impact of the event was £1,810,889, almost double that of 2013 (£973,474).

This year's line-up featured Happy Mondays, Buzzcocks and Lightning Seeds and a range of other attractions including comedy, street theatre and performances, with the largest ever attendance of 20,500 recorded on the Saturday night.

The family field enjoyed huge visitor numbers with some great added attractions including the

'The fact the festival had a direct economic impact of £1.8m in the city can only be great news for the wider economy. The event was a fantastic showcase for the city...'

Change 4 Life Disney roadshow, the extended Petting Farm and a range of interactive healthy life events.

Councillor Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Sports, Parks and Events said: "We wanted to encourage people to come to Coventry not only to sample the biggest free family festival in the country but also to explore what else the city can offer, so it's doubly pleasing to see that the numbers of people attending from outside the city has increased again this year.

"The fact the festival had a direct economic impact of £1.8m in the city can only be great news for the wider economy. This year's event was a fantastic showcase for the city and I would like to thank our sponsors, traders, volunteers, police and the St John Ambulance for continuing to support the festival."



Parks and civic areas blossom

The War Memorial Park, Allesley Park, Longford Park, Caludon Castle Park and Coombe Country Park have all secured green flag awards, compliments of environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

The award recognises and rewards the best parks and green spaces across the country. A Green Flag flying overhead is a sign to the public

that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities. Since the city has been applying for the national award, Coventry can now claim to have received an amazing 26 Green Flags in the past nine years.

Cllr Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Culture, Leisure, Sports, Parks

summer in Coventry. We have worked with Coventry BID and businesses to programme a variety of events to give

parents free fun activities to bring their children along to." Andy Talbot, chairman of Coventry BID, added: "It has been great to

see the event spaces animated over the summer holidays, in particular Broadgate which is such a fantastic space to utilise."

summer of fun!

■ It's buckets and spades at the ready for these youngsters spending a day at the Coventry Beach (below), while another youngster got into the party mood at the Coventry Godiva Festival by donning this multi-coloured wig (bottom).



The festival is always a massive team effort and many different sections from across the Council combine to play their part in a successful event. Waste Services and Street Pride teams, for example, worked hard to keep the event clean for all festival-goers, with over

33 tonnes of waste collected from the site during the weekend.

You can relive many of the great memories and sights from this year's event at coventrygodivafestival.com which hosts hundreds of images on its flickr pages.

with profusion of Green Flag awards

and Events, said: "We are delighted to receive these awards. They highlight how people in Coventry are benefitting from a green space of the very highest quality."

The management of the city's parks is overseen by the parks team, a part of the Council's Streetscene and Greenspace service. The

award is also in recognition of the excellent partnerships that exist between the Council and the various friends of parks groups and local ward councillors (pictured far left).

■ Coventry struck gold in the Heart of England in Bloom competition and triumphed again in the city centre category. The city

also received a Discretionary Landscape Award for the improvements at Council House Square (see front cover). A combined effort from all involved made the city's parks, greens, floral displays and landscaped public areas a colourful and welcoming sight for residents and visitors.



Turning up the heat by degrees

Satisfied students have given Coventry University a further boost by voting it among the UK's top 10.

The independent National Student Survey 2014 gives final year students across the country the opportunity to rate how satisfied they are with their university experience, including the quality of teaching and how well they've been supported throughout their studies.

Coventry University ranks seventh overall among non-specialist institutions – with 91 per cent of students satisfied with their course, up from 90 per cent in 2013. And once again, Coventry is the highest-placed modern university in the country.

The university was voted joint top-spot in the UK for teaching – alongside Oxford and Cambridge – and came first for academic support, with 89 per cent of students saying they're happy with the

advice, support and availability of tutors. Coventry has also been voted top in the UK for personal development, which measures how students feel their skills and confidence have improved while studying. Ninety-two per cent agreed that their communication skills had improved throughout their course. Vice-chancellor John Latham said: "There is no better testament than that of our students, so it's particularly pleasing to see aspects of our courses such as teaching quality and tutors' support and advice receiving such a ringing endorsement."

In June, Coventry rose six places to 27th in the *Guardian* University Guide 2015 – its highest ever position – and it won the Modern University of the Year award in the 2014 *Times* and *Sunday Times* Good University Guide.



Councillors meet Job Shop staff to discuss business and economic growth.

Members' focus on role of the job shop team

Councillors are keen to help boost the way the local authority works with other agencies to help create new jobs in the city and promote economic growth. Members of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board met in the city centre Job Shop in the Bull Yard where they spent time with staff and took a close-up look at the

way the shop operates. The employment team have met with nearly 7,000 accessing employment support in 2013/14. An event recently held at the job shop saw more than 700 young people find out about a range of apprenticeships. The Council provides significant funds towards the work of the job shop.

...and carers look to Coventry for uni courses

A £33-million initiative run by Coventry University and Coventry Carers' Centre Young Carers and supported by some of the region's leading charities is aiming to boost young people's interest in the care profession. Health and social care taster days have been taking place at the university over the past year and are open to young carers between the ages of eight and 18 years. Backed by 20 charities, the initiative lays on a day of

activities at Coventry University for young people to experience careers in health and care. As part of the interactive taster days, staff in Coventry University's Faculty of Health and Life Sciences give an insight into professions such as nursing, paramedic science and occupational therapy. The initiative has attracted an impressive £32,930 in donations, and is set to run further taster days on October 28-29.

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**ADOPT AND
FOSTER FOR
COVENTRY**

Tollbar road works herald island paradise

Coventry City Council has been carrying out millions of pounds worth of improvement works to roads and public areas across the city.

So far, in excess of £40million of external funding has been granted to the council for upgrading some of the busiest road junctions and on making public spaces more vibrant, welcoming and attractive. Cllr Rachel Lancaster, Cabinet member for Public Services said: "To date we've won over £43million to spend on road improvements. This is European and Government money – all of which needs spending by 2015 – which explains why we have so much going on at the same time, as it's very much a case of 'use it or lose it', which we were not prepared to do. This is alongside the £106million Highways Agency project taking place at Tollbar.

"We've also been hugely successful in securing almost £19million in ERDF funding for public realm work on areas such as High Street, Trinity Street and the award winning work on Council House Square. Thanks to this external funding, we now have even more improvement work planned on public spaces including Broadgate/Hertford Street, Gosford Street, Belgrade Plaza, Junction One and Lidice Place over the next 12 months, all of which will tie in with the high quality improvements that have already been put in place. Unfortunately, roadworks inevitably mean delays, but at the end of all it all, the improvements on our roads will ease congestion and improve safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, while public realm improvements will enhance the attractiveness of Coventry as a place to live, work, invest in and visit.

"Whilst I know these roadworks have had an impact on everyone, we'd like to thank you for your continued patience and ask you all to please bear with us while we carry out these much needed improvements across the city"

The Highways Agency project at Tollbar island switches to its next phase between now and December, where upcoming changes to the road layout will have the most significant impact on traffic until the scheme is completed in 2016.

