

citivision

● Leaders plan new-look square – designed by YOU!



what's inside



Women get set to turn city pink in aid of cancer fund



New guide makes choosing a GP surgery easy



City volunteers gearing up for London 2012

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

Join the girls in Coventry City

Millenium Place 19th June



Every two minutes someone is diagnosed with cancer in the UK.
So walk, jog or run to help save even more lives.

Enter your local 5k or 10K *Race for Life* this summer
at www.raceforlife.org or call 0871 641 1111*



Registered charity nos 1089161 and SC041666. *Calls provided by BT will be charged at up to 6p per minute.
A Call Set-Up Fee of up to 6p per call applies to calls from residential lines. Mobile and other providers' costs may vary.





● A personal message from Cllr John Mutton, Leader, Coventry City Council.

It's been difficult to escape all the gloom and doom headlines in the local and national media over the past couple of months as councils across the country have battled with setting a balanced budget for the coming year while trying to protect vital frontline services.

I don't think anyone can be in doubt that councils are facing their toughest challenges yet – and Coventry is no exception. Yet despite government cuts we will be investing an extra £3million in the coming year to improve our roads and highways, we've found an extra £2.2million to support our services for children and we will be investing £580,000 in our youth service.

On page 5 of this issue of *Citivism* you can read more about the way we're focusing on protecting frontline services like roads and services to children and young people – because we know they're important to you.

However, our budget decisions weren't all about making tough choices, they were also about investing in our future. I know that this city is at its best when it looks forward to and plans for the future, and that's what we're doing through our funding for 2012.

Next summer we'll be in the international spotlight when we host Olympics football in Coventry and we want to make sure our city looks at its best, we give visitors a warm welcome and - most important of all – we have a lasting legacy for the benefit of local people for many years to come. You can read about how you're helping us shape these plans in a special feature in this issue.

Despite the difficult economic climate, there's still plenty to look forward to during the next year, and I'm proud that we're taking some bold steps to create a better future for us all.

*You can write to John at The Council House, Earl Street, Coventry CV1 5RR, or e-mail him at john.mutton@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: Council leader John Mutton and deputy leader George Duggins reflect on the results of the success of the Broadgate consultation programme. For the full story, see centre pages.

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contact us

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

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

● A personal message from Roger Lewis, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

"In these difficult economic times, it's more important than ever that members of the Coventry Partnership work together towards the vision of Coventry as a growing, accessible city. The partnership, including representatives from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors, continues to strive to make Coventry a city where people choose to



live, work and be educated and where businesses choose to invest.

"Many of the articles in this edition of *Citivism* reflect that growing relationship between the City Council and its partners.

"And while the next 12 months are clearly going to be difficult, there is tangible optimism that the changes being put in place now will bear fruit for a brighter future."

* Roger Lewis is the director legal and company secretary of Peugeot Citroen Group in Coventry and has worked in the motor industry for 15 years over three periods since 1982.

Celebrating artistic talent

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london 2012

- 19 More than 400,000 volunteer applications have been received from people who want to play a part in London 2012 Olympic Games.

Over 250,000 tickets will be on sale for Olympic football at the Ricoh Arena for London 2012, and between March 15 and April 26 local people can apply for these and for a range of London 2012 tickets.

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print and distribute to every home in Coventry. You can also pick up a copy at libraries and council buildings. *Citivism* 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.

If you would like to advertise in the next issue of *Citivism*, contact Darren O'Shaughnessy on 024 7683 1075. Coventry City Council is grateful for the support from advertisers in this issue of *Citivism*, but accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of adverts. The next issue of *Citivism* will be delivered in June 2011.



Night-time clean up on Ring Road

The Council has cleared more than 90 tonnes of weeds and rubbish from Coventry's Ring Road after closing the whole road for the first time since it was completed in 1974. Major resurfacing, white line painting, barrier repairs, bridge, and road inspections were carried out. Bollards were also renewed and repaired and lamps were replaced. The work was completed during the night to minimise disruption to road users. Council workers also cut back trees and shrubs, reinstated walkways, and jet-washed signs and bollards.

The new name in gas works safety

If your gas boiler, cooker or gas fire needs attention, then the Gas Safe register should be your first port of call. Formerly known as CORGI, the register lists gas engineers legally allowed to do the work. All gas engineers are legally bound to be Gas Safe registered, to protect residents from unsafe gas works. For more details, contact www.gassafe-register.co.uk



Registering is key to credit rating

Did you know that your credit rating can be affected if you are not on the electoral register? Registering your details is a legal requirement and credit companies often check the register to prove who you are. You must also re-register every year or you may not be able to vote in the next election - or get that new gadget you've been after. Find out more at www.coventry.gov.uk/register tovote

Gearing up for the Midlands' biggest summer festival



Dates for one of the West Midlands' biggest summer festivals have been announced.

Coventry's Godiva Festival will enter its 13th year from Friday July 1 to Sunday July 3 when once again a packed weekend of events will be staged at the city's War Memorial Park. Since it was first staged in 1998,

the Godiva Festival has welcomed more than 800,000 visitors from across the region. It has been the launch pad for a number of great bands including The Enemy and Kasabian and offers a unique mix of entertainment for all age groups.

Look out for more details soon at www.godivafestival.com

Protecting services is key in budget plan

Coventry city councillors, keen to protect the most vulnerable and key street services despite massive government cuts to funding, have drawn up a series of budget measures that include major efficiency savings.

The Council has agreed to freeze any potential rise in council tax as part of its efforts to deliver key services based on the priorities of the local public. The Council is facing an overall reduction of £18.7 million – or 10.6 per cent of its general grant funding – from the government. Around £20 million more will also go following government cuts to specific grants.

