

citivision

issue 61 | spring | 2018

**We're getting
active in our
local park**



INSIDE

- Budget plan challenges
- 40-year-old Ring Road gets makeover
- Tuning in for BBC Music's Biggest Weekend

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 George Duggins, Leader, Coventry City Council.

Park life is a breath of fresh air

We take our parks for granted, but in the 1840s it was a breath of fresh air for many when the world's first publicly funded civic park came into use.

They are an integral part of life in Coventry and I'm fortunate to get the opportunity to use my local parks on a regular basis as I prepare to take part in this year's Coventry Half Marathon.

That's why I was delighted that despite the significant financial challenges we face, we were able to support a new park marker scheme which is helping people to be more active in their local park and green space.

More is explained in this issue of *Citivision* along with the news that BBC Music's Biggest Weekend will be hosting some fabulous acts in Coventry on the late May Bank Holiday Weekend, while we have also confirmed that the Godiva Festival will go ahead later in the summer.

This is the time of year when we set out the Council's budget and once again we are aiming to ensure that key services are maintained while at the same time encourage more investment that is bringing in new jobs, changing the face of our city centre and improving the quality of life for all.

We saw the City of Culture title as a vital part of that work and it is wonderful news that since the last edition, we have been confirmed as the UK City of Culture 2021. We now need to encourage the largest possible participation of people in our city over the next three years as we have the opportunity to create not just a year for the whole country to remember, but a lasting legacy for the people of Coventry.

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

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Call the *Citivision* newsdesk on 024 7683 1075 or write to Newsdesk, Room 73, 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 9p per copy to write, print and

distribute to homes 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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Council budget gap in 2020/21

Councillors were due to be discussing budget plans (as Citivision went to print) that will aim to deliver a balanced budget for 2018/19, but there will be a warning of a future budget gap by 2020/21.

The local authority has set out plans that include additional financial pressures in services for children and homeless families that left it facing a shortfall in the region of £15m for 2018/19.

However, the Council has worked hard to identify ways to balance the budget next year without making further cuts to services.

There is also a warning that because of further reductions in government resources and the impact of inflationary pressures in the coming years the Council estimates a £21m shortfall by 2020/21.

At the same time, the Council has been successful in driving forward its biggest ever programme of major regeneration and building schemes, by securing over £150m in external funds next year. Capital plans in the city amount to more than £900m in the next five years.

The 2018/19 budget has to tackle a significant increase in the number of Looked after Children which now exceeds

650 and the increasing cost of housing homeless people and families in temporary accommodation.

Cllr John Mutton, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, said that it was vital that frontline services should remain unaffected. He explained:

“We want to protect frontline services and I am determined that this should be avoided for this year. For local people the day to day services, including bin collections, street cleaning and road improvements, are crucial.

“I’m hopeful that we can avoid any new cuts to Council services – in the next two years at least.

“Overall Council Tax is likely to increase for 2018/19 by approximately 4.9%, although this includes 3% to reflect funding for Adult Social Care – which should have been met by Central Government but has been passed onto the people of Coventry due to the Government’s austerity programme.”

He added: “I’ve said before that it is wrong that the government should pass on the cost of adult social care to local people rather than funding this centrally.

“Our capital plans are bigger than ever – although funding for this cannot be used on our day to day services.”

For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/budgetreport

Feeding Coventry drive

Feeding Coventry has taken a major step in the battle against ongoing food poverty in Coventry.

The project has secured charitable status as set out in its Food Charter; the new charity has been awarded £245K over three years from the Big Lottery Fund (in collaboration with the national charity Feeding Britain) to build and grow a ‘Citizens’ Supermarket’.

Cllr Faye Abbott, Chair of Feeding Coventry, said:

“We have been given a tremendous opportunity to address ongoing food poverty and we want to create something valuable and sustainable for the community.”

Feeding Coventry is the first of its kind in the UK. Other cities are monitoring its success.

To find out more or to get involved visit www.coventrypartnership.com/feeding-coventry

All change at Citizens’ Advice

Coventry Citizens’ Advice has welcomed a new Chief Executive and new Chair of the Trustee Board.

The city advice service welcomes hundreds of clients each week, with issues ranging from benefit delays to debt problems, housing issues and employment problems.

Kate Algate (pictured), formerly CEO of the Neighbourhood and Home Watch Network, has taken up the reigns as Chief Executive of Coventry CA. She has been joined by a new



Chair of the Trustee Board, Tim Miller.

For details visit www.coventrycitizensadvice.org.uk

Advice service shows its quality

Staff at Coventry Independent Advice Service are celebrating after being awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS), a nationally recognised quality mark for organisations providing free, independent advice to members of the public.

Coventry Independent Advice Service offers advice from community venues across the

city. They deliver 16 ‘drop-in’ advice sessions across the city each week. The service regularly helps people facing issues like debt problems, and understand benefit entitlements.

For more details about Coventry Independent Advice Service, visit www.covadvice.org.uk or call 024 7652 1100.

Universal Credit changes

The Government has recently announced some changes to Universal Credit (UC). They have decided to delay the introduction of the next stage of UC until July 2018 and they will not put any more new people on to UC in Coventry before then.

This will give local agencies more time to get information out about UC so they are prepared for this.

For those people who are already getting UC, the Government has introduced a new freephone number on 0800 328 9344 and a new website for those about to claim, already claiming and to organisations supporting claimants visit www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk

The Government has also agreed to make UC more generous by increasing the amount of money you will get before your first payday and to reduce the delay in the wait for the first payday.

To make the introduction of UC easier you should:

- **Find out about UC. You can get more information about UC from www.benefitsaware.centralenglandlc.org.uk/ or you can visit www.coventry.gov.uk/universalcredit**
- **Try to reduce any debts you have before UC is introduced. You can contact an advice agency for help with this**
- **Claim all benefits you are entitled to including disability benefits. You can ask an advice agency to check that you are getting the correct benefits.**

Coventry advice agencies include:
Citizens Advice www.coventrycitizensadvice.org.uk/
Coventry Independent Advice Service www.covadvice.org.uk/
Coventry Law Centre www.covlaw.org.uk/

New park marker scheme

Pupils from Stoke Heath Primary School have been helping to open a new path around Stoke Heath Sports Ground, known locally as Morris Common.

Teachers and children recently tried out the route for the first time. The sports ground has a new notice board while markers line the route, designed to encourage people to be more active.

Community groups will also be able to post notices and events, health information and other activities in the local community on the notice board.

Jeanette Hiatt, Head Teacher at Stoke Heath Primary School, said: "This is a great idea. Anything that encourages more of the community to get outdoors in their local area is a good thing."

Morris Common is one of 44 locations across the city where run and walk markers are being installed by the Council in parks and green spaces.

The 1km run and walk path at Morris Common, and eight marker posts help people know the distance they have covered. The scheme is being rolled out in other areas of Coventry.

Cllr Kamran Caan, Cabinet



Member for Public Health and Sport at Coventry City Council, said: "It's surprising how much green space we have in the city and this development will encourage people to find a new way to exercise or just be more active in their local area."

For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/covonthemove

■ Cllr George Duggins, Edwina Jones, Cllr Kamran Caan with Cllr Sucha Bains, pupils from Stoke Heath Primary School, David Moorcroft OBE and Head Teacher Jeanette Hiatt trying out the new route – Morris Common.



Runners celebrate eight year birthday

Walkers, joggers and runners of all abilities in Coventry are celebrating eight years of Coventry parkrun, which has been held on Saturday mornings since it first started on 4 February 2010. Coventry parkrun is a timed 5k run that allows participants to build up their confidence, track their progress and achieve their goals. It is organised entirely by volunteers.

The friendly, enjoyable event is held every Saturday morning at 9am in the War Memorial Park and is free and easy to take part in. Participants need to register before their first parkrun.

Over the past eight years 15,167 participants have completed 157,141 parkruns covering a total distance of 785,705 km.

Jason Douglas – Coventry parkrun Event Director, said: "It's

an opportunity to improve your health and fitness by being active in the open air as well as making new friends and socialising with others from the local community. It's brilliant to see the pride in people as they cross the finish line, no matter what their time. Everyone is welcome and if you don't want to run you can develop new skills by volunteering."

Cllr George Duggins, Coventry Council Leader, is a regular parkrunner. He said: "It's a fabulous event. It's organised by the community and everyone gets a warm welcome. I'd really



recommend it. The parkrun team does a great job."