Drivers travelling in both directions on the A45 approach to the island will eventually see a reduction in the number of lanes from five to TWO, which will impact significantly on the capacity of traffic through the area.

Traffic will switch from the A45 westbound and A46 southbound carriageway on to new slip roads, while eastbound traffic on A45 Stonebridge Highway and northbound traffic on A46 will be switched on to the old westbound carriageway.

Updates on planned roadworks at Tollbar can be found on the Highways Agency website www.highways.gov.uk

Ann takes controls for Friargate demolition

RIGHT: Site preparations for the Friargate project have taken a giant step forward with the first phase of demolition of the buildings on the site, starting with the multi-storey car park in Eaton Road. Council Leader Ann Lucas (pictured right) even took to the controls of one of the demolition machines herself to mark the occasion. Cllr Lucas said: "We have been talking about Friargate for a long time, now it's time for action."



Bridging the gap

MAIN PICTURE: One of the first support beams for the bridge deck at Junction 6 is lowered into place. The 35m-long structures were installed on September 8. The beams will provide the support structure for the new pedestrian boulevard linking the railway station to the city centre and the realigned Warwick Road. Construction is on schedule and due for completion in spring 2015. Details on all of the projects in the city can be found at Coventry.gov.uk/yourcity

'At the end of all of the work, the improvements on our roads will ease congestion and improve safety for drivers...'



Full details of the work taking place at the Tollbar Island junction and other projects across the city can be found at www.coventry.gov.uk/yourcity

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+Coventry's Local Plan++Coventry's Local Plan++Coventry's Local Plan+

Making our city great once again

This month Coventry councillors approved plans which set out how Coventry needs to grow over the next couple of decades in order to become a top 10 city again.

All councils have to prepare a local plan which sets out policies for planning and development in the future. The plan identifies places where new homes and facilities (like schools, parks, roads and employment land) can be built.

If the Council didn't have a local plan developers could apply to build on land anywhere in and around the city, including sites that need protecting. It would be difficult to prevent these applications being approved and the Council would have no control over where developments would take place in the future.

The Council has developed this Local Plan after years of research, consultation and work to understand how Coventry needs to grow in order to create more jobs, better homes for people and deliver more prosperity to the city.

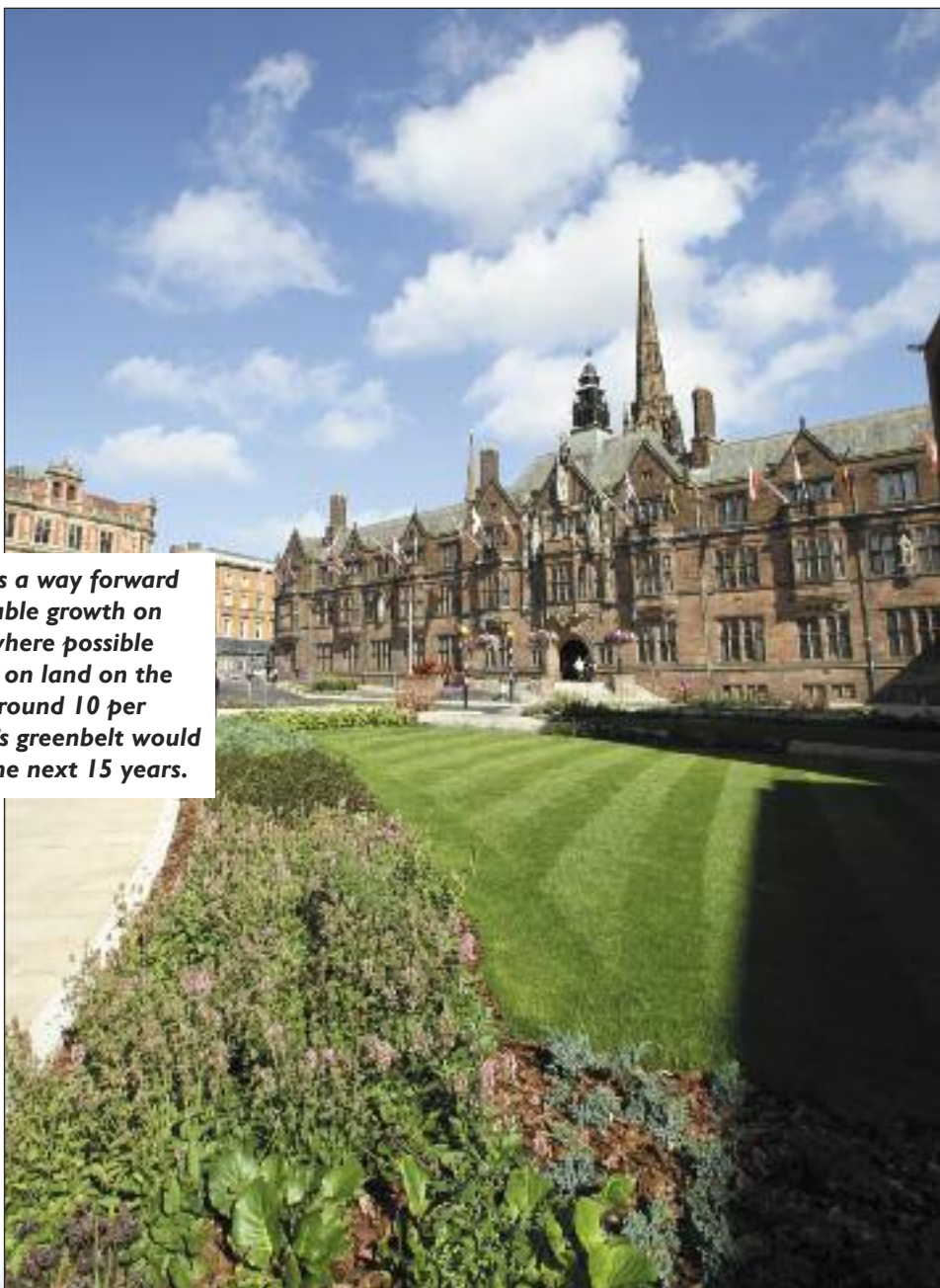
It's been produced after government planning inspectors said the Council's last

plan – which aimed to keep all developments on brownfield sites – was not a workable or practical way forward for the city and its surrounding areas. Since then new predictions about population growth in the region and economic growth in the city means the Council needs to plan for more homes in and around Coventry.

The new plan outlines a way forward for the city based on sustainable growth on brownfield sites where possible and some growth on land on the greenbelt. Only around 10 per cent of Coventry's greenbelt would be needed over the next 20 years.

Coventry people have until the end of October to tell the Council their views about this approach. This *Citivism* special supplement outlines the background to the Local Plan and explains how people can have their say.