Services set to be affected when grant funding ends include a scheme to provide short breaks for disabled children, which will see a £200,000 cut in funding, a £350,000 reduction in grant to the Connexions Service and around £2 million being cut from education

'We've a massive challenge of continuing to deliver good services to local people with far fewer resources...'

and learning services. Over the next year it is likely around 500 posts could go across the Council. Dozens of managers' posts are also set to go, saving the Council £5 million from 2012/13. Around £10 million of savings has also been identified following a detailed review of services. An additional £3 million of funding will be used to boost the Council's highway repairs programme to £5 million next year, with around £7 million of one-off spending to improve Broadgate and key city centre sites.

Cllr George Duggins, deputy leader and cabinet member for Finance and Resources, said that the Council was facing

unprecedented cuts to public services. He added: "We've a massive challenge of continuing to deliver good services to local people with far fewer resources, but we're in a good position compared to other councils because we have taken early action."

"People want us to protect street services – road, street and pavement repairs – so we have identified funding to continue to repair our roads. We're also determined to seize the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity we have when London 2012 comes to Coventry, and build on the pride that Coventry people already have for their city."

"We know that jobs are key to the city's future success, so we will do all we can to make it a working city and will focus on bringing more jobs to Coventry."



Cllr George Duggins.



Register to vote and help your credit rating

www.coventry.gov.uk/register tovote

Jobs training gives youngsters a boost



Support pledge for all children

The Council and partner agencies are pledging to ensure that all Coventry's looked-after children and those leaving care reach their full potential and enjoy the same opportunities as their friends. The Coventry Pledge initiative covers six themes, including Fit for Life and Coventry Cares About You, and has been developed in consultation with looked-after children, care leavers and professionals who look after them.

For more information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/voices

Regen new deal gets a makeover

A £54m programme which started in April 2001 to support the regeneration of the Wood End, Henley Green, Manor Farm and Deedmore estates, will finish on March 31. From April 1, Moat House Community Trust will take over the New Deal for Communities scheme after 10 years' work bringing 39 flagship programmes to the north east of the city. Among the new developments in the neighbourhood is the Moat House Neighbourhood Leisure Centre. A major new housing scheme is currently underway marking the final phase of the community-led project.

Read more on page 6.

● College apprentices (above), and (right) Cllr Linda Bigham.



A new apprenticeship scheme – the first of its kind in the Midlands – has been launched to help young people in Coventry and Warwickshire gain work experience, training and qualifications in the construction industry.

The Council, Whitefriars Housing, City College Coventry, and BAM Construct UK are creating 30 construction apprenticeships during the next two years for 16 to 18-year-olds studying at City College.

The launch comes as the Government announces plans to create an extra 100,000 apprenticeships in the next two years and a new City and Guilds survey has shown that 89 per cent of employers see apprentices as key to the success of their business over the next two years.

The scheme will see young people being offered work placements with construction companies locally and regionally.

The project is being funded by Coventry City Council, City College and the National Apprenticeship Service.

Cllr Linda Bigham, cabinet member for City Development, said: "These are extremely difficult times for young people trying to make their way in the job market so it is great for them to have the opportunity to get real practical experience within the construction industry while also studying."

Businesses interested in joining the shared apprenticeship scheme can contact the Construction Employment Unit on 024 7681 5240.

Apprentices hail council scheme



● Apprentices Adeel Gul, Nikki Smyth and Richard Green.

Coventry City Council apprentices ranging from 16 to 22 years of age have been helping to promote the benefits of the Council's apprenticeship scheme.

The Local Authority currently employs 40 apprentices across a wide range of disciplines and is keen to hear from people interested in the scheme.

Adeel Gul, ICT Apprentice based at President Kennedy

School, said: "It's a great way to gain job experience as well as qualifications. I've developed my confidence and the support and guidance I receive means that I continue to learn each day."

If you are interested in an apprenticeship, or simply want further information, please visit the website: www.coventry.gov.uk/apprenticeships or call 024 7683 3426/3146.

Henley's

RESTAURANT

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 Call 024 7662 6335 & quote code CV or
 email henleysrestaurant@henley-cov.ac.uk
 Booking is essential. Large bookings welcome.

Spring Promotions

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2 dine for £9.99

Offer is for a 2 course lunch.

Henley's Bistro

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Homemade soup, Jacket potatoes, Deli bar, main courses and homemade desserts are available from 12 noon until 1:30pm.

All offers valid until June 30th 2011.

Scan this QR Code to view our menus online

Henley Road, Bell Green, Coventry CV2 1ED
 See our website for more details www.henley-cov.ac.uk

Housing benefit is changing

The Government is making changes to Housing Benefit (Local Housing Allowance) for people in private rented accommodation.

From April 2011:

■ All Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates are being reduced so that about three in 10 properties will be affordable to people in receipt of LHA. Currently, about five in 10 properties would be affordable

Benefit contact details

Phone: (024) 7683 1800
e-mail: benefits@coventry.gov.uk
www.coventry.gov.uk/benefits

to people in receipt of LHA;
■ People will not be able to receive more in LHA than they have to pay out in rent;
■ The maximum LHA rate will be the four bedroom rate which is

expected to be about £150 per week;

■ People who have a carer who stays in their property overnight could have an extra room added to their LHA calculation. You should let the Council know if this applies to you.

People affected by these changes are urged to seek further advice and discuss the changes with their landlords where appropriate.

Keep abreast of benefit services

The Coventry Direct Express bus is to cease operation from March 1.