Join the parkrun family - walk, jog, run, volunteer or simply come and watch – it's up to you! For details on how to take part or volunteer visit www.parkrun.org.uk/coventry

■ Volunteers and runners at parkrun include Joy Douglas – who has volunteered on over 225 occasions. Bryan Mercer and Jordon Hutchinson who was taking part in his 33rd parkrun.

Right Royal day for city



The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visited the city recently with flag-waving crowds greeting them as they went on a walkabout around the Cathedral Ruins.

The Royal couple were in the city for a double celebration.

Their Royal Highnesses were officially opening Coventry University's new Science and Health building, (main picture above) and beforehand, they visited Coventry Cathedral – including a public walkabout in the Ruins – to celebrate the city being named the UK City of Culture 2021.

They were met by large crowds of residents and schoolchildren and they stopped to chat to many as they made their way through the Ruins to the Cathedral. After touring the Cathedral, they went on to the University and to see some of the work of the Positive Youth Foundation in Hillfields.

Cemetery restoration

Coventry City Council is bidding for more than £1.6million of Heritage Lottery Funding to restore London Road Cemetery.

The Council, in partnership with Historic Coventry Trust, has developed a detailed scheme to restore the Sir Joseph Paxton designed Arboretum Cemetery on the London Road, which is a Grade I listed Historic Park and Garden and one of the top five historic cemeteries in the UK, as a visitor attraction, park and education resource.

The project will be delivered in two phases to reinstate elements of the original landscape design. It will include the repair of major features like the Promenade and a number of grave monuments. The project will include community engagement, educational activities and increased volunteer activities to improve future maintenance.

If the application is successful, Heritage Lottery will make an award to the partnership of £1,692,200 in June 2018, enabling restoration works to commence and Phase One of the scheme to be delivered.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2018

Holocaust Memorial Day was celebrated in Broadgate this year with a theme of 'The Power of Words'.

The event showed great respect to those who lost their lives and their families.

Music was played by Coventry Music Brass Quintet along with powerful

speeches from Lore Napier, a Holocaust survivor, the Lord Mayor of Coventry, Councillor Tony Skipper, Toni Soni from the Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre, Martin Reeves, Chief Executive of Coventry City Council and Emilie Lauren, winner of the Coventry Peace Festival Poetry Competition.

The event showed great respect to those who lost their lives and their families.

Marking 75 years since the Battle of Stalingrad

The Lord Mayor of Coventry and Deputy Leader of the Council were in Volgograd to help Russia mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Battle of Stalingrad.

The Russian city hosted a major event to commemorate the anniversary, with Russian President Vladimir Putin leading the tributes to those who died and to the bravery of the city.

Lord Mayor Cllr Tony Skipper and Deputy Leader Cllr Abdul Khan were invited as representatives of Volgograd's twin city, along with the Dean of the Cathedral the Rev John Witcombe.

The Battle of Stalingrad became a symbol of Soviet resilience in the face of the

Nazi onslaught in 1942-43. It claimed the lives of between 1.7 million and 2.2 million people in little more than five months of fighting and marked a major turning point in the war.

Coventry's friendship with the city began while the battle was still raging.

Cllr Tony Skipper, Lord Mayor of the City of Coventry, said: "The city of Coventry is so proud of its links with Volgograd. We are proud to remember those who gave so much and to remind ourselves of the horrors of war so those dark days are never seen again."



■ Cllr Khan and the Lord Mayor in Volgograd at a tribute to the links between the two cities.

Doctors' surgeries boost links with patients

Coventry has become one of the first cities in the UK to connect the majority of its GP practices to a Gigabit City network, offering world-class connectivity to staff and patients.

Gigabit City builder CityFibre is working in partnership with systems integrator, Pinacl Solutions, to connect 62 of the region's doctors' surgeries and community health centres to their very own next-generation full-fibre network.

Connections across NHS Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are expected to go live in May. The shared digital infrastructure, capable of ultrafast internet speeds, is set to benefit approximately 340,000 people across Coventry by transforming the digital capabilities of local

Simply the best

Limbrick Wood Primary School has been named as the best-performing in Coventry with its Key Stage 2 SAT results last year. Figures released by the government reveal that nearly nine in 10 Year 6 pupils hit the expected levels at Limbrick. In total, 88% of pupils reached

the expected standard in reading, writing and maths in 2017.

Head Teacher, Paula Pickthorne, said: "These results not only exemplify the high quality teaching and learning at Limbrick, but the high expectations that all staff have to ensure the children achieve their

absolute best".

Chair of Governors, Cllr Joe Clifford, added: "The teachers, staff and pupils have all worked so hard.

This is such great news, the governors and I are so proud of everyone involved."

■ *Paula Pickthorne, Head Teacher with pupils from the school.*



■ (Centre left to right) – Martin Kemp, Cllr Brown and Dr Steve Allen checking the new broadband speeds.

healthcare services. The network will also provide the necessary foundation for innovations such as virtual appointments and telecare.

Martin Kemp from CityFibre, said: "This represents real investment into building an NHS that is fit for the future."

Dr Steve Allen, Clinical Director at NHS Coventry and Rugby CCG said: "Working with our IT providers at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust, the CCG is at the forefront of

gigabit tech in the UK."

Councillor Richard Brown, Coventry City Council, said: "A digital infrastructure that enables Coventry GPs to access gigabit capability unlocks the potential for them to communicate smartly with a host of healthcare stakeholders and most importantly, patients."

To find out more about Coventry's gigabit project visit www.cityfibre.com/coventry

New Bike Hub

Virgin Trains has opened its new Bike Hub at Coventry Station, one of four schemes that has delivered an additional 574 secure spaces for cyclists on the West Coast route.

Working in partnership with the Department for Transport (DfT), Coventry City Council and the Rail Delivery Group, Virgin Trains created the Coventry Bike Hub with funding from the DfT's Cycle Rail Fund. The scheme cost £349k.

Councillor David Welsh, Deputy Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration at Coventry

City Council, was on hand to formally open the new 150 space facility, which cyclists can access using their own security fob. The fobs are normally priced at £5 and available from the station, but as part of the launch, the first 100 cyclists will get their fobs for free.

Councillor Welsh, said: "The new Coventry Station Bike Hub will more than double the number of cycle parking spaces available. This is another great improvement for the city."

■ *Cllr Welsh opening the new Virgin Trains bike hub.*



Pavements for people plea

Students at Hereward College have launched a city-wide poster competition to raise awareness of inconsiderate parking.

Coventry Bears, Tesco Cannon Park community police and councillors are all backing the young people in their awareness-raising efforts.

Hereward is a college for young people with disabilities and additional needs, which provides its learners with a curriculum that focuses on skills for independent living and employment.

Many of the young people at Hereward are wheelchair users and often have no choice but to go into the road when vehicles park on the pavement inconsiderately.

Joey Mander, a Hereward student said: "We want to encourage everyone to take part in this competition. Parking on pavements is a problem that affects everyone – from blind people,

people who use wheelchairs, to parents pushing buggies or anyone who just wants to walk from A to B safely."

Poster entries must highlight the problem of cars parked on pavements and be saved as a jpeg or hi-res pdf file (A3). Email entries to hppc.coventry@gmail.com by Friday 23 March. They will be judged in three categories, Under 12s, 13 -18, and 18+. Winners will be announced on 2 April and their posters used at a range of venues across the city.



Students from Hereward College with their parking campaign.

Community disability scheme

A Coventry-based community sports club for young people with disabilities has secured the backing of four local sporting athletes following a successful first year.

The Playing Advantage Club – which is organised by Wasps Rugby Club's community coaches – has grown from 17 participants to more than 30 per week since

its launch 12 months ago.

The club is targeted at young people aged between six and 19 years old with any type or level of learning disability, and allows them to take part in a variety of sporting activities centred on a rugby theme.

To support the growth of the club, three-time GB wheelchair rugby Paralympian Mandip Sehmi, GB wheelchair basketball star Charlotte Moore, GB wheelchair Paralympic sprinter Kare Adenegan and England deaf rugby team captain Luke Cheyne have come on board as ambassadors

for Wasps Community.

They will support the delivery of the weekly Sunday classes at King Henry VIII School Sports Centre alongside Wasps' Development Officer Jordan Young and Baginton Field School teachers Sean Noone and Mark Rawlings.

For more information about the Playing Advantage Club, email jordan.young@wasps.co.uk

Front Row: Mandip Sehmi, Kare Abenegan, Charlotte Moore and Luke Cheyne.



Outdoor help for healthy minds

People suffering with anxiety, depression, low mood and a wide range of other mental health conditions are being encouraged to find out about a project to tackle mental health – and it's totally outdoors!