'The plan outlines a way forward based on sustainable growth on brownfield sites where possible and some growth on land on the greenbelt. Only around 10 per cent of Coventry's greenbelt would be needed over the next 15 years.'



A *Citivism* pullout special supplement

LOCAL PLAN: The key facts...

The new Local Plan has been drawn up after government planning inspectors told the Council to withdraw a previous version, the Core Strategy, which predicted a growth in new

homes of just 11,000 within the city's boundaries. The new plan could see up to 36,220 new homes built in and around the city over the next two decades on brownfield sites, the least

sensitive green belt sites in the city and other sites over the city's boundaries in Warwickshire. Around 16,000 new homes will be built on brownfield sites or areas already earmarked for

'A growing, prosperous city means more jobs. It means a more vibrant city centre. It brings income into the Council to protect frontline services...'

Cllr Kevin Maton is Coventry's Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment. It's his responsibility to make sure the Council delivers a robust Local Plan that identifies the right places in the city for new homes, new industry, schools, parks and open spaces. In this Citivision special feature he talks about the challenges ahead for Coventry as it aims to become a top 10 city again.

Coventry wants to become a top 10 city again. Jobs and economic success are returning here, and in order to ensure this is sustainable we need to build more homes.

I think everyone in Coventry would agree with our aspiration to be a top 10 city again; we all should be in support of growth that brings more jobs and prosperity to Coventry and gives our young people a much brighter future.

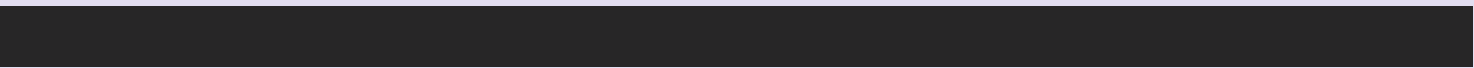
But if we're serious about economic prosperity returning to Coventry we need

If we're serious about economic prosperity returning to Coventry, we need more homes across the city, particularly bigger, family homes...'

■ MAIN PICTURE: Cllr Kevin Maton is keen to make Coventry a more prosperous city once more, giving local youngsters a brighter future.

■ INSET: A robust Local Plan also means the city has the right infrastructure to provide the most benefit to Coventry people.





housing. Around 10 per cent of greenbelt land is likely to be needed for the remaining new homes, and environmental studies will be carried out to identify the least sensitive

greenbelt land around the city that could be used. The proposals mean up to 1,811 new homes a year will need to be built up to 2031, fewer than the 2,150 homes a year built in Coventry in

the 1950s during a period of economic growth and prosperity for the city. A seven week period of public engagement on the Local Plan ends on October 31.



'This plan allows us to control where development happens, making sure it's in the places that are right for the city. If we don't have a robust Local Plan, developers can simply build wherever they like, and everyone loses...'

more homes across the city, particularly bigger family homes.

Our population is growing again. That's good news after decades of decline, but it means we must build homes for families who want to move here to live and work and for our young people who want to stay here.

A growing, prosperous city means more jobs. It means a better, more vibrant city centre. It brings income into the Council to help it protect vital frontline services.

We absolutely understand the concerns of residents who are worried about the loss of greenbelt land. But this plan allows us to control where development happens, making sure it's in the places that are right for the city. If we don't have a robust Local Plan, developers can simply build wherever they like, and everyone loses.

A robust Local Plan also means we can make sure we have the right infrastructure, schools, parks, roads and community facilities, in place to provide the most benefit to Coventry people. We can – and will – also insist on the highest quality design for new homes

Unless we choose to use a small proportion – around 10 per cent – of our least valuable greenbelt sites for growth we'll be faced with building skyscraper tower blocks across the city or cramming

too many houses on existing brownfield sites, and that would adversely affect far more Coventry residents.

While we're very clear that the option of building homes in and around the city on brownfield sites, some

greenbelt land and over the boundaries is the right one for our city and the future, we are very interested in hearing peoples' views on the Local Plan and its impact on the future of Coventry.

We'll be making it as easy as possible for people to do this face to face, in writing and through digital and social media, and I'm looking forward to talking to as many people as possible over the coming weeks as we share our views on the Local Plan.

'Unless we choose to use a small proportion of our least valuable greenbelt sites for growth we'll be faced with building skyscraper tower blocks across the city...'



+Coventry's Local Plan++Coventry's Local Plan++Coventry's Local Plan+

Joint working is the way to move forward

The Council first started work on a Core Strategy in 2004, with the first consultation taking place in 2006. The Council has had to review its plan preparations at a number of stages since then following significant changes in the planning process. But looking at land within the greenbelt for homes is not a new issue for the Council. In 2010 a government appointed inspector recommended that a selection of sites within the greenbelt be allocated for housing development. This included land in Keresley. It is now clear the Council needs to work jointly with neighbouring councils to meet the development needs of Coventry and Warwickshire. This version of the Local Plan is founded on a strong sense of co-operation and joint working for sustainable growth for Coventry.



Timeline: How the Coventry and Warwickshire strategy took shape...

- **2006-2009:** Four stages of consultation on draft Core Strategy – included proposals for Greenbelt development. Final version of the plan included a housing number of 33,500 homes (2006-2026). Plan was based on the Regional Spatial Strategy.
- **2010:** Core Strategy withdrawn following government changes to planning rules and policies proposals.
- **2011-2012:** Three stages of consultation on housing numbers and updated Core Strategy.

- Council proposes 11,500 new homes (2011-2028) with no development within the greenbelt.
- **2012-2013:** Government inspector recommends the updated Core Strategy is withdrawn as it is inconsistent with the approach being taken by neighbouring authorities and does not meet the legal requirements of the Duty to Co-operate. Inspector recommends joint and consistent working across Coventry and Warwickshire.

- **2013:** Joint evidence base developed across Coventry and Warwickshire, including a new independent study of housing need. Identifies a housing figure for Coventry of 23,600 (2011-2031).
- **2014:** New government population data suggests Coventry's housing need increased to 36,220 homes (2011-2031), while Warwickshire's has declined. Total need for Coventry and Warwickshire stays broadly the same though.

What happens next?

This period of public engagement will end on October 31. Council officers will then consider the responses received and report back to Council in the New Year. The Council will also be developing new and updated evidence to support the local plan and site allocations. This will include independent research on the greenbelt, which should be completed in February 2015. This research will identify the most sensitive areas of greenbelt and the areas in most need of protecting. The Council will then engage with local residents and stakeholders again in early summer before submitting the plan to the government for public examination. Once the plan is with the Government, the timetable is no longer controlled by the Council and it's unlikely that we will get a decision on the plan until spring 2016.

How to have YOUR say...

Research, previous consultation and work to understand how Coventry needs to grow to create more jobs, better homes and more prosperity has led us to develop the Local Plan. It's clear that this is the best option for the city, but government planning inspectors will want to understand how our proposals have been shared with local people, and what local people think about the Local Plan. To make it easy for you to find out more and have your say, you can:

- **VISIT** www.coventry.gov.uk/localplan. The Local Plan webpages include all the background documents, frequently-asked questions, interactive maps and an

online form for your feedback.