For benefits advice, people now need to attend one of the advice surgeries listed below, call 024 7683 2000 or e-mail benefits@coventry.gov.uk

■ Indian Community Centre, Cross Road, Foleshill, Monday 2-4pm.

■ Tile Hill Library, Jardine Crescent, Tile Hill, Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm.

■ One Stop Shop, Barley Lea, Stoke Aldermoor (fortnightly), Wednesday 2-3.30pm.

■ Radford Community Centre, Jubilee Crescent, Thursday 9-10.30am.

■ Bell Green Library, Riley Square, Bell Green, Thursday 11am-12.30pm.

■ Willenhall Community Library, Remembrance Road, Friday 9.30-11.30am.

■ Housing Benefit Advice Centre, Spire House, New Union Street, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am-4.30pm, Tuesday 10am-4.30pm, Friday 9am-4pm.

For street services enquiries, call **Coventry Direct** on 0500 834 333 (free from a local landline), Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, Saturday, 10am-1pm or e-mail: coventry.direct@coventry.gov.uk

New homes on Monkwood Crescent

Residents in Deedmore have welcomed the first of 154 families to the new Spirit Quarters neighbourhood in the north east of Coventry, directly opposite Henley College on Henley Road.

The first private homeowner has moved into a new three-bedroomed house on Petitor Crescent, while the first Whitefriars tenant got a sneak peek at their new property on Monkwood Crescent, ahead of their moving in date.

On arrival, families received a welcome pack, including light bulbs and teabags, from their local residents' association. Tenant Sue Ross said: "I can't wait to move in. What has been talked about for so long has now become a reality."

First homeowner Caroline Flavell said: "We are loving making our new house a new home."

The first 154 new homes of the £360 million redevelopment will be completed by the end of this year.

Centre offers support for young



■ Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr Keiran Mulhall with school staff, students and local councillors at the opening of the new centre.

A new youth centre at Stoke Park School and run by the Council's Youth Service has officially opened. A steering committee of young people was instrumental in shaping the project including bidding for funding, community consultation, working with architects on design, buying equipment and staff recruitment. Funding for the building came mostly from the Department of Education and Skills, with the remainder from

the steering group's successful bid to the Youth Opportunity Fund. The steering group also ensured the building is environmentally friendly with a range of sustainable features to reduce carbon emissions. Young people between 11 and 19 years can use the centre at lunchtimes, after school, evenings, at weekends and during school holidays for support, advice, information and a range of personal life skills courses.



Savings on tap

Residents are being encouraged to sign up to a scheme to help people in the west of Coventry waste less water and save up to £50 a year on their household bills. Tap into Savings operates in Tile Hill, Canley and Earlsdon, and is supported by Waterwise, Global Action Plan, Coventry City Council, Severn Trent Water, The Environment Agency, and Defra. Up to £40 of water-saving products like tap aerators are installed for free by trained specialists. To book a home visit, call 024 7685 6882, or visit www.tapintosavings.org

Picture perfect

A video system developed by the University of Warwick is being described as a world first.

Researchers say the High Dynamic Range (HDR) video technology has the ability to clearly see a football when it is kicked from the shadow of the stadium into the sunshine, and to accurately capture lighting present in a surgical operation from the dark body cavities to the bright highlights on shiny medical instruments.

Although HDR imagery for static images has been around for 15 years, it has not been possible to capture HDR video until now.

College plans

Plans to expand an E-Skills building at Henley College have been approved. The new £725k extension will consist of nine new classrooms, working areas and toilet facilities and will be completed by September 2011. The building will also be used by the Early Years and Health and Social Care programme, an area which has seen a considerable increase in student numbers over the years.



■ Home sweet home for resident Susan Ross.

Help the girls turn city pink



● Coventry City Council employees joining the girls!

Five thousand women will turn the city pink on Sunday, June 19, as Coventry bids to become the largest city-based Race for Life event in the region. Cancer Research events manager Vikki Savery says the 5km event offers

women the chance to feel that they are doing something positive and making a real difference. "Whether they are taking part in memory of a loved one, or running to celebrate a successful battle against cancer, every penny

raised will go towards helping beat cancer and ensuring families can stay together for longer," she said. Details of how to enter, sponsor a friend or support the runners, joggers and walkers are available at www.raceforlife.org

£50,000 grant boost for War Memorial Park play area

The Friends of the War Memorial Park group has been awarded a grant of £49,999 to create a natural play area for young children.

It will fund a number of pieces of play equipment including a sand and water play area, refurbishing the existing swings, a new dish roundabout, a new basket swing and new embankment slides.

The grant from the Community Spaces programme of Groundwork UK and the Big Lottery Fund will also be used to fund the safety surface

areas. Cllr Abdul Khan, cabinet member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and Libraries, congratulated the Friends group which, he said, played an important role in the life of the park.

Work will start this spring, and the improved play area will be open for the summer holidays.

More than 400,000 people visit the War Memorial Park each year, which is currently undergoing a £2.8 million improvement scheme thanks to a grant from the BIG and Heritage Lottery Funds from the Parks for

People programme. For details, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/wmp

■ **Coventry Parkrun** is celebrating its first birthday. Set in the War Memorial Park, Coventry Parkrun is a free weekly 5km event for runners of all standards, which takes place every Saturday at 9am. Participants get a 5km timed run with runners taking part for fun or as part of a training plan. The event is organised by local volunteers. To take part, register in advance at www.parkrun.org.uk/coventry

Healthy start for tots

Parents and mums-to-be are being encouraged to claim free vitamins to give their babies a healthy start in life. The Healthy Start scheme gives parents and pregnant women access to vital nutrients to help boost the healthy development of unborn babies and young children. It includes vouchers to buy milk, fruit and vegetables. Vital vitamins include Vitamin A, C and D, along with folic acid. To find out if you qualify, ask your midwife or get an online form at www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Class act from young

Around 130 young people from Coventry Youth Service youth groups showcased their artistic talents at the Belgrade Theatre. The performances highlighted a diversity of issues including society's image of young people, relationships, teenage pregnancy and knife crime. As well as performing, the young people took on roles from sound technicians to designing and painting the backdrop, and writing their own music and lyrics.