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) in partnership with Coventry and Warwickshire Mind has been taking referrals for its The Environment and Me (TEaM) Project.

The project, which received over £374,000 from Big Lottery and is also supported by Coventry City Council, Whitefriars Housing and 29 May Charitable Trust, runs sessions for people across a wide range of green spaces from allotments to woodlands and offers activities from walks to hedge-laying.

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Coventry Projects Manager, Anna Squires, said: "Offering people the chance to speak with a mental health worker while they walk, or while they are planting something can help them feel a little better."

For details visit www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/The_Environment_and_Me

Glowing Ofsted report for college

Ofsted inspectors, have rated Hereward College as 'good' in every category stating that students "enjoy their learning because they are taught by well-qualified and experienced teachers with good subject knowledge and industry and employer links".

Hereward College offers residential on-site provision for 23 learners and day provision for 250 students with a wide spectrum of disabilities and additional needs.

In October 2016, concerns had been raised about significant weaknesses. It received a rating of 'inadequate'.

But now the new report said governors and leaders had remedied most of the key weaknesses identified at the previous inspection.

Sporty students offer helping hand



Coventry University students got their hands dirty for a good community cause with a day spent clearing riverbanks and conserving tourist hot spots.

More than 50 students from sports teams across the university cleared woodland at Ryton Pools and Coombe country parks. While others joined the Canal and River Trust for planting, ground repairs, litter picking and clearing access routes to footpaths.

Student volunteer, Luke Gregory, said: "It is a great opportunity to give back to a city which offers students like us so much."

Sue Blocksidge, from the Canal and River Trust said:

"The students worked so hard. They did a fantastic job, and were a pleasure to be around. The trustees were very impressed. It was a great success."

■ *Students from Coventry University.*

Sports Hub one step closer

University of Warwick Sport and Wellness Hub, a new multi-million pound Sports Hub, is one step closer to completion after contractor Willmott Dixon hosted a topping out ceremony to celebrate that the structure had reached its maximum height.

Due to complete in March 2019, the new Sports Hub will create one of the best sports facilities at a UK university – including the UK's largest gym facility in the HE sector. Once complete, it will be available to all students, staff and the public.

Replacing the current sports centre on the campus, the Hub will feature a sports hall, a swimming pool, fitness suites,

climbing and bouldering walls and flexible studio spaces, as well as squash courts, outdoor 3G sports pitches and netball courts. It will also be the official training ground of Coventry's Wasps Netball super-league team.

This is the second project that the University has partnered with Willmott Dixon to deliver, following the completion of the Oculus Building, the University's flagship central teaching facility, in 2016.

For more information on the centre, visit warwick.ac.uk/sport/about/facilities/sports-hub

■ *University of Warwick cheerleading and gymnastics club.*



Ring Road makeover

A section of the Ring Road is set to be fitted with coloured panels.

A series of grey panels will be fitted to the raised section at Junction 2 over White Street Coach Park, marking the first major change to the city's much loved Ring Road in over 40 years.

"Our much loved and iconic Ring Road is getting a bit of a makeover with these sleek new panels."

Over £5 million of grant funding is being invested in a short section at Junction 2 and Junction 3 and the work, which has been underway since June 2017 has involved removing the old parapets and replacing them with a new modern system as well as waterproofing and surfacing the deck.

The Trespa panels will feature muted grey and white colours in a horizontal pattern. Once the work is finished later this year the panels will cover a 1.1 kilometre stretch at Jct 2 and Jct 3.

Councillor Jayne Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, said: "Our much loved and iconic Ring Road is getting a bit of a makeover with these sleek new panels. But what's really important is the work that's underneath them. It's this work that will keep our wonderful Ring Road going for another 40 years.

"I can't wait to see the full stretch once the cladding is complete."

The panels are made from a laminate that is durable and easy to clean.

■ *Cllr Innes with Hakan Bikim, Project Manager Transport and Infrastructure.*





■ Artists impression of the Co-Operative building.

Co-op scores a perfect ten

The launch of the new iconic redevelopment of the Co-op in Coventry has scored a perfect ten.

Award-winning EDG Property – which is developing The Co-Operative building in the city centre – teamed up with agents Knight Frank to unveil the highest-specification one and two-bedroom apartments seen in Coventry to date.

Ten apartments were snapped up by keen buyers wanting to be

“We knew ahead of the launch that there was very strong interest in the development.”

part of the high-profile scheme.

The scheme will offer an internal residents’ park, exercise areas and private residents’ lounge with rooftop terrace.

Cllr Jim O’Boyle CM title added: “This development is great

for Coventry and will contribute to the wider regeneration of the city centre. The Co-op is a fabulous building and it is fitting that the redevelopment reflects on the important legacy of the original store.”

Neil Edginton, Managing Director of EDG Property, said: “From the outset we have been restoring many of the features of the old Co-op that people remember and love, including The Co-Operative lettering that fronts

Corporation Street.

“We knew ahead of the launch that there was very strong interest in the development.”

He added: “Coventry is most definitely on the up. We have agreed terms on a number of the restaurant units within the scheme too and we hope to be able to announce those shortly.

For more information on The Co-Operative, email info@edgproperty.co.uk or call 0121 654 9404.

Green retrofit for 100 buses

More than 400 buses in Coventry and Birmingham are to be fitted with pollution-busting technology, thanks to grants totalling £4.5 million.

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) has been awarded the money by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Clean Bus Technology Fund to retrofit buses with kits that tackle exhaust emissions.

Coventry City Council received £1.5 million under the scheme following its application for funding, with the WMCA as a partner.

This will involve one operator, National Express Coventry, and look to retrofit 104 buses with a £240,500 match-funding contribution by the company. Cllr Roger Lawrence, lead member for transport on the

WMCA, said: “This is fantastic news and a very welcome addition to the bus fleet of the West Midlands.”

Cllr Kamran Caan, Cabinet member for Public Health and Sport, at Coventry, said: “The Council is taking the problem of air pollution very seriously and looking at a range of ways to reduce the impact we know it is having on the health of our communities.

“We are already working with the Joint Air Quality Unit - and reducing emissions from buses will be a step in the right direction.”

The technology works by capturing harmful

particulates and nitrogen dioxide gases from the vehicle’s engine.

Once installed, harmful emissions coming out of the exhaust are reduced by as much as 96 per cent.

■ Staff check out new kit to tackle exhaust fumes.



The popular Bands in the Park events will be returning for 2018 with 10 events taking place in many of Coventry’s beautiful parks through the summer months. Times for all events will be 2pm to 3.30pm, with the first event taking place on 3 June. Parks and bands will be confirmed shortly, so keep an eye on the Bands in the Park webpage and social media for updates. www.coventry.gov.uk/bandsinpark



Get set, go! It's the Coventry Half Marathon

Sunday 18 March sees 3000 people hit the streets for the annual half marathon. This year the event is organised by Coventry University Students' Union and supported by Coventry City Council and Coventry UK City of Culture 2021. The event also hosts the Children's Mile where 1000 pupils from local schools will be put through their paces.

Please come along and show your support for the runners, sponsors and volunteers.

The race village is situated in University Square next to the Cathedral with more details available at

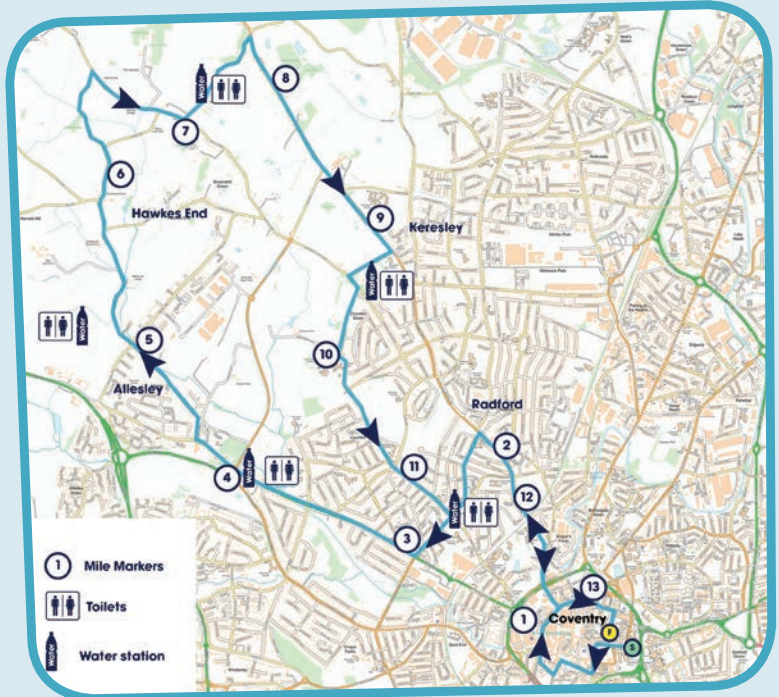


www.enjoycoventry.com or search for Coventry Half Marathon on Facebook or Twitter.