- **ATTEND** one of the drop-in sessions being held across the city. There you'll have the chance to talk to a planning officer about the plans. Look out for a session near you – details will be published over the coming weeks.
- **TAKE PART** in one of the twitter sessions Cllr Maton will be holding on this issue.
- **EMAIL** the Council's planning team on localplan@coventry.gov.uk
- **PHONE** a member of the planning team on 024 7683 4295.
- **SEND** your response to Coventry City Council, Room 27, FREEPOST NAT 21300, Coventry CV1 2BR.





Lord Mayor leads WWI remembrance

A number of events took place in Coventry to commemorate 100 years since the start of the First World War. Coventry Commemorates was held over two venues and featured specially-created artistic pieces, history talks and commemoration services. In the Cathedral ruins, three performances of *1000 Wishes* by Imagineer Productions were shown, featuring the giant Godiva mechanical puppet. The performance culminated in the powerful image of 1000 origami cranes created by the many communities in Coventry that carried messages of peace. Lord Mayor Hazel Noonan said: "The First World War commemoration has given people of all faiths, communities and families time to reflect on what happened in the past and the loved ones lost."

■ Lord Mayor Hazel Noonan leads guests into the Cathedral for the WWI commemorative event.

Brighter homes give dementia patients a boost

An innovative project which used simple makeovers to make Coventry care homes more dementia-friendly has produced staggering results.

Nearly 100 residents at five care facilities suffered fewer falls, were able to live more independently, needed fewer prescription drugs and were less aggressive following the Council's Dementia Friendly Environments Project.

The facilities underwent low cost revamps which included memory boxes outside bedrooms, themed areas such as cafes and a cinema, a variety of colours, different themed lounges, dementia-friendly signage and use of nostalgic artwork.

Across the facilities, there was an overall 30 per cent reduction in falls, a 10 per cent reduction in instances of violence and aggression, and a 40 per cent reduction in staff sickness between March and July this year.

Ken Howard lives with dementia in Coventry. He said: "Design is really important for people living with dementia, like myself. I can find my way independently if places are well signposted and spaces are easy to understand. This project has

Are you a carer?

Do you look after an adult who is ill, disabled or frail? Are you happy with the support you get? Are you concerned about the services on offer? Then here's your chance to have your say, courtesy of the 2014/15 Carers' Survey. The Council's adult social care division will send out anonymous postal surveys to carers identified through a random sampling process between the months of October and November 2014. All answers will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not affect help or services received, both now or in the future. The results will be sent to the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) for national analysis in 2015. To find out more, call 024 7983 1248 or email ross.hughes@coventry.gov.uk

been a great success."

The findings will now be reported back to the Department of Health, which funded the £370,000 scheme, and form the basis of new guidance for all dementia care homes in the city.

Let's raise a glass to 1,000 years of Coventry pub life

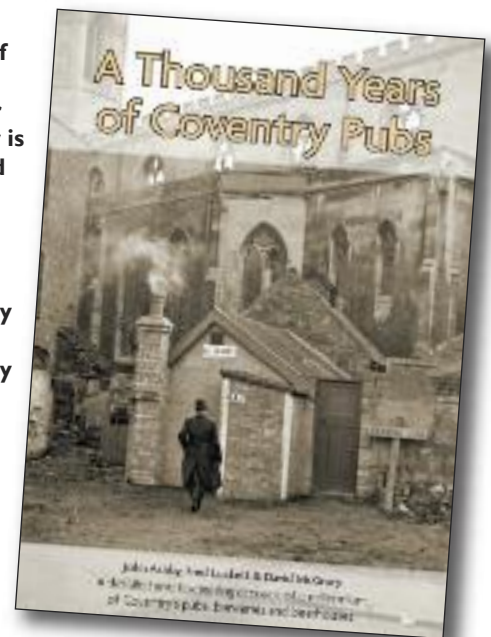
A book that looks back at hundreds of years of pubs, breweries and beer houses in Coventry is due to be published on October 18.

The launch is being marked the same day by an event at the History Centre in the city's Herbert Art Gallery and Museum from 11am to 1pm.

A Thousand Years of Coventry Pubs, which includes hundreds of photos, will be available from the History Centre.

Or the publication can be ordered via e-mail at john1937@ntlworld.com and gfluckett@o2.co.uk

A Thousand Years of Coventry Pubs has been compiled by John Ashby along with Fred Luckett and David McGrory.



Cash points the way to Age Friendly target

Funding has been approved by the Council to help create a dedicated older people's champion to spearhead Coventry's bid to become an Age Friendly City.

The Council's Cabinet approved £25,000 to help fund the role as part of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Age Friendly City programme which aims to improve

quality of life for older people.

The post is jointly funded with Coventry University and Age UK Coventry and will be tasked with:

- Establishing stronger older people involvement in decisions.
- Produce a three-year action plan to improve quality of life for older people.
- Making sure the plan is working.

Your two-page guide to healthcare around Coventry

Health checks are just the tonic for citizens

The number of people who received a health check in Coventry this year has increased by more than 100 per cent compared to 2012/13.

NHS Health Checks is a public health programme in England for people aged 40-74, which aims to prevent or delay the onset of diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease and strokes, and to keep people healthy for longer.

Cllr Alison Gingell, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services, said that the expansion of health checks was a great example of effective partnership working, which had important benefits for the people of Coventry.

"The increase in the numbers of people in Coventry receiving health checks is a real achievement that will make Coventry a healthier and happier city to live in," she said.

In 2013/14, 15,271 people were invited to attend a health check, with 9,374 taking advantage of the scheme. As a consequence, 281 of those who completed health checks were identified as having a long-term illness and were subsequently put on to a disease risk register with their GP.

GPs have significantly increased the number of health checks by adopting a more flexible approach to appointment times and setting up extra clinics at the weekend.

Community outreach health specialists from Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust have also been successful in completing the checks in neighbourhoods across Coventry.

Dr Herjeven Dosanjh, the GP champion for NHS checks in



■ Dr Herjeven Dosanjh and Councillor Alison Gingell with the NHS Health Checks team, which is proving a real tonic for local people.

Coventry, is based at Jubilee Health Practice, which serves both Radford and Foleshill. He said: "Prevention is obviously a big priority and my GP colleagues are working hard to expand the programme. Working together with the Council's public health team is proving really effective and I hope that we can continue to expand the programme."

Any readers aged between 40-74 who would like a health check should contact their GP in the first instance. Alternatively, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust's Healthy Lifestyles Team offers free NHS self-referral services to people who live, or are registered with a GP in Coventry. To book an appointment with the team, call them on 024 7696 1590 or email healthy.lifestyles@covwarkpt.nhs.uk and provide your name and telephone number.