Personal touch to help smokers quit

NHS Coventry hopes to put a spring in the step of smokers across the city by re-launching its Big Pledge initiative, giving quitters their own personal mentor.

The Big Pledge is encouraging smokers across the city to make a pledge to quit. Simply text 'PLEDGE' with your name and address to 81025 (free), or ring free on 0800 0511310 and quote 'PLEDGE'. People can register online at www.thebigpledge.co.uk

Everyone making a pledge will be supported to quit through the range of flexible stop-smoking services in the city. Stephen Jones, chief executive of NHS Coventry Primary Care Trust, said: "Having support while you quit can be four times more successful than doing it alone. Our mentors will help people find the right stop-smoking service for them, make that initial appointment and provide ongoing telephone support. We hope that we can build on the success of last year's campaign, and encourage more people to step into spring, with a new spring in their step."

The campaign will also include a series of interactive community roadshow events during March – visit the website for more details.

■ See advert - Page 16

Big Lunch bonanza

Why not make a difference to your community this year by organising a Big Lunch? With the help of funding from the Big Lottery Fund Awards for All scheme, you could help community cohesion by hosting a Big Lunch get-together on Sunday, June 5. Thirteen Big Lunches took place last year across Coventry, from a simple lunch to a big community event. For more information, go to www.coventrypartnership.com/thebiglunch2011

Building a **balanced** society

A major awards scheme that celebrates diversity across Coventry is being repeated.

Coventry Community Cohesion Awards – launched in 2010 – honours individuals and groups working with different communities, faiths, age groups, backgrounds, ethnicities and disabilities. Shortlisted projects will be showcased across the city and will also be invited to the Lord Mayor's Award ceremony on July 21. The awards will be judged in five categories: **Voluntary** (large voluntary organisations); **Community** (small voluntary or community groups); **Public Sector**; **Young People** (18 and under); and **Private Sector** (complete the Working with Communities form).

The deadline for receipt of all applications is 5pm on May 13.

To obtain an application form, contact the Coventry Partnership Office on 024 7683 4355 or visit www.coventrypartnership.com/cohesionawards



■ Coventry dance troupe **Bhangra Heads**, who performed at the 2010 Coventry Cohesion Awards.

Roads are a major priority

The Council has invested more than £5 million in repairing the city's road network over the past year. More than 110 kilometres of roads have been resurfaced and thousands of potholes filled, and more work

is planned. Cllr Lindsley Harvard, cabinet member for City Services, said that roads are in a better state of repair than for a long time – but the work is not set to stop. He said: "Better roads are a

priority for local people and that makes them a priority for us too. We have committed to investing again over the next 12 months and we are repairing a number of roads sooner than originally planned."



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www.orbithomebuyagents.co.uk

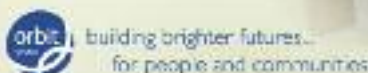


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Terms and conditions apply – see for details. Orbit HomeBuy Agents is managed by Orbit Homes (2020) Limited, a member of Orbit Group Limited which is an exempt charity registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

Twitter trial for Coventry Police

Topics ranging from initiatives to tackle burglary in Coventry to the powers of community police officers have been debated using the first-ever 'Twitcam'. Chief Inspector Kerry Blakeman hosted the virtual meeting on Twitcam – the live video streaming side of micro-blogging site Twitter – in an effort to communicate with more teenagers and social network fans. He said: "This was a chance to try and engage with a different audience and allow them to ask questions about policing in Coventry and also seek their feedback. There were some really positive comments." The broadcast lasted for more than an hour.

Alcohol helpline

A confidential telephone service helping people who misuse alcohol has extended its opening hours due to increased demand. Swanswell, a national charity based at Swanswell House, Norton Street, Coventry, is now available from 8am to 8pm on Mondays (excluding Bank Holidays) by calling 024 7622 6619. Drop-in sessions are also held at the Hillfields venue from 10am-12pm and 1-3pm Monday to Friday.

Easy to register

It's now easier than ever before to contact the Coventry Register Office. Call Coventry Direct on 024 7683 3141 for appointments, between 8am-8pm Monday to Friday and 9am-1pm on Saturdays. Appointments take place between 9.30am-4.30pm Monday to Friday to register births and deaths, give notice of marriages or civil partnerships, organise naming or renewal of vows ceremonies, or to apply for replacement certificates.

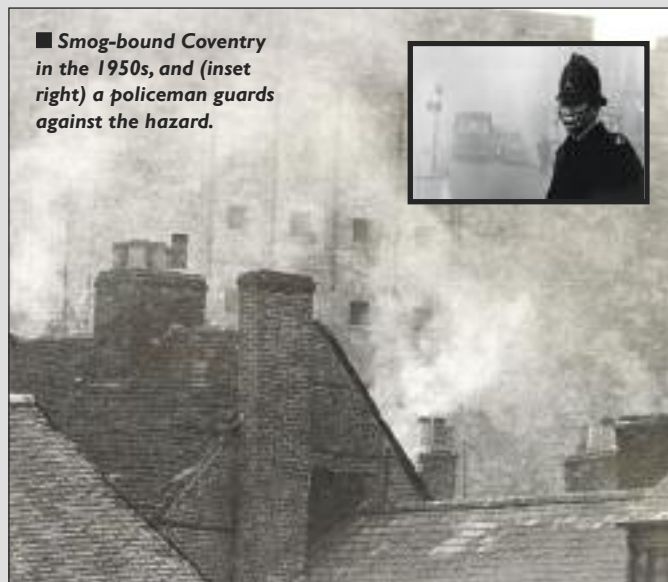
Serving a treat

The National Premier Tennis Finals featuring many of Britain's top men's doubles players is coming to the University of Warwick from April 13-17. The event also features a regional primary schools competition. For details, visit www.warwickartscentre.co.uk or call Mike Dixon on 07870 778490.