Please come along and show your support for the runners, sponsors and volunteers. There will be a street food festival, an outside broadcast from BBC Coventry and Warwickshire and the huge Godiva puppet will be making an appearance.

Road Closure Information Hotline: 024 7765 5221.

■ Cllr Duggins with half marathon organisers and participants on the steps of the Cathedral.



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Are you a lifestyle buddy?

A new group, that enables people to improve their fitness whilst being sociable, is staging free weekly walks at parks in the city.

Refreshments are provided at the end of each session, and each participant will be given a free

Coventry Sports Foundation pass to use at a series of leisure centres in the city.

Walks are 2pm - 3.30pm. For details e-mail Lisa at Labbott@covsf.com

Walk and talk dates and venues are:

- 25 March War Memorial Park, Visitors Centre
- 1 April Longford Park, Longford Road entrance
- 8 April War Memorial Park, Visitors Centre
- 15 April Moat House Park, Leisure Centre Car Park
- 22 April War Memorial Park, Visitors Centre
- 29 April Longford Park, Longford Road entrance
- 6 May War Memorial Park, Visitors Centre
- 13 May Moat House Park, Leisure Centre Car Park
- 20 May War Memorial Park, Visitors Centre
- 27 May Longford Park, Longford Road entrance

Coventry revs up for a spring fill

Just a few months after Coventry celebrated its achievement of becoming UK City of Culture for 2021 the city is already counting down to some great events this spring and summer.

BBC Music's Biggest Weekend will be bringing some fabulous headline acts to Coventry, while the Godiva Festival will be staged a little later in the summer. The Motofest will once again transform the Ring Road into a spectacle of high performance cars and work is underway on planning other activities and events. Here we explain a little more about what's on offer.

BBC Music's Biggest Weekend

May



Paloma Faith.

More acts have been added to the line-up for BBC Music's Biggest Weekend taking place in Coventry across the late May Bank Holiday.

You can now expect performances from Tears for Fears, Paloma Faith, UB40 featuring Ali, Astro & Mickey, Jamie Cullum, Go Go Penguin and Milos, with more acts along with the Sunday headliner to be announced soon.

Alongside these brilliant acts, you can also see Billy Ocean, Snow Patrol, Nigel Kennedy and Eliza Carthy & The Wayward Band in Coventry.

The festival, coming to Coventry on 27 and 28 May, will be truly unique. BBC Radio 2 will be covering the Sunday,

The Biggest Weekend will be the BBC's largest ever celebration of music across TV, radio, online and mobile.

with BBC Radio 3 covering Monday.

With over 175,000 tickets available to the public, The Biggest Weekend will be the BBC's largest ever celebration of music across TV, radio, online and mobile.

Tickets for The Biggest Weekend are on sale now priced at £18 plus £4.50 booking fee. The official ticket handler is Ticketmaster.

For more information go to www.bbc.co.uk/biggestweekend

June

Motorsport back to city

Motofest Coventry is back and staging time trialling at this year's event, giving the go-ahead for the return of competitive motorsport to a UK city centre for the first time in almost 30 years.

The event will be held on 2/3 June, with a series of time trial events taking place on the unique city centre sprint circuit carved out of Coventry's Ring Road.

Motofest Coventry will be the first time that competitive motorsport has been hosted on a UK city centre circuit since the Birmingham Super Prix in 1990, after the Motor Sport Association (MSA) agreed to issue a license for Motofest Coventry 2018, now the largest free urban motorsport festival in the UK.

James Noble, Motofest Coventry Festival Director, (pictured below) said: "Motofest Coventry is very excited and proud to be at the forefront of bringing competitive motorsport back to UK city centre roads.

"After Coventry's recent winning of City of Culture status, being the first to host competitive motorsport since the legislation changes is another superb achievement for the city."

The two-day festival is dedicated to the city's motoring heritage and will host a range of automotive activities.

For more information visit the Motofest website www.coventry.motofest.com



ed with music, cars, and culture

All go for Godiva Festival

Aug

Coventry's much-loved Godiva Festival, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, is moving to a new date this summer – because there's so much going on in the city.

Festival organisers announced the event will this year be held in the War Memorial Park from 31 August to 2 September 2018.

The move is because Coventry has been chosen as the English host for BBC Music presents The Biggest Weekend, with Radio 2 and Radio 3 both holding day-long concerts in the city.

That would give less than six weeks until the traditional Godiva weekend in July and organisers said the park will need time to recover so it can be at its best to welcome the crowds who flock to the Festival every year.

Councillor Abdul Khan, Deputy Leader of Coventry City Council with responsibility for events, said the city was determined to stage another amazing Godiva Festival to help celebrate being named

UK City of Culture 2021 - and making these changes would guarantee another event to remember.

He said: "It is going to be another fantastic year for

Coventry and we are delighted to have, not one, but two, massive festivals for the people of our city to enjoy.

"Being host for the BBC Music concerts is a great coup for the city. Now we have been named UK City of Culture for 2021, we will be hosting more and more events and welcoming thousands of people and there are exciting times ahead."

People can keep up to date with the latest news for Godiva Festival 2018 by following @godivafestival on Twitter and Facebook, or visiting www.godivafestival.com

Any businesses or potential sponsors looking to be a part of the event, should contact the Council's Marketing Team on 024 7683 2466, and anyone looking to book a food, charity, craft or promotional stall should go to www.godivafestival.com to register their interest.

Watch out for all the latest news on the BBC Music's Biggest Weekend concerts at www.visitcoventryandwarwickshire.co.uk



Lucy Rose performing at last year's Godiva Festival.

We won...so what's next?



Ongoing

Thursday 7 December 2017 will be a date that will forever be remembered as the night Coventry was announced as UK City of Culture 2021. It was a truly historic moment, celebrated by members of the community and arts organisations from across the city at the Belgrade Theatre, where the live stream was watched with baited breath.

But with 2021 just under three years away, the Coventry City of Culture Trust has been inundated with the question 'What happens next?' The first major step is the recruitment of the two key senior posts that will be the driving force behind the Trust as we prepare for 2021. Once in post in late summer / early autumn, the Executive Director and Creative Director's responsibilities will include growing the team from seven people to around 45 – including posts covering volunteering and education – and shaping the programme for our year in the spotlight. Jobs will be advertised on the website www.coventry2021.co.uk/jobs as and when they come up.

We've pulled together a set of FAQs to help answer your questions, you can read them

at www.coventry2021.co.uk/faq To find out more about the winning bid, you can pick up a summary copy of the final bid from 2021 HQ on Far Gosford Street, or read it online at www.coventry2021.co.uk/bid

Shop Front Festival

The first event of Coventry's build up programme is the Shop Front Festival on 23-24 March 2018. It's presented by Chris O'Connell and Julia Negus, the writer and producer who run the award-winning Coventry based Theatre Absolute, working with independent artistic director Orit Azaz and outdoor producer Lou Lomas.

The Shop Front Festival will feature some of the UK's most exciting new and established theatre makers and performers, including local artists and organisations as well as artists from further afield. Public spaces across the city centre will come alive with a variety of different theatre shows with activities for all age groups – join a trail though the city, take part in a melodrama and don't forget to join England's favourite shopping pastime: queuing!

To find out more about the weekend, visit the website www.theatreabsolute.co.uk

Know your HIV status

Coventry City Council's Public Health Team, Travel Klinix and the Highlife Centre are encouraging people to know their HIV status.

The campaign aims to encourage people to get involved in reducing the level of HIV in the city by getting tested for the virus.

Public health experts are reminding people about the importance of getting tested for HIV if they think they may have been at risk of contracting the virus.

HIV is transmitted mainly through unprotected sex, as well as other routes, such as sharing needles or health procedures in countries with poor hygiene.

Coventry currently has the highest number of people diagnosed with HIV per population than any other city or area in the West Midlands. Getting people tested and treated if necessary reduces the risk of passing on the virus, and is key to reducing the level of HIV in Coventry.

Magic Johnson, the famous basketball player, has been living with HIV for 25 years. Treatment is free and can be as little as one pill per day if a person is diagnosed early.

A range of local pharmacies, GPs, community organisations and our Integrated Sexual Health Service have been working hard to increase HIV testing opportunities.