Have your say and make a difference on health issues

Residents are being invited to have their say on health and wellbeing services across the city by contributing to the 'Knowledge Hub'. The hub is an important part of the work of Coventry's Health and Wellbeing Board. The board meets once every two months to oversee the work of partner organisations in improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities in Coventry. The board is made up of local councillors, patient representatives, voluntary groups, local universities and senior professionals from across the NHS and social care. Anyone is welcome to attend the board meetings. For more information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/healthandwellbeingboard

Screening targets ethnic women

Women aged between 25 and 64 years are being encouraged to have their cervical screening test and reminded how the simple examination could save their life.

The initiative is focused on ethnic women, as uptake of cervical screening is particularly poor in the area. As part of the initiative, the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in Coventry and Rugby is funding Foleshill Women's Training (FWT) to start a community project to encourage women from ethnic communities to attend

Women in Coventry are less likely to have a cervical screening test compared to other areas in the country.

Women between 24 and 64 get a letter inviting them to contact their GP for a test every three or five years, depending on their age. If you have missed a test or have recently had a letter, you can book an appointment with your own GP or practice nurse.

Shed-load of tips

Spon End's Rose Community Centre has been a hive of activity thanks to a new scheme based on a Men's Shed.

The Men's Shed is a project which was set up with support from a small grant from the Council and Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group. The scheme is led by and for local men who want to do more to improve health and wellbeing locally.

The sessions have so far included a cooking workshop and health talks.

Mark Gibbons, who runs the Shed, said: "The health talks have really benefited the guys, some of whom have gone on to give up smoking or have been encouraged to visit their GP."

Councillor Alison Gingell, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services, said "The Men's Shed is a great way to improve the health of men in Coventry."

The group meets at 6pm on Monday. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/RoseCommunityCentre or contact 074 0195 5367.

We're here when you need us to help with issues of anxiety and depression

Specialist treatment for those with depression or anxiety is freely available in Coventry, courtesy of the city's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service.

Run jointly by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust

and Coventry and Warwickshire Mind, the service provides straightforward, free and accessible NHS treatment for thousands of people in the city each year.

You can access the service if you are over the age of 16 and are living, or are registered with a GP, in

Coventry, Warwickshire or Solihull. Your GP can refer you, or you can call the IAPT self-referral centre on 024 7667 1090 between 9am-4.30pm, Monday to Friday. If you need more urgent support outside of these hours, call the Mental Health Matters helpline. The Mental Health

Matters helpline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 0800 616171 (landline), 0300 330 5487 from a mobile phone, or by text on 07786 202242. Or visit www.mentalhealthmatters.com

For information on IAPT services, go to www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/iapt

Comic Paddy and friends help see the funny side of Stoptober challenge

The national **Stoptober** campaign is underway in Coventry, encouraging people to sign up to a 28-day stop-smoking challenge in October.

The Council's public health services and health agencies across the city are coming together to promote the campaign locally.

Nationally, Stoptober 2014 has been enrolling the country's top comedians to help Coventry smokers swap their 'fags for gags' and get through the challenge.

Paddy McGuinness, Al Murray, Simon Brodwin (aka Lee Nelson,



Jason Bent and Dr Bob) and Andi Osho will this year bring a touch of humour to help potential quitters.

Cllr Alison Gingell, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services, said: "Smoking in Coventry is falling at a faster rate than in the

rest of the country. We all know that it can be hard to quit smoking but you're more likely to give up for good if you get help from one of our local stop-smoking services."

The 28-day challenge starts on Tuesday, October 1.

For more information, search 'Stoptober' online and sign up.

Urgent plea for volunteer NHS drivers

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHSTrust urgently needs drivers for its volunteer driver scheme, which helps less mobile patients reach their hospital appointments.

Travel is something that most of us take for granted. We can hop in a car, catch the bus or jump on a train, but for some people simply stepping out of the front door requires a huge effort.

Philip Hayward has been volunteering for six years and says: "People are happy to see you and greet you with a smile. Sometimes a conversation with a friendly driver is the highlight of their week. If you enjoy contact with people who need help and have a few spare hours a week, this is the job for you."

Some of the people Philip helps by volunteering have little

or no other contact with anyone else during the week, so he is as much a friend as a driver. A patient may find the prospect of a hospital visit daunting and having a friendly face for reassurance and to help them to find where they need to go can make all the difference.

If you think you can help, all you need is to be over 18 years old, have a vehicle and a full clean UK driving licence, insurance cover and MOT. As a volunteer you can choose your level of volunteering time each week. Your petrol costs will be reimbursed.

If you are interested in volunteering as a driver for the Trust, please contact the Logistics team on 024 7696 8165 or email logistics@covwarkpt.nhs.uk for further information.



Volunteer driver Philip Hayward (far right) with other members of the transport team.



Pictured (from left, top to bottom) are skipper and organisers Alina, Suzi, Tom, Naomi, Phil, Linda, Cllr Caan, Marc Dwyer, Luke Hillson, Pauline Zhang, Shea Donnelly, Lennon Pollock and Jenny.

Skipping challenge catches city centre shoppers on the hop

Dozens of people have been skipping in Coventry City Centre as part of a get active campaign.

Competitors of all ages took part in a challenge to find the person who could do the most skips in two minutes. Get Active Week was held in Broadgate and as part of a range of 10-minute sessions, shoppers and city centre visitors tested out their skipping skills to find out how easy it is for people to do a little more exercise.

Everyone that took part in the challenge was able to take away their own 'counting' skipping rope.

Awards were also presented to participants in a range of categories who managed the highest scores.

Shea scored the highest overall in the boys' category with 363 skips in two minutes.

Best girl was Pauline with 193, while best adult was Marc Dwyer scoring 320.

The best over-60 was Linda with 138. The biggest team taking part was IDP architects, who brought 12 competitors for the skipathon.

Get Active Week was co-ordinated by the Council and sponsored by Coventry on the Move, the BID and PureGym. During the week, there were 10 minute sessions of fun activities.

Cllr Kamran Caan, the Deputy Cabinet Member responsible for Health and Adult Services, said: "We have had a fantastic turn out and I've been impressed by the numbers of people taking part. Getting active doesn't have to be too time consuming and the two minute skipping challenge was a great example of this."

Healthwatch: It's your voice on health and social care services

Healthwatch Coventry is the independent champion for health and social care in Coventry.

The group listens to your views about NHS services, ensures those views are heard, provides

information to help people find their way around the NHS and social care, and supports those making a complaint.

The Healthwatch Information Line can be contacted on 024 7625

2011 or by email at info@healthwatchcoventry.co.uk. Healthwatch has a membership of local people, so why not join the group to make local voices stronger? The

service is also recruiting to volunteering roles.