Drive to recruit more doorstep crimefighters



We've been smokeless for 60 years



■ *Smog-bound Coventry in the 1950s, and (inset right) a policeman guards against the hazard.*

It's 60 years since Coventry was declared the UK's first smokeless zone, heralding the end of pea-souper smogs, dirty and damaged buildings and health problems for thousands of people.

With the support of national government, the Council pressed ahead with the Coventry Corporation Act of 1948 to become an Operational Smokeless Zone on March 1, 1951.

In the first half of the last century, smoke produced by the burning of coal in homes and factories was a real problem for the health of local people. Visibility was also affected in the form of smog, which meant that Coventry received a half to two-thirds of the sunlight levels of rural areas and around 250 tons of soot fell on every square mile each year.

The post-war rebuilding of Coventry had to be undertaken while ensuring a clean atmosphere so Don Norcliffe, a Coventry public health inspector, along with colleague Tom Willmott, proposed a smokeless zone covering the badly bomb-damaged central city area.

The penalty for allowing smoke to be emitted was a fine of up to £10 (about £250 in today's money) with a daily penalty of up to £5.

Around 400 Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators across Coventry have been praised for their voluntary work in the community – and Council and police leaders are keen to recruit more.

Police crime prevention officer Elaine Hale said: "We're particularly keen to increase the number of Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators in their 20s and 30s."

Cllr Phil Townshend (pictured), cabinet member, Corporate and Neighbourhood Services, said that Coventry could be proud of the vital contribution of neighbourhood watch co-ordinators.

"They help to remind us that we're all in it together," he added.

For more information, contact crime reduction officers Elaine Hale or Pete Sturgeon on 0345 113 5000 (ext: 7931 6262).

Getting in touch

It's easier than ever before to contact the **Coventry Register Office** and book appointments.

You can now call
024 7683 3141

Monday to Friday
8am to 8pm

Saturday
9am to 1pm

Appointments take place
between 9.30am and 4.30pm
Monday to Friday



www.coventry.gov.uk

Households in the UK throw away £12 billion in wasted good food each year – that means the average family throws away £50 worth of good food that was bought but not eaten...

The good food guide to cutting waste

Coventry has signed up to the Regional West Midlands Love Food, Hate Waste campaign to help people save money and make the most of the food they buy by cutting down on food waste.

Councillor Lindsley Harvard, cabinet member for City Services, said: "We throw food out for two main reasons – either we cook or prepare too much or food goes off before we're able to eat it.

"It might seem unimportant to throw away some left over food –

but there is every chance that it has travelled from across the world by plane, train, lorry and finally our own car to make it to our plate.

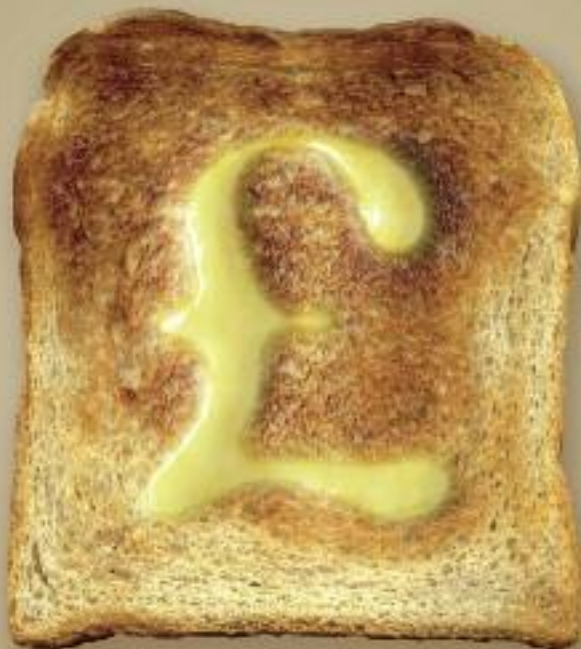
"Amazingly if we all threw away less food we could cut the city's carbon emissions equal to taking one in four cars off our roads.

"It really is as simple as making more of the food we buy, buying more smartly and cooking more smartly and I am looking forward to learning some new recipes and tips myself."



Top tips...

- Plan meals in advance – check what food you already have in your fridge or freezer and make a list of what you need before you go shopping.
- Keep your cupboard and freezer stocked with a variety of basic ingredients like pasta, rice and vegetables so you can always pull together a delicious meal with any leftovers you need to use up.
- Cook once, eat twice – make a nice big batch and freeze for another day.
- Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com for more information on how to make the most of the food you buy and save money.



FOOD LOVERS

save money

You can save up to £50 a month by throwing away less food. Find out how at lovefoodhatewaste.com

LOVE
FOOD
hate waste



Census countdown

- help tomorrow take shape

Thousands of people will be taking part in the UK census from March 27, continuing a series of regular population counts that have been repeated every 10 years since the first census in 1801.

The national census provides a vital source of information about the population and enables central and local government, health authorities, and many other organisations when they are planning housing, education, health and transport services.