This is showing significant progress, with over 1,000 rapid HIV tests undertaken in the community in 2017.

For example, nine pharmacies in Coventry currently provide free, confidential HIV tests and an indicative result can be obtained within 60 seconds. Support is given by the pharmacist for you to access the treatment service, should this be necessary.

People who would like a free HIV test at one of the pharmacies can ask for a private talk with the pharmacist.

For details visit www.besavvy.org.uk
Councillor Kamran Caan,

Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport, said: "This is a brilliant campaign that should be supported by everybody. Getting tested for HIV is vital and we should encourage those around us to get tested too."

"Together we need to push out the message that all testing will be done in complete confidence and the importance of being diagnosed early."

See if you're eligible for a free self-sampling HIV test at: www.test.hiv

■ Campaigners are getting behind the 'Know your HIV status' message.

Radio guests invitation

Barry Day (pictured) from Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust volunteers as host/presenter



on a Monday radio show (5pm - 7pm) on Radio Plus Coventry - a Christian based community radio station that broadcasts across Coventry and Warwickshire. The show is seeking guests who can add value to come along onto one of Barry's shows to talk to the public about their experiences, or promote communities, support groups and organisations.

Barry says that he does the show because it allows him the chance to talk about mental health and wellbeing services – which he has been involved in for a long time.

He said that it would be great to have guests who could talk about how to maintain a healthy mind and body, and how to get help or help others in need.

Controlling snacking habits

Public Health England's Change4Life roadshow came to Coventry to highlight the importance of lowering sugar levels and snack intake.

Parents were encouraged to look for a maximum of two snacks per day for their children that are no more than 100 calories each.

Change4Life have created a 'food scanner' app that provides information on calories, as well as how much sugar, saturated fat and salt there is in everyday food and drink.

The 'food scanner' app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

■ Change4Life staff show shoppers, at the Tesco Superstore Walsgrave, how to use the food scanner app.



Sepsis awareness warning



Public Health Coventry and University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust have teamed up with The Sepsis Trust to raise awareness about sepsis.

Sepsis is a rare but serious complication of an infection. Sepsis causes the body's immune system to go into overdrive as it tries to fight infection. This can reduce blood supply to vital organs like the brain, heart and kidneys.

Unless treated quickly, sepsis can lead to multiple organ failure and death. Every year approximately 260,000 cases of sepsis are diagnosed in the UK and around 44,000 people die every year from the condition.

A series of short videos have been put together that offer an insight into the conditions.

Dr Nadia Inglis, Public Health Consultant at Coventry City Council, said: "Although sepsis can

be caused by a range of infections, it leads to higher death rates each year than heart attacks, strokes and chronic lung disease. I urge people to be aware of signs and symptoms that can affect those who are at risk of sepsis."

Sepsis can affect anyone, but older people, the very young, and those with lowered immunity are at higher risk.

Symptoms in adults can include: Slurred speech/confusion, extreme shivering/muscle pain, passing no/little urine, severe breathlessness, feeling like you are going to die, skin being mottled or discoloured. Symptoms in children can be different. For details visit the sepsis section of the University Hospital website www.uhcw.nhs.uk

Mental health nurse Alex scoops award

Alex Cotton has landed the Coventry Mental Health Star award, in the West Midlands Mental Health Commission Thrive Awards.

Alex is the driving force behind the successful and innovative 'It Takes Balls to Talk' campaign, which targets men at sports events in Coventry and Warwickshire.

Since its launch in 2016, project volunteers have attended a range of sporting events across Coventry and Warwickshire, and the campaign has gained active support from

a wide range of organisations, including Coventry City Football Club and Wasps Rugby Club.

The campaign works to break down the barriers that can prevent men seeking support with their mental health.

Tariro Gumbo, who co-ordinates a Trust's volunteer scheme and Stacy Cooper who manages the Recovery and Wellbeing Academy, were also shortlisted.

■ Alex Cotton, centre, pictured with Stacy and Tariro.



Free guides for parents

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust Health Visiting Service is offering parents free access to the three guides on understanding your pregnancy, your baby and your child.

The guides have been professionally developed by midwives, health visitors and child psychologists. The aim is to increase the confidence of parent and carers to give Coventry children the best possible start in life.

For details and to register visit www.inourplace.co.uk Then login, select 'Take Course' on the course of your choice and add

the relevant discount coupon code below. You can take more than one course if you wish.

- Understanding your pregnancy – Discount code: SHERBOURNE1A
- Understanding your baby – Discount code: SHERBOURNE2P
- Understanding your child – Discount code: SHERBOURNE3C

For more information about the new online guides visit www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/online-parenting-guides or e-mail carmen.baskerville@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

Young ambassadors' project

More than 250 pupils from over 30 primary schools in Coventry will be getting involved in an education project linked to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

A conference planned in March will encourage awareness of the Olympic Games in Japan and will

look at developing a Coventry Young Ambassador programme.

Students will learn about traditional Japanese sports such as martial arts, kendo and jodo.

Participants will then lead a range of cultural and sporting activities for primary school pupils in Coventry in the coming months.

Dementia friendly drive

More staff at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust have been trained in becoming a Dementia Friend as part of a bid by the Trust to train its 4,000 staff in becoming more dementia aware.

For a number of years, the Trust has been promoting 'Dementia Friends information sessions' to its staff alongside the Alzheimer's

Society and other supporting agencies. This has seen the Trust contribute well over 1,200 of its staff to becoming a Dementia Friend or Champion.

For information about dementia awareness visit www.dementiafriends.org.uk

■ Some of the many staff trained as Dementia Friends.



Exports key to award-winning business

A family business with its origins in Coventry market and which now exports supplements all over the world has been given a Royal award for outstanding achievement.

Premier Health Products, based in Wolfe Road, has grown steadily over the years.

The business received The Queen's Award for Enterprise: International Trade 2017. Exporting is around 50 per cent of the business.

It has been supported in its export efforts by the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, leading to an impressive performance in exporting goods to mainland

Europe, the Middle East, Africa and South East Asia.

The company is made up of a 20-strong team based in its Coventry office.

Two of Premier Health Products' longest serving members of staff, Ian Kinsella and Julie Gordon, who have worked with the company for 18 and 14 years respectively, were also presented with the Queen's Award Crystal and Queen's Award Scroll by John Crabtree OBE, Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands.

For more information on international trade, contact the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce on 024 7665 4321.



(Left - Right) Adam Petros, Ajay Desai, Ian Kinsella, John Crabtree OBE (Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands), Julie Gordon, Lord Mayor Tony Skipper, Simon Petros.

Community crime prevention message

Careful drivers ensure they lock their cars before they leave them and check their fob has done its job.

But police are starting to see a spate of keyless thefts across the region.

One of the most effective ways to stop someone stealing your vehicle (keyless or not) is to use a wheel lock. That way even if thieves manage to open your car door they won't be able to drive your vehicle away.

You can buy a steering wheel lock from a number of places, but police have partnered with Disklok, who are offering a 15 per cent discount on their products exclusively to drivers in the West Midlands Police area.

This is being offered to individuals who sign up to WM Now West Midlands Police Crime and Community Safety alert system. Sign up to WM Now at www.wmnow.co.uk/

For tips on how to keep your vehicle safe see our website www.west-midlands.police.uk

warwick arts centre **WHAT'S ON 2018**

FAMILY
BIG WOODEN HORSE
Monstersaurus!
Sat 31 Mar - Mon 2 Apr
Age 3+



COMEDY
Danny Baker
LIVE
Sat 5 May



VISUAL ARTS
John Piper
Tue 1 May - Thu 21 Jun
FREE ENTRY 12 - 9pm

John Piper was a major contributor to the artistic and cultural landscape of twentieth century Britain. After the Coventry Blitz, Piper was commissioned to design a huge stained glass window for the city's new cathedral. This exhibition, presented as Coventry prepares to become City of Culture in 2021, makes direct reference to Piper's significant contribution to the city.



St Mary le Port, Bristol, 1940, John Piper (1903-1992), presented by the War Artists Advisory Committee 1946, © Tate, London 2018.

Organised by the Mead Gallery in association with Tate Liverpool.

THEATRE
DRYWRITE & SOHO THEATRE
Fleabag
By Phoebe-Waller-Bridge, performed by Maddie Rice
Tue 8 - Sat 12 May



MUSIC
The Waterboys
Sun 13 May 7.30pm



Warwick Arts Centre
@warwickarts
warwickarts

Box Office 024 7652 4524
warwickartscentre.co.uk
Warwick Arts Centre, The University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL

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

Trigger's back after makeover

A steel plate horse sculpture which has been restored to its former glory has been officially unveiled at its new home.