To find out more, visit: www.healthwatchcoventry.co.uk, email yoursay@healthwatchcoventry.co.uk or phone 024 7622 0381 (option 5).

warwick
arts centre

YOUR BIG NIGHT OUT

GRAMMY® AWARD-WINNING SOUTH AFRICAN
LEGENDS LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO IN

Inala

Tue 30 Sep 8pm



Alan Davies

Fri 3 Oct 8pm



Christmas with Russell Watson

and Warwickshire Boys Choir

Sat 29 Nov 7.30pm



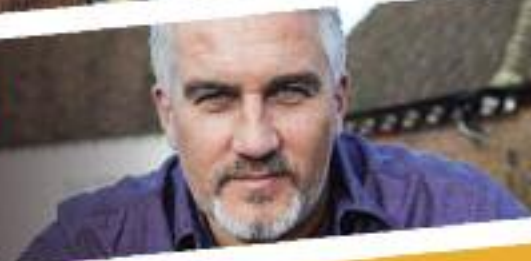
The Gruffalo

Sat 29 Nov - Sun 4 Jan




Paul Hollywood

Sat 6 Dec 2.30pm & 8pm



Warwick Arts Centre - the region's biggest arts and entertainment venue with restaurant, bars, café, gallery and FREE parking after 6pm.

 Warwick Arts Centre

 @warwickarts

Box Office 024 7652 4524
warwickartscentre.co.uk

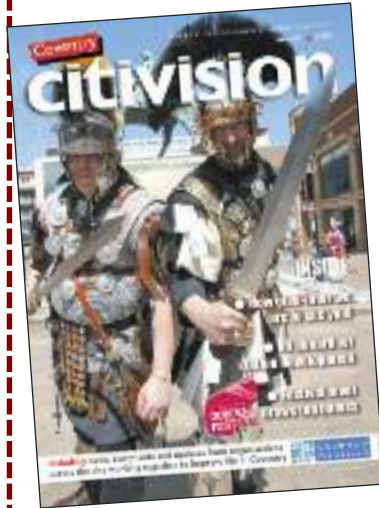
Warwick Arts Centre
The University of Warwick
Coventry, CV4 7AL

Tell us what you think

Coventry *Citivism* is published four times a year and aims to provide information about services, events and developments across the city. Where possible, it includes web links and contact numbers so that readers can reply on any of the topics featured. As a Coventry

Citivism reader, we value your feedback and we would appreciate it if you could spend a few minutes providing a response to the questions below. One lucky winner picked from the replies will receive a family ticket to the Belgrade Theatre for the 2014 pantomime

Aladdin on Thursday, December 4 at 6.30pm (Please provide your contact name and details – see bottom of page). Send the completed questionnaire to *Citivism* Survey, Coventry City Council, Room 27, The Council House, FREEPOST NAT 21300, Coventry CV1 2BR.



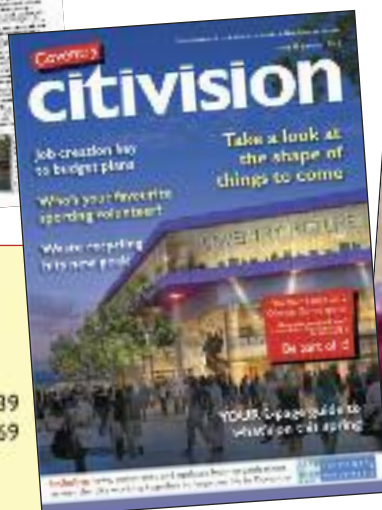
ABOUT YOU...

Postcode: _____ Gender: Male/Female

Age Range (please circle):

18 or under	19 – 29	30 – 39
40 – 49	50 – 59	60 – 69
70 – 79	80 or over	

Prefer not to state



SURVEY QUESTIONS

1. Are you aware of receiving Coventry *Citivism* in the past?

Yes

No

Unsure

2. Do you find it a useful publication for getting the information you need?

Yes

No

3. Are you aware that Coventry City Council produces *Citivism*?

Yes

No

4. Would Coventry *Citivism* magazine be your preferred source of receiving latest news and information about Coventry, or would you rather receive information through another method of communication?

Yes, I think that the Coventry *Citivism* magazine is an effective way of communicating.

No, I would rather receive information through other sources.

* Unsure

5. If you would rather receive information through another source, how would you like to access this?

On a website via Facebook (other social media)?

By written communication (eg letter to home)?

Email?

Local newspapers and local radio

Other (please state - use space below):

6. What sort of local topics and features would you like to read about in Coventry *Citivism*? (Open question - use space below)

7. Out of the following list, what features would you like to see included in *Citivism* magazine? (Choose as many as apply)

* Information about local events

* City plans and strategy

* New developments in the city

* Competitions

* Reader stories

* Information on local councillors

* Health information

* Special offers

* News on household issues – eg, recycling, details of bin collections

* Other (please state - use space below):

8. Coventry City Council is currently building up a membership database of local people who may be interested in being involved with a residents' panel to feed back on local issues. Would you like to be involved?

Yes

No

* Please note: The data controller is Coventry City Council. All the data gathered from this survey will be aggregated and no details of individual responses will be published or passed on to a third party. The analysis will be used to inform and improve the Coventry *Citivism* publication.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____



Savour last of autumn sunshine

Here are some of the things you can enjoy in the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness

OCTOBER

Until Feb 1 – The Great War: Coventry's Story, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum (*free*). The exhibition marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, and the experiences of Coventry people in the armed forces and on the home front. Go to www.theherbert.org for more information.

Until Nov 2 – Shed-Collect-Shed: Coventry's Lost and Found, The Herbert (*free*). Løren Camps with Martin Green and Joanna Rucklidge, present a mixed media exhibition looking at the city of Coventry's character through objects collected and displayed, set within a pop-up 'shed' known as the Coventry Centre for Contemporary Art.

Until Jan 11 – People of India: Photographs by Jason Scott Tilley, The Herbert (*free*). An exhibition of three series of photographs, taken in India at different time periods spanning the last 150 years.

2-3 (also November 27-28, December 18-19) – **Early Years Play Days**, The Herbert (10.30-11.30am, 1-2pm). Play Days gives children aged 1-3 an opportunity to explore and investigate through sensory play in a relaxed play space that encourages creativity. Cost £1. Drop in, booking is not required.

7 – Richard III's Horses: Treasures from the Coventry History Centre Collections, The Herbert (12.30-1.45pm, £5). Guests will be able to view the Coventry First Leet Book from 1456 which details Margaret of Anjou visit to the city and also payments detailed in the Muster Book from 1522 which were used to fund King Henry VIII's war chest. A rare letter from King Richard III will also be on display, which dates from 1485. Booking required.