In the coming weeks, residents in Coventry will be receiving a questionnaire through the door branded with a purple 2011 census logo.

The statistics that people provide are crucial and mean that the population estimate is as accurate as possible. Once completed, census co-ordinators say that the form should be returned on or around



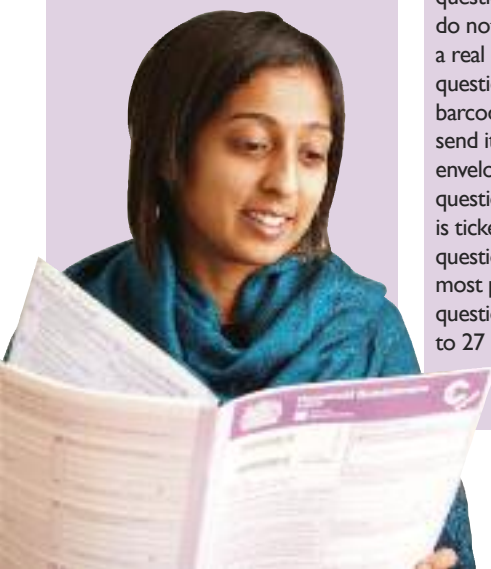
● Ready to hit the streets are dozens of census collectors and co-ordinators who will be visiting people across Coventry to help gather the latest facts and figures about the people and places of the city.

March 27, or can be completed online using the individual internet code which is on the front of the questionnaire. Go to

www.census.gov.uk or phone 0300 0201 101 and get your 2011 census questionnaire completed as soon as you can.

Making history

Did you know governments of every era have understood the value of collecting information on their most valuable asset - their people. The Babylonians and the Chinese held censuses, and the Egyptians collected information on the population so that they could plan armies of people to build the pyramids and to redistribute land following the annual flooding of the Nile. The Greeks and Romans were also keen census takers. The first thorough survey of England, however, was in 1086 when William the Conqueror ordered the production of the Domesday Book.



Steps to take

It's a legal requirement for every household and communal establishment to complete a questionnaire and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has the complex task of making sure that they have all been returned.

It's not an easy job. Even though ONS has made it as simple as possible to complete the questionnaire, with an online completion option (making it quick and accurate), accessible formats and guides (including those for people with physical and language difficulties) and mostly multi-choice tick-boxes on the paper questionnaire, the few people who do not return it on time can cause a real headache. Each household's questionnaire is given an individual barcode, so that as soon as you send it back in the pre-paid envelope (or submit the questionnaire online), your address is ticked off from the electronic questionnaire tracking system. Like most people, if you complete your questionnaire before, on, or as near to 27 March as possible and get it quickly back into the system, you're done.

Earn £105 per week

Henley College Coventry needs homes for international students

If you have a spare room and live on or near the main bus route to Henley College Coventry and want to find out more:

Call: **Sheila Brawn on 024 7662 6973**
 Text: home to **88020** * Email: **sbrawn@henley-cov.ac.uk**
*Text charged at your provider's rate

Henley College Coventry
 Henley Road, Bell Green, Coventry, CV2 1ED
www.henley-cov.ac.uk

After feedback from thousands of residents and city centre shoppers, Council plans feature. The aim is to create a greener, traffic-free environment suitable for a wide

Designs on a gre

The impressive plans cover Broadgate, and also include proposals to fill in two subways to improve the connection from the station and de-cluttering to improve the settings of some of the city's most stunning buildings.

Now, just less than two months after consultations began, work is ready to start this spring. The new-look Broadgate is also being described as the perfect space for café bars, restaurants and coffee shops.

Council leader John Mutton said he was overwhelmed - but not surprised - by the level of interest local people have shown. He said: "The city centre, and Broadgate in particular, are close to all our hearts and I knew we would be able to rely on local people telling us what they think!

"I believe, thanks to the input of local people, we now have an even better plan for Broadgate. It will be greener - there will be at least double the amount of trees than there are now. We have gone for traffic free which is what the majority of you told

Thanks to the input of local people, we now have a better plan for Broadgate...

us you wanted, and we have thought long and hard about the materials to ensure that it doesn't feel like a big grey square.

"We are looking at granite flooring - which is a top quality material, easy to clean and look after, reflects light and enables us to add colour - and we are planning a pink hue which echoes some of the materials used throughout Coventry's past.

"We also plan to introduce more greenery - as requested by residents," he explained. "We are including a large area of grass outside Holy Trinity Church - right next door to Broadgate - and to extend Greyfriars Park towards Bull Yard to further improve the connection from the station.

"Local people deserve a city centre they can be proud of and that's what we want to deliver and the work will help us to welcome visitors when the London 2012 Olympics arrive in Coventry in July 2012. Best of all - this isn't just talk, it will happen and happen fast - a fantastic new square designed by you!"



■ Council leader John Mutton and deputy leader George Duggins pictured (below) in front of Holy Trinity Church - an area earmarked for improvements. While (inset above) is an artist's impression of a greener Bull Yard - another area that will see improvements.



■ The many faces of Broadgate: In January, you told us what you liked and disliked about the design concept (inset left) (main picture). Now these comments are being incorporated into final plans which retain the Godiva statue at the heart of the premier square. The latest design was due out as Citivity news, and work is expected to begin on Broadgate later this year.



Half vote for traffic-free zone

More than 50 per cent of the people asked said they wanted Broadgate to be traffic free - so work is underway now to ensure that we create a series of bus hubs close to Broadgate and across the city centre at key points.

Ironmonger Square could be the perfect location for one of these hubs - as it means people will be dropped off at the top of the hill,

close to Bull Yard, which is to create a new city centre bus hub. Bull Yard, close to the station. Bus users will be asked for their views on services in the network to provide easy access to the city centre.