The 12 ft tall public piece of artwork of a black horse once ridden by Alexander the Great was located at the island at Greyfriars Green from 1985 until work began to change Junction 6 of the Ring Road.

"I'm delighted that Bucephalus, or Trigger as he is affectionately known to local people, is back where he belongs."

The horse called Bucephalus, and affectionately known by Coventry residents as Trigger, was created by Coventry University student, sculptor and resident of Coventry, Simon Evans, from scrap materials.

Trigger has been lovingly restored by specialist fabricator and installer of metal sculpture and artwork, Andrew Langley,



■ Joining Trigger left to right are Tony Swan, BBC Radio's Vic Minett, Andrew Langley and Cllr Innes.

from Art Fabrications in Fenny Drayton, near Nuneaton. Andrew was a close friend of Simon, who sadly died in 2010.

The life-size horse has now been hoisted onto a mount at Greyfriars Green near his original location as part of a £2 million investment in public realm work funded by the Government's Local Growth Fund through the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP).

Cllr Jayne Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, said it was great that Trigger was back where he belongs.

She said: "I'm delighted that Bucephalus, or Trigger as he is affectionately known to local people, is back where he belongs. Art is a really important part of successful towns and cities and I was keen that he returned to a spot where he can be seen and admired by lots of people.

"He looks majestic in his new spot and I hope he will be admired for many years."

Getting in on the act at new studio

A new studio that is now available as a rehearsal space, conference facility or for hosting smaller concerts has been put through its paces by a range of actors, dancers, musicians and singers.

The Albany Theatre, run mainly by volunteers, has seen its fortunes improve over recent years. The studio space means that the theatre is well placed to maintain its ongoing growth and its commitment to tapping into new young talent.

The accessible performance space has already played host to *Macbeth: a mind tormented* (pictured) in 2018.

To find out more about the studio space and how to book or to check what's on visit www.albanytheatre.co.uk



Read all about it

One of Coventry's landmark buildings has been used as a pop-up art gallery for the last few months and is soon to be transformed into a boutique hotel, thanks to the enthusiasm of a local developer and support from Coventry City Council.

The old Coventry Evening Telegraph offices were temporarily made available to the Historic Coventry Trust in January 2017 when local property developer, Ian Harrabin, bought



■ Alan Denyer and Carlton from Urban cafe.

the building with his company CDP. The company plans to build a unique hotel, keeping as many of the 50s' features as possible, including the impressive entrance lobby and features in the former apartments of Lord Iliffe.

Councillor Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration, said:

"The planned boutique hotel will be a unique place to stay

in Coventry City Centre. Many residents have welcomed the opportunity to visit the much loved building."

Over 10,000 people have walked through the doors after volunteers opened the building as a gallery with café.

The building is open from 10am - 4pm every day until August.

For details visit www.visitcoventry.net/cet

Tudor tapestry

Tudor Coventry CIC will be holding an event to explain the story behind Coventry's Tudor tapestry.

The event takes place at 7.15pm (doors open 6.45pm) on Thursday 26 April in St Mary's Guildhall.

This is an opportunity to understand many of the secrets behind the tapestry in the company of television historian and medievalist Dr Jonathan Foyle.

The tapestry has hung in St Mary's Guildhall, since it was made in the 1490s.

The event includes music from the Bourton Trombone Quartet and extracts from Shakespeare, performed by actors from the city's Criterion Theatre.

Tickets are £15 per person and available by emailing jane.barlow@coventry.gov.uk or telephone 024 7683 3047.

Kickabout group to combat cancer

Patients who are living with prostate cancer are invited to 'Walking Football' – a support group where people living with cancer play a slower paced version of the beautiful game.

Set up by Prostate and Testicular Cancer Nurse Specialist, Josh Hearne - Wilkins, the informal group aims to bring together football and the opportunity for people to get support and advice from the cancer team.

The football sessions are run by professional coaches from Sky Blues in the Community, while Josh is on hand to answer any questions.

Josh said: "I am there if they do want to talk or want advice but the focus is firmly on participants becoming fitter, healthier and more socially active – having cancer shouldn't stop this."

The group is free of charge and the next one takes place on Friday 23 March at The Alan Higgs Centre, Allard Way, Coventry.

Anyone interested in attending the group can email josh.hearne-wilkins@uhcw.nhs.uk

walking football

for people living with Prostate Cancer

A Slow paced version of the beautiful game

In partnership with **WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

First sessions starts... Friday 26th January 2018

A walking football session specifically for people living with Prostate Cancer...

Sessions are 10.30am until 12noon on the outdoor pitch The Alan Higgs Centre, Allard Way, Coventry, CV3 1HW

- Friday 26th January
- Friday 23rd March
- Friday 25th May
- Friday 27th July
- Friday 28th September
- Friday 30th November

Sessions free of charge

Sessions include refreshments, tea and coffee, fruit, and biscuits

To sign up contact the Health Manager on 024 7678 6314 or email nathan.isom@ccfc.co.uk

walking football

for adults over 50 years old

sbitc.org

SKYBLUES

in the COMMUNITY

THE UNDERCROFT

AT ST MARY'S

INSPIRING CONVERSATIONS FOR OVER 670 YEARS

Enjoy delicious food in the heart of Coventry's medieval quarter

Godiva's Café has undergone a refresh and rebrand and we look forward to greeting our customers old and new! Come and sample our new menus, great for adults and children alike.

Opens 6 March

Monday – Friday, 10am to 3pm



St Mary's Guildhall, Bayley Lane, Coventry CV1 5RN

Telephone: 024 7683 3315 www.stmarysguildhall.co.uk

Keeping in touch on new school scheme

A construction firm that has recently completed the impressive Northern Spire Bridge, which crosses the River Wear, in Sunderland, is receiving praise from Coventry residents for the work it is carrying out to build the new Tiverton School.

Farrans construction is working on the former Alice Stevens School site to develop a new building for Tiverton School. Tiverton School is a primary school for children aged three to eleven who have severe learning difficulties or profound and multiple learning difficulties and may also have a physical or sensory impairment or an Autistic Spectrum Condition.

The new school building will cater for up to 88 pupils with 66 due to attend the school when it opens on the site.

Rod King, who lives next door to the school site, said: "I have



been really impressed with the consideration Farrans have shown to people in the neighbourhood.

"There has been a lot of consultation with the community throughout and our concerns and

been taken on board."

Chris Maguire from Farrans said the firm shares its workplace with communities. He said: "from the outset we have taken steps to minimise any disruption caused."

■ Residents, Councillors, the Head Teacher at Tiverton School and Farrans staff take a tour of the school building ahead of its opening in the spring.

Pond life plan to halt flood problem



■ Cllr Jayne Innes and Cllr Kamran Caan at the new pond.

A new pond has been created in Coundon Hall Park to prevent flooding of nearby properties and help wildlife. The pond was dug by Birch Brothers Ltd who used the excavated material to

create a new earthwork, based on a labyrinth design by Lucianna Anderson from Keresley Grange Primary School. The winning design was based on The Very Hungry Caterpillar story.

SEAN FROM COVENTRY HAS...



IT'S QUICK AND EASY TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR UPDATE YOUR DETAILS ONLINE.

Go to

www.gov.uk/register tovot e

YOUR VOTE MATTERS
MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



All set for spring and summer

Here are some of the activities you can enjoy in and around Coventry

War Memorial Park

Meet at Education Room Visitors centre, booking not essential. Please allow 45 minutes to complete all activities. For more information contact reception 024 7678 6280.

Coombe Country Park

Meeting point for all events at the Information Desk/Shop in the Visitor Centre 5 minutes before session begins. Advance booking and payment essential for all events unless otherwise stated. All bookings are taken on line at www.coventry.gov.uk/coombeevents

Please note that car parking charges apply. All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Tot waddles Every Friday

War Memorial Park (10.30am - 12noon, £3.50 per child). Go on a little adventure before coming inside for some arts and crafts. Dress appropriately for the weather. Suitable for two to four-year-olds but younger accompanying siblings welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ranger Volunteer Day Every third Wednesday in the calendar month 10.30am – 3pm, free

Various locations. Good fresh air and healthy exercise! Join the Park Service Rangers and help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. Drinks and biscuits supplied, but bring your own lunch if staying all day. All volunteers must register in advance. Come once, come every time or just come when it suits you. For further information tel: 0783 158 2854. Suitable for adults.