15 – Volunteer Day, venue tbc (10.30am-3pm). Join the Park Service Rangers on the third Wednesday of every month and

Cleese and French heading to town

Warwick Arts Centre in Coventry celebrates its 40th birthday this autumn with a season packed full of big names, big ideas and big nights out. There's music from Brit Award winners Soul II Soul, festive Russell Watson and indie-chart toppers British Sea Power and comedy from the legendary Dawn French, John Cleese and Noel Fielding. Ladysmith Black Mambazo perform alongside world-class dancers from the Royal Ballet in *Inala*, a Zulu ballet. This year's Christmas show, *The Gruffalo*, is the perfect family treat, and there's plenty of free festive fun at this year's Family Weekend. With *Pitcairn*, a new play from the writer of *One Man Two Guv'nors*, live baking demonstrations

from Paul Hollywood and a masterpiece painting from Edouard Manet, this season is a 40th birthday to remember.

■ The University of Warwick is again hosting six lectures from December 3-10. Speakers include Professor Adrian Wilson on December 3, Nick Barker on December 4, Ally Caldecote on December 5, Dr Miriam Gifford on December 8, Dr Matthew Leeke on December 9, and Dr John Halpin on December 10.

Tickets are available now from Warwick Arts Centre Box Office – visit www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2014/the-warwick-christmas-lectures/

help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. All volunteers must register in advance. Adults and accompanied teenagers. Call 024 7683 1951. Free, call first if you haven't been before.

18 – National Apple Day, Lake View (11am-2pm). Adults and families. Free, no booking necessary.

18 – A Thousand Years of Coventry Pubs, book launch and signing, The Herbert (11am-1pm, free). Join us at Coventry History Centre for the launch of this fascinating new book. Booking not required.

18 – Printmaking with Reclaimed Materials, The Herbert (1-2pm, 3-4pm, free). Artist Joanna Rucklidge offers you the opportunity to use common waste materials, household objects and handmade stencils to create pictures, patterns and textures. Booking required. Suitable for adults and children age 6+.

21 – Herbert Illuminations, The Herbert (12.30-1.30pm, free). Booking is not required.

25 – East Winds Drink and Draw Big Draw, The Herbert (7.30-10.30pm, free). DRINK and DRAW returns to the Herbert! Join us as we celebrate East Asian popular culture with the theme

Go Manga Yourself! DRINK and DRAW is a free social event for anyone who likes to doodle - pencils and paper are provided. Booking essential. Suitable for age 18+. Visit www.facebook.com/penanddrink for further details.

25 – Pinhole Camera Workshop, The Herbert (11am-4pm, £15). Led by photographer Jo Gane this workshop will prove that photography does not require expensive cameras. Booking required. Suitable for adults and children aged 10+ with an adult to support them.

25-26 (until Nov 2) – **Half-term: Picture Perfect Portraits**, The Herbert. Personalise a canvas bag with a colourful portrait or self-portrait. Cost £5. Booking required. Suitable for age 8+.

Saturday 25, 10.30am-noon; Sunday 26, noon-1.30pm.

27 – Fabric Fun, War Memorial Park (10.30am-12.30pm). Why not come along and have a go at some fabric arts and crafts, and paper weaving £3 per child, meet at Education Room at the Visitors' Centre. Drop-in session, no need to book.

27 – Halloween, Longford (1.30-3pm). Join in the family outdoor fun with the Rangers, including games and craft

activities. All under 8s must be supervised and all over 8s must have a completed parental permission slip (*available from the Rangers on the day*). Rangers are not responsible for young people leaving the event. Free, no booking necessary.

27-31 – The Big Draw: Recycled portraits, The Herbert (*free*). Activities that invite families to create portraits from different recycled materials. Artwork will be displayed in some of the galleries. Drop in. Content suitable for age 5+ but all welcome.

27-31 – Making Faces Trail, The Herbert (*Cost £1*). Explore the galleries and hunt for all the features you need to draw a new face. There are question and activities to complete on the way.

28 – Halloween, Caludon (*Details as above for Longford*).

28 – Creepy Candles, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm).

Create some spooky candles. £3 per child, meet at Education Room at the Visitors' Centre.

Drop-in session, no need to book.

29 – Halloween, Allesley (*Details as above for Longford and Caludon*).

29 – Gunpowder Plot Challenge, Coombe Country Park (10am-noon). Guy Fawkes has hidden some gun powder within the park as plotters make plans to kidnap Princess Elizabeth. Help the team on the trail Will you get there in time? £2.50 per child (under 5s free if accompanied by paying sibling). Meet at Information Desk at Visitors' Centre, five minutes before session. Advance booking and payment essential. Call 024 7645 3720.

30 – Monster Lab, Coombe Country Park (10.30am-noon). Join our mad scientists in their experiments! Will you survive their gruesome grub and monster meddling? This interactive Halloween session may give even the bravest mums and dads a fright (Please note, any allergies must be made known at time of booking. £3 per child (under 5s

free if accompanied by a paying sibling). Meet at Information Desk at Visitors' Centre, five minutes before session. Advance booking and payment essential. Call 024 7645 3720.

31 – Collections Conversations, The Herbert (11am-1pm, free). Drop into What's In Store and handle items from our collection – this time with a Halloween theme. Booking not required.

NOVEMBER

1-2 – Clay Faces, The Herbert (Cost £5). Create a face sculpture using air dry clay. During the session, there will be a chance to learn about sculpture. Saturday 1, 10.30am - noon; Sunday 2, noon-1.30pm. Booking is required. Suitable for age 8+.

2 – East Winds Film Festival, Children's Screening, The Herbert (2-3.30pm, free). Join us for a family-friendly film screening featuring a magical movie from East Asia. Booking not required. Please arrive promptly.

8 – Peaceful Poppies, War Memorial Park (10am-noon). Take part in our community remembrance wall hanging and then create some poppies and remembrance arts and crafts to take home. £1.50 per child, meet at Education Room at the Visitors' Centre. Drop-in session, no need to book.

15 – First World War Family Day, The Herbert (10am-4pm, free). In collaboration with Coventry Transport Museum, the Herbert will be hosting a full day of activities for families that will encourage thinking and learning about the First World War. From a life size trench to a real Maudslay lorry, costumed re-enactors, and art and craft activities there will be lots to experience and do. Drop in, suitable for all ages (*A small charge may apply for some activities).

18 – Herbert Illuminations: Conscientious Objectors, The Herbert (12.30-1.30pm, free). Booking is required.

22 – Making Merry craft fair, The Herbert (10am-4pm, free). A great day out to get ready for Christmas early, enjoy live music, learn some new skills and have fun. Meet a host of wonderful local artists and craftspeople, and with the free shuttle service to

the Coventry Transport Museum's craft fair you are sure to find the perfect present for your loved ones.

22 – Wreath Making Workshop, The Herbert (11am-1pm, 2-4pm, £15). Artist Beth Applebey will guide you through making a long-lasting wreath using local garden and hedgerow finds. Booking required. Suitable for adults.

22 – Print Making Workshop, The Herbert (10.30am-12.30pm, 1.30-3.30pm, free). A superb artist-led workshop for kids to hand make their own wrapping paper. Drop in, booking is not required. Suitable for age 4+.