Plans for a new Broadgate are brought sharply into focus in this special Citivision range of events, from markets and music to a summer festival with a beach...

Greener look to square

...and us what you
...for Broadgate
...incorporated into
...of the city's
...vision went to
...this spring.



You said:

- No traffic in the day
- Make it greener
- Can we have some grass?
- Make it less grey

£50m plan for superstore and leisure complex

Plans have been unveiled to transform part of Coventry city centre as part of a new multi-million-pound superstore, retail and leisure development.

The 3.5-acre site includes the former Royal Mail sorting centre and adjoining properties, including 50 Bishop Street and is expected to create up to 1,000 jobs.

Midlands-based Barberrry Developments have recently completed the purchase of the 200,000 sq ft venue.

Cllr Linda Bigham, cabinet member for City Development, said the development would improve the connection between the city centre and the Canal Basin.

"It is encouraging that we can work with developers like Barberrry to continue our regeneration programme and to create jobs for local people," she said.

Company director for Barberrry developments, Henry Bellfield, said:

"The potential that the city has is enormous and we've forged a strong relationship with the Council."

...ne as people power shapes city

...roadgate and the side
...West Orchards. The plan
...e other hubs across the
...at key points such as
...Corporation Street and
...e Council House.
...s in Coventry will shortly
...or their views on city bus
...a wide-ranging review of
...rk. The aim will be to
...sier to understand

...routes and timetables serving
...homes, shops, work and leisure,
...improved co-ordination between
...services and better opportunities
...to change between bus and rail.

We will be talking to residents, holding consultation exhibitions and inviting comments online at www.networkwestmidlands/busreview in early spring. Look out for more information soon.



■ Left: A computer-generated image of the planned city-centre development.

New guide makes choosing a GP practice easy

A new 'how to' guide is helping people to think about the choices they have when selecting a GP by signposting health services to suit different lifestyles.

Launched in January, the guide from NHS Coventry has been developed with patients and doctors surgeries to raise awareness of services and improve access to healthcare across the city.

The guide is jargon-free and is designed to help readers negotiate services available based on their lifestyle.

Examples include finding out about extended opening hours for those who work full-time, translation services for patients where English is not their first language, and access to female doctors or specialists for long-term conditions. Copies of the guide will be available online at www.coventry.nhs.uk and at community centres, libraries, leisure centres and universities to help improve access to services for all. The consultation process included

'Currently patients must pick a GP practice within their area, but often there is more than one to choose from...'

a survey on understanding services and patient choice, followed by a

series of focus groups where patients helped to shape the look and content of the final guide.

Joanne Shaw, Transformation Programme Lead from NHS Coventry, said: "Currently patients must pick a GP practice within their area, but often there is more than one to choose from. People may not always be aware of this, or

the factors they should consider when making that choice.

"GPs are the first point of contact for health, so it's important to register with a surgery that meets your needs. We hope the new guide will help make the process less daunting and help people find services which suit their lifestyle."

■ Joanne Shaw and Elizabeth Barbosa, NHS Coventry.



Roofs on for city's health facility

Coventry's flagship £22.5m health facility has celebrated the topping out of the building at a special ceremony, marking the halfway point of the development.

As a one-stop-shop for healthcare, the city-centre health facility, commissioned by NHS Coventry, is one of three high-quality health centres to be delivered through Coventry Care Partnership, a public-private approach through the LIFT initiative (Local Improvement Finance Trust).

The facility will become home to a range of frontline NHS Coventry care services, including the out-of-hours service currently provided by the Walk-in Centre and some services currently based at Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital.

Situated on the old Hillfields Health Centre site, the new facility will also house local GP practices and a Lloyds pharmacy. Community health services will include psychological care and phlebotomy (blood) tests, a café and group rooms for meetings, counselling and clinics.

More than 30 VIPs climbed the five



■ City leaders celebrate reaching the halfway milestone.

storeys to witness the chair of NHS Coventry, Alison Gingell, and chair of Coventry Care Partnership, George Marsh, mark the occasion by laying the final batch of concrete with trainee engineer, Dan Cahoon, who is sponsored by Galliford Try.

Alison Gingell said: "Reaching the roofs on stage is a really exciting step for such a landmark development – the largest and most significant LIFT scheme yet. It's an ideal time to take stock of our

plans to drive healthcare in Coventry to the next level. Already we can see how this building will act as a marker for excellence, providing quality healthcare fit for modern living and taking services into the 21st century while fulfilling a longstanding promise to deliver more services from a city centre location."

The facility is due for completion in January 2012.

Successful family support project is expanded

A project to support young, first-time mums via home visits from specially trained nurses is to be expanded following a successful pilot in Coventry.

Family Nurse Partnerships offer young parents higher level support from pregnancy until the time their child is aged two.

So far around 6,000 families in England have benefited from the work of the partnerships, with pilots in Coventry as well as nine other areas.

Kate McClusky, Family Nurse Supervisor for NHS Coventry, said: "Our work is to complement the work of health visitors by providing more intensive support for those who need more help to care well for their children and themselves.

"Our nurses help teenage mums to adopt healthier lifestyles, provide good care for their babies and plan their futures.

"This could include offering support to give up smoking or

setting goals around finishing education or taking up a new course."

A study of the 10 pilot areas has found that parents receiving support:

- Are reducing smoking in pregnancy and are more likely to breastfeed;
- Have aspirations for the future and are taking up employment and education opportunities and;
- Are more confident as parents and are learning how to care well for their babies.

'She used to visit me once a week, but now as I have become more confident that has dropped down to once every two weeks..'