MARCH

21 – Energy Ideas Café
We've teamed up with local University of the Third Age groups to bring you a morning for round table discussion about the latest energy research happening at the University. 10am - 1pm, The Kenilworth Centre warwick.ac.uk/warwickengages/energyideascafe

24 – Springtime Floral Workshop

Coombe Country Park (10.30am – 12.30pm, £17.50, booking essential). Using natural materials have a go at creating your very own spring themed table decorations for your home. This is a perfect activity for catching up with friends and family. Limited places are available. Suitable for 15 years or above.

30 March - 15 April – Easter Bunny Trail

Coombe Country Park (10am – 3pm, £2 per trail sheet, please leave at least 1 hr to do trail. Information centre closes at 4pm. Booking not essential). The Easter bunny has lost the code to the Easter egg safe, can you help him solve the code to get them out. This is a family friendly self-led trail around the park. Pick up your trail leaflet from the information centre to solve the puzzle. A small prize is available for all those who manage to crack the code. Suitable for families.

APRIL

03 – Spring has Sprung

Coombe Country Park (10.30am – 11.15am or 11.30am – 12.15pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Join the team as we celebrate spring time by creating some spring themed arts and crafts for you to take home. Suitable for three years and over.

03 – Springtime Bonnets

Coombe Country Park (1pm – 1.45pm or 2pm – 2.45pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Come along and have lots



of fun making a spring time bonnet to take home and wear. Suitable for three years and over.

03 – Fresh Air Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Longford Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

04 – Fairies Pixies and Gnomes

Coombe Country Park (10.30am – 11.15am or 11.45am – 12.15pm or 1pm – 1.45pm or 2pm – 2.45pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Come along and make some fun magical arts and crafts for your home. Suitable for three years and over.

04 – Fresh Air Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Allesley Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

05 – Egg-cellent Chicks

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). Join the Education Team to create some egg and chick themed arts and crafts to take home with you this Easter holiday. Suitable for families.

05 – Fresh Air Fun
Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Caludon Castle Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

06 – Lovely Lambs

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). To celebrate spring, why not come and join the Education Team to create your very own adorable family of lambs to take home with you. Suitable for families.

10 – Den Building

Coombe Country Park (10am – 12 noon, £4 per child, booking essential). Find

out how to make a shelter in the woods using only natural material found within the park. Suitable for five years and over.

10 – Pet Rocks

Coombe Country Park (1pm – 1.45pm or 2pm – 2.45, £4 per child, booking essential). Get creative and decorate your very own pet rocks to take home or place out in the park. Suitable for families.

10 – Fresh Air Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Edgwick Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

11 – Fun for Your Garden

Coombe Country Park (10.30am – 11.15am or 11.30am – 12.15pm, £5 per child, booking essential). Come and decorate your very own plant pot and plant it with something for your garden as well as other garden themed arts and crafts. Suitable for three years and over.

11 – Animal Allsorts

Coombe Country Park (1.15pm – 2pm or 2.15pm – 3pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Animals come in all shapes, sizes and colours. Join the team to create some colourful animal themed arts and crafts for you to take home. Suitable for three years and over.

11 – Fresh Air Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Nauls Mill Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

12 – Iris May Falcons

Coombe Country Park (11am – 1pm, free of charge, booking not required). Get up

close and personal with these amazing birds of prey brought to you by Iris May Falcons. Suitable for all.

12 – Time for Tea

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). Come and decorate your own mug and coaster that you can keep forever!

12 – Fresh Air Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Stoke Green Park, meet near play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. These events are open access, 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. Suitable for families with children 12 years.

13 – Super Heroes

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). Come and join the Education Team to make create your own army of super heroes to take home.

MAY

14-16 – Pint of Science

Bringing scientists to your local pub to present their latest discoveries and make you fall in love with science. Pubs across Coventry

www.pintofscience.co.uk

29 – Den Building

Coombe Country Park (10am – 12 noon, £4 per child, booking essential). Find out how to make a shelter in the woods using only natural materials found within the park suitable for five years and over.

29 – Dip into spring – pond dipping

Coombe Country Park (1pm – 2.30pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Dip into the pond and see who has woken up after the cold winter months asleep. Have they had any babies yet? Join the education rangers on a pond dipping exploration. Suitable for families.

30 – Fairy Gardens

Coombe Country Park (10.30am – 11.15am or 11.45am – 12.15pm or 1pm – 1.45pm or 2pm – 2.45pm, £14 per child, booking essential). Ever wanted to encourage fairies into your garden?

Why not come along and join the team and create your very own fairy garden. Suitable for three years and over.

31 – Potty Plants

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). Come along and decorate some plant pots before planting seeds in them, to grow something yummy to eat! Also, decorate a friendly gnome sun catcher to help

look after your growing plants. Suitable for families.

JUNE

1 – Perfect Plates

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50, booking not essential). Come and decorate your very own ceramic dinner plate that you can take home and treasure forever or give to someone as an extra special present. Suitable for families.

Proud to support Coventry Pride

Coventry Pride Festival returns to Coventry on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 June. Coventry Pride's mission includes the promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by organising an annual lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans pride event

The charity depends entirely on volunteers.

To book an indoor stall or outdoor space use the new automated booking system to book onto the event.

Pricing for a stall is: Early Bird: 50% discount book between 1 March and 30 March 50% discount – £50 per day.

Use discount code EB2018 at checkout.

Last chance 25% discount book between 1 April and 30 April – £75 per day. Use discount code LC2018 at checkout.

Full Rate £100. Charity/Public Services Stall Discount:

Coventry Pride operates a discount of up to 100% for charity/Public services stalls. To apply please submit online application then e-mail stalls@coventrypride.org.uk stating you wish to apply for the discount.

For details visit www.coventrypride.org.uk

Friday 30 March 2018

RONAN

Plus Very Special Guest
Gabrielle

RICOH ARENA
Coventry City Council
Coventry Live
ERICSSON
INDOOR ARENA

FOR TICKETS VISIT ETICKETING.CO.UK/RICOHARENA

your councillors

BABLAKE



Cllr Glenn Williams
Tel: 07852 922366 or e-mail
glenn.williams@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr David Kershaw CBE JP
Tel: 024 7671 1107 or
07850 664576 or e-mail
david.kershaw@coventry.gov.uk
Last Tuesday of month from 10.30am-
12noon at The Good Honest Food

Company, Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village. First
Saturday of month 12noon-1pm at Coronation
Club, Keresley Rd.



Cllr Jaswant Birdi
Tel: 07931 364268 or e-mail
jaswant.birdi@coventry.gov.uk
First Monday of month from 5-6pm,
Allesley Village Hall, Birmingham Rd,
Second Tuesday from 10.30-noon,
Good Honest Food Company,
Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village.

BINLEY AND WILLENHALL



Cllr Christine Thomas
Tel: 07908 228112 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
christine.thomas@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE
Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or home visit
please contact me.



Cllr John Mutton
Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
john.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or advice please
contact me.

CHEYLESMORE



Cllr Roger Bailey
Tel: 024 7683 4100 (day)
or e-mail
roger.bailey@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Rois Ali
Tel: 07908 228109 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
rois.ali@coventry.gov.uk
Follow me on twitter
@RoisCheylesmore and
facebook Rois4Cheylesmore



Cllr Richard Brown
Tel: 07563 729215 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
richard.brown@coventry.gov.uk

EARLSDON



Cllr Ken Taylor OBE
Tel: 024 7667 3717
ken.taylor@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Michael Hammon
Tel: 024 7683 1039 for an
appointment or e-mail
michael.hammon@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Allan Andrews
Tel: 024 7683 1276 or e-mail
allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk
Happy to help where I can, will
visit you at home or at the Council
House. Please call for appointment.
Follow me on twitter
@allanandrews

FOLESHILL



Cllr Tariq Khan
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07944 440063 or e-mail
tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Abdul Salam Khan
Tel: 024 7683 1034 (day) or
07903 847160 or e-mail
abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Balvinder Kaur
Tel: 07957 539615
balvinder.kaur@coventry.gov.uk

HENLEY



Cllr Patricia Seaman
Tel: 07813 528963 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
pat.seaman@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Kevin Maton
Tel: 07852 450953 or
024 7683 1030 e-mail
kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Ed Ruane
Tel: 07817 218137 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk

HOLBROOK



Cllr Joe Clifford
Tel: 024 7646 5315 or e-mail
joseph.clifford@coventry.gov.uk
Every Wednesday, 6.30-7.30pm at
Holbrook Community Care Assoc,
Holbrooks Lane.