22 – Photography Portraits, The Herbert (10am-4pm, £5). A unique chance to make a portrait of yourself with photographer Jo Gane. Using the mysterious 19th century technique of wet collodian photography she will take your portrait and produce a glass negative and a beautifully detailed print. Booking required, call 024 7623 7521 to choose a half hour slot. Suitable for age 4+.

29 – Tree planting at Coombe Country Park as part of National Tree Week (10am-2pm). Free (car parking included if booked in advance). Meet outside the Visitors' Centre, five minutes before start of event. Suitable for families, advance booking essential. Call 024 7645 3720 or email coombe.countrypark@coventry.gov.uk

29 – Walk of Light, part of National Tree Week (5-7pm). Discover the trees of Coombe at night with a torch and candle-lit walk in the woods with storytelling. £2.50pp (under 5s free if accompanied by a paying adult). Meet outside the Visitors' Centre, five minutes before the session. Suitable for families. Advance booking and payment essential. Call 024 7645 3720.

29 – Glass Tealight Lantern Workshop, Coombe Country Park (10am-2pm). Make your own glass tealight lantern with the Crafty Cat Paint Your Own Pottery Studio. Items will be ready for the Walk of Light that evening or can be collected during Crafty Cat studio opening hours. Prices start at £5, depending on size of lantern. Meet at the Crafty Cat the Visitors' Centre. Suitable for families. Advance booking essential. Call Sue on 07501 467560.

TV's Martin hails top CAB team



Money guru Martin Lewis (above left) was on hand to present Coventry Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) team with a national award for their work in helping local people.

The team based in Little Park Street won the national Citizens' Advice award for the best local campaign 2014.

The CAB along with other agencies and organisations, worked closely with Coventry

City Council to make sure Discretionary Housing Payments were reaching those that needed them the most in the city.

Martin Lewis, a regular contributor on financial matters in the print media, radio and TV, said he was impressed with the partnership work in Coventry which has been helping to mitigate the effects of national welfare reform.



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I BABLAKE

Cllrs Galliers and Kershaw hold regular surgeries: Coronation Club, Keresley Rd noon-1pm on the first Saturday of the month, Good Honest Food Company, Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village, last Tuesday of the month or contact them directly as below:
Cllr David Galliers: 07973 780871 e-mail david.galliers@coventry.gov.uk twitter @davidgalliers www.facebook.com/AllesleyCoundonAndKeresley www.bablakelabour.com
Cllr David Kershaw CBE, JP: 024 7671 1107 or 07850 664576 or e-mail david.kershaw@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Jaswant Birdi: first Monday of month from 5-6pm, Allesley Village Hall, Birmingham Road. Second Tuesday of month from 10.30am-noon, Good Honest Food Company, Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village. Call 024 7644 9698 or e-mail jaswant.birdi@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 Bailey 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 Roger Bailey: Call 024 7683 1101 (day) or e-mail roger.bailey@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Noonan (Lord Mayor): Call 024 7683 3048 (day) or 024 7650 5109 (evenings) or e-mail hazel.noonan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Brown: Call 07983 383627 or 024 7683 1039 or e-mail richard.brown@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 07534 972383 or e-mail allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk or follow on twitter @allanandrews
Cllr Michael Hammon: (Deputy Lord Mayor): Call 024 7683 3048 for an appointment or e-mail rosemarie.potts@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 1030 (day) or 07903 847160 or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Malkiat Auluck: First and last Tuesday of the month 4.30-6.30pm at Indian Community Centre, Cross Rd or call 024 7663 7965 for an appointment.

I HENLEY

Cllr Lynnette Kelly: Call 024 7683 1039 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.

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, 024 7683 1002, or e-mail rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.

Cllr Ann Lucas OBE: 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 1039 (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 12pm at the Church Hall, St Thomas' Parish Church, Longford Rd, and 12pm-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 "We'll be down your way soon"
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: First Friday of every month, Daimler Green community Centre, 6.30pm-7.30pm. 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

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 Naeem 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 naeem.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 024 7683 1002 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: For an appointment call 024 7683 1101 (day) or 024 7646 1777 (after 6pm) or e-mail gary.crookes@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Tim Sawdon: Call 024 7683 1101 (day) or 024 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk

I WESTWOOD

Cllr Maya Ali: Please call 07949 653 656 or e-mail maya.ali@coventry.gov.uk and Cllr Ali will endeavour to visit you.
Cllr David Skinner: Call 024 7683 1101 (day) or 024 7646 8106 (out of hours) or e-mail david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Sandy: For an appointment call 024 7683 1039 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 5-6pm.
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 of the month, 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

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 e-mail ainsworthr@parliament.uk
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 e-mail gannond@parliament.uk
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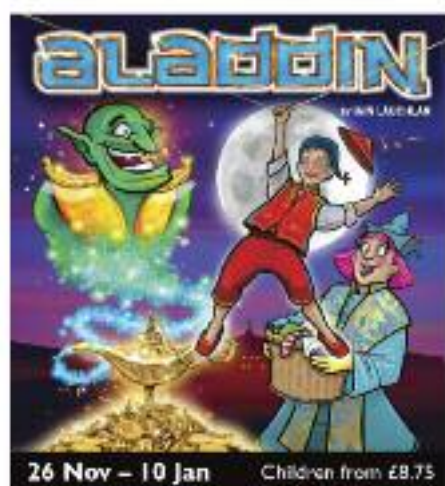
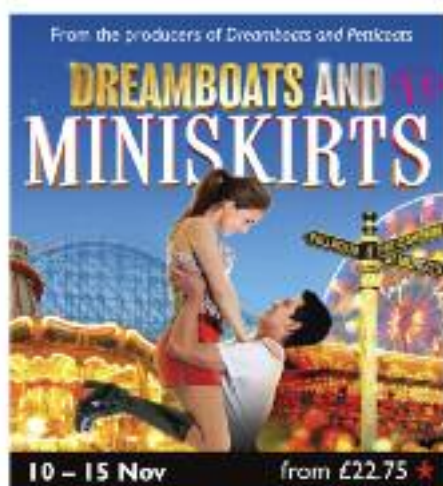
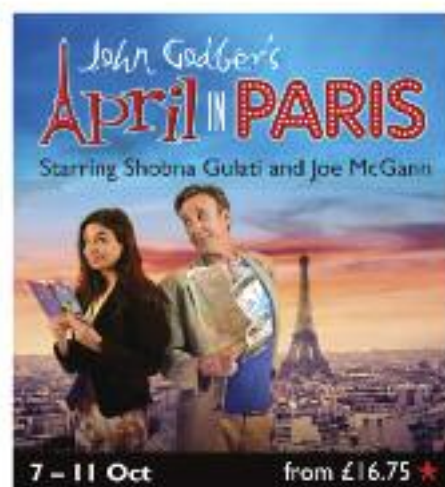
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