Cllr Rachel Lancaster
Tel: 024 7705 5228 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk
Every Thursday 10-11.30am at
Holbrooks Community Centre, John
Shelton Drive CV6 4PE.



Cllr Ann Lucas OBE
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact
me.

LONGFORD



Cllr Lindsley Harvard
Tel: 024 7667 5717 or e-mail
lindsley.harvard@coventry.gov.uk
First Saturday of every month 11am-
12noon at the Bird In Hand, Aldermans
Green Road. 12noon-1pm Bell Green
Community Centre, Old Church Road. 1-2pm Bell
Green Working Men's Club, Roseberry Avenue.



Cllr Linda Bigham
Tel: 024 7683 1002 or e-mail
linda.bigham@coventry.gov.uk
Please call for an appointment. First
Friday of month 5.30-6.30pm at Scout
Headquarters, Aldermans Green Rd and
7-8pm at St Thomas' Parish Church Hall, Longford Rd.
Last Friday of month 6-7pm St Thomas' Parish Church
Hall, Longford Rd.



Cllr George Duggins
Tel: 024 7683 1003 or e-mail
george.duggins@coventry.gov.uk
Second Saturday of month 12-1pm at
Bell Green Community Centre, Old
Church Rd and 1.15-2pm at Royal
Hotel, Old Church Rd. Second Sunday of month
11.30am-1pm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave.

LOWER STOKE



Cllr Catherine Miks
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr John McNicholas
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07968 498860 or e-mail
john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
I'm at the Empress Buildings, Binley
Road on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of
the month from 10am. Also I will be "Down your
Way" soon. Follow me on twitter @CllrJMcNicholas



Cllr Rupinder Singh
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07960 962642 or e-mail
rupinder.singh@coventry.gov.uk

RADFORD



Cllr Mal Mutton
Tel: 024 7630 4497 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Keiran Mulhall
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
keiran.mulhall@coventry.gov.uk
Every Tuesday at Radford Social Club,
226, Radford Rd, CV6 3BQ, 6.30-7.30pm
and the first Sunday of month 11.30am-
12.30pm.



Cllr Tony Skipper (Lord Mayor)
Tel: 024 7683 3048 or e-mail
tony.skipper@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

SHERBOURNE



Cllr Seamus Walsh
Tel: 07956 546983 or
024 7683 1039 (day) or e-mail
seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Lynnette Kelly
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
Last Friday of month 10-11.30am,
Earlsdon Retirement Village cafe.



Cllr Damian Gannon
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
damian.gannon@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

ST MICHAEL'S



Cllr David Welsh
 Tel: 07956 307437 or
 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 david.welsh@coventry.gov.uk
 Second and fourth Friday of the
 month, 12noon – 1.00pm, Hope
 Centre, Sparkbrook Street.



Cllr Jim O'Boyle
 Tel: 024 7669 4873 or
 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk
 Second Saturday of month 12noon-
 12.30pm at Coventry Central Library,
 Smithford Way.



Cllr Naeem Akhtar
 Tel: 07747 003141 or e-mail
 naeem.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk
 Surgeries first Tuesday of month,
 5-5.30pm at Hillfields Youth Centre,
 Yardley St. For an appointment or
 home visit please contact me.

UPPER STOKE



Cllr Sucha Bains
 Tel: 024 7645 9484 or e-mail
 sucha.bains@coventry.gov.uk
 Barras Green Social Club, Coventry
 St, between 12noon-12.45pm, first and
 third Saturday of the month.



Cllr Kamran Caan
 Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 kamran.caan@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment or home visit
 please contact me.



Cllr Dr Randhir Auluck
 Tel: 07813 527888 or
 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
 randhir.auluck@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.

WAINBODY



Cllr John Blundell
 (Deputy Lord Mayor)
 Tel: 024 7683 3048 (weekdays)
 or 024 7641 9794 (evenings/
 weekends) or e-mail
 john.blundell@coventry.gov.uk
 Please contact me to make an
 appointment.



Cllr Gary Crookes
 Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024
 7646 1777 (after 6pm) e-mail
 gary.crookes@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Tim Sawdon
 Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024
 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail
 tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk

WESTWOOD



Cllr David Skinner
 Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or
 024 7646 8106 (out of hours)
 or e-mail
 david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Marcus Lapsa
 Tel: 07813 528946 or
 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
 marcus.lapsa@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Tim Mayer
 Tel: 07852 218093 or e-mail
 tim.mayer@coventry.gov.uk
 For a one to one meeting please
 contact me.

WHOBBERLEY

Cllrs Akhtar and Innes hold regular surgeries every
 fourth Saturday (except Dec, July and August) from
 12 noon at Allesley Park Library.



Cllr Pervez Akhtar
 Tel: 07813 529217 or
 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 pervez.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Jayne Innes
 Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 jayne.innes@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment or home visit
 outside these times, please contact me.



Cllr Bally Singh
 Tel: 07779 256898 or e-mail
 bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk
 Surgeries are held every third
 Saturday 10am-noon at St Mary
 Magdalen Centre, Sir Thomas White
 Rd. For an appointment please
 contact me.

WOODLANDS



Cllr Peter Male
 Tel: 07812 741220 or
 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
 peter.male@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Gary Ridley
 Tel: 024 7683 1276 or e-mail
 gary.ridley@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Julia Lepoidevin
 Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or
 07710 716913 or e-mail
 julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.

WYKEN

Cllrs Thay, Abbott and Sweet hold surgeries every
 third Friday of month, 6.30-7.30pm at Wyken
 Working Men's Club, Ansty Rd, Wyken.



Cllr Robert Thay
 Tel: 07875 031851 or e-mail
 robert.thay@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Faye Abbott
 Tel: 07944 996294 or
 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
 faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Hazel Sweet
 Tel: 024 7661 6273 or e-mail
 hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk
 For an appointment please contact me.

CABINET MEMBERS

Cllr George Duggins, Leader,
 Policy and Leadership
Cllr Abdul Khan, Deputy Leader,
 Policing and Equalities
 (Deputy, Cllr Pervez Akhtar)
Cllr John Mutton,
 Strategic Finance and Resources
Cllr Ed Ruane, Children and Young People
 (Deputy, Cllr Balvinder Kaur)
Cllr Kevin Maton, Education and Skills
Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Jobs and Regeneration
 (Deputy, Cllr David Welsh)
Cllr Jayne Innes, City Services
 (Deputy, Cllr Ram Lakha)
Cllr Faye Abbott, Adult Services
Cllr Kamran Caan,
 Public Health and Sport (Deputy, Cllr Rois Ali)
Cllr Linda Bigham,
 Community Development
 (Deputy, Cllr Christine Thomas)

COMMITTEES

Audit and Procurement
 C Cllr Sucha Bains DC Cllr Lindsley Harvard
Ethics
 C Cllr Seamus Walsh
Licensing and Regulatory Committee
 C Cllr Tariq Khan DC Cllr Robert Thay
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 C Cllr Patricia Seaman DC Cllr Keiran Mulhall
Scrutiny Co-ordination
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Finance and Corporate Services
 (Scrutiny Board 1) C Cllr Rupinder Singh
Education and Children's Services
 (Scrutiny Board 2) C Cllr Mal Mutton
Business, Economy and Enterprise
 (Scrutiny Board 3) C Cllr John McNicholas
Communities and Neighbourhoods
 (Scrutiny Board 4) C Cllr Naeem Akhtar
Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board
 (Scrutiny Board 5) – C Cllr Damian Gannon

C = Chair DC = Deputy Chair

COVENTRY MPs

Colleen Fletcher MP
 Coventry North East, Call 0207 219 8036
 e-mail colleen.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk

Jim Cunningham MP
 Coventry South, Call 024 7655 3159
 e-mail jim.cunningham.mp@parliament.uk

Geoffrey Robinson MP
 Coventry North West, Call 024 7625 7870
 e-mail robinsong@parliament.uk

EUROPEAN MPs WEST MIDLANDS REGION

CONSERVATIVE
Anthea McIntyre, call 01989 769 544
 e-mail anthea@antheamcintyre.com
Daniel Dalton call 01926 930683
 e-mail daniel@danialdaltonmep.co.uk

LABOUR
Neena Gill, call 0121 622 7298
 e-mail neenagillmep@gmail.com
Sion Simon, call 0121 569 1911
 e-mail sionsimon@sion-simon.org.uk

UKIP
James Carver, call 01562 216020
 e-mail mep@jamescarver.org
Bill Etheridge, call 01902 664670
 e-mail info@mepukip.com
Jill Seymour call 01952 924040
 e-mail enquiries@jillsymourmep.co.uk

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