Among those to have benefited from the Family Nurse Partnership in Coventry is 19-year-old Charlene Flynn, from Potters Green in the city. Charlene, who has a four-month-old baby, Kian, said: "The support from the family nurse has been excellent. As a first-time mum I was worried about a lot of things.

"The family nurse started visiting when I was pregnant and was able to advise me on eating healthily and how to prepare for Kian arriving. She talked me through simple things like how to lay him in the cot and how to tell if he was hungry.

"She used to visit me once a week, but now as I have become

more confident that has dropped down to once every two weeks. You start to know your baby and what they need but at least you know that someone is always there at the end of a phone to answer your questions."

To find out more about Family Nurse Partnerships in Coventry, visit www.coventry.nhs.uk.

■ Charlene Flynn and baby Kian



Contraception worth talking about

Women across the city are being urged to make time to talk about contraception and consider the best method to suit their lifestyles.

Many women are unaware of the options available to them, particularly long-acting reversible contraception

(LARC) which can give up to five years or ten years freedom from worrying about getting pregnant.

Taking the pill everyday can be a bit of a chore, and missing a pill can reduce the effectiveness of their contraceptive cover, but there are alternatives that can provide long-term protection with minimum fuss and can be taken out at any time.

These options are:

- Contraceptive injections, working up to 12 weeks and can be repeated.
- Devices fitted inside the womb – intrauterine devices (IUDs) and the intrauterine system (IUS), lasting between 5 and 10 years, and replaceable.
- Implants placed under your skin, lasting up to 3 years, and replaceable.

Ruth Tennant, Sexual Health Consultant at NHS Coventry said:

"Each of these options are fully reversible so it's easy to change your mind and decide to try for a baby, your fertility will return some time after you stop using them.

"Contraception will help prevent an unplanned pregnancy however; it will not protect you from sexually transmitted infections. Always remember to use the 'double dutch' method by using a condom and contraception together."

Contraceptive services are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL for everyone, including young people under 16 as long as they are mature enough to understand the information and decisions involved.

For more information contact your GP or Practice Nurse or the Integrated Sexual Health Service on 0300 020 0027 or visit

It's so easy to keep in touch online

NHS Coventry has made it even easier to keep up with all the latest news and health advice with its brand new website, full of advice and tips on staying healthy and living longer.

Find out more at www.coventry.nhs.uk You can also follow NHS Coventry on the social network site Twitter – visit www.twitter.com and search for 'NHSCoventry' for latest news. Or become a Facebook friend and let us know what health issues are on your mind.



■ NHS contraception advert

**THE BIG
PLEDGE**
to stop smoking


SMOKEFREE
COVENTRY

**“I pledge to
stop smoking”**



“We pledge to be there to support you every step of the way.”

A Big Pledge mentor will put you in touch with one of our **FREE** Stop Smoking Services who can help you kick the habit for good.

With our support you are **4 times more likely to succeed** than if you try to quit on your own.

To make your pledge, text the word **‘PLEDGE’** followed by your name and address to **81025** (FREE) or visit **www.thebigpledge.co.uk**. Alternatively, you can contact our friendly support team on **0800 051 1310**.


Coventry

Students give life to 'quake robot'

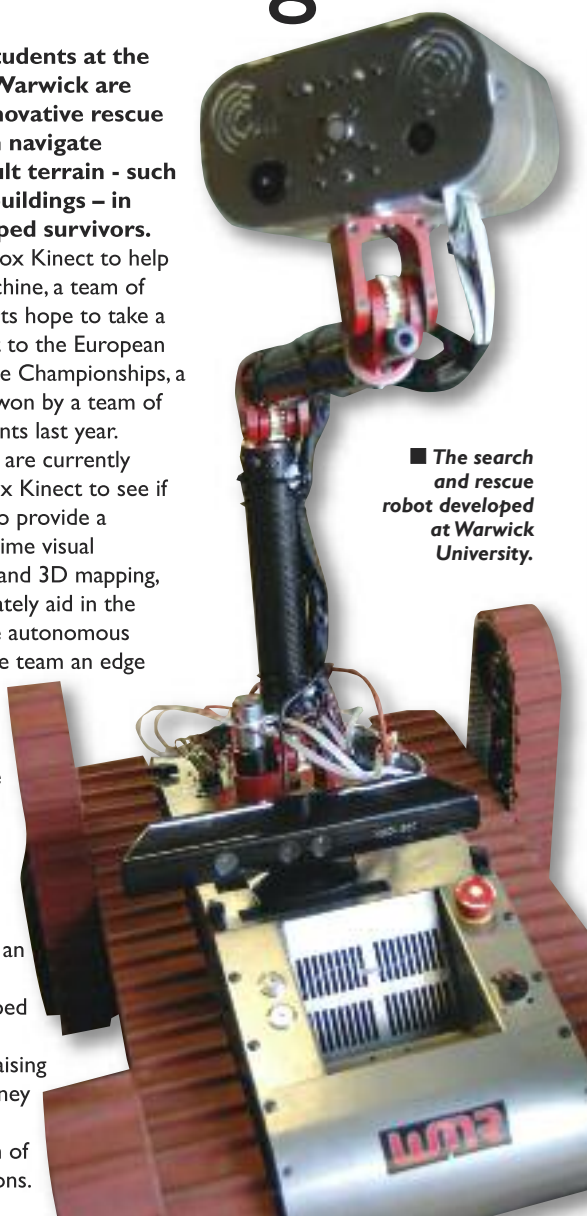
Engineering students at the University of Warwick are building an innovative rescue robot that can navigate through difficult terrain - such as destroyed buildings - in search of trapped survivors.

Using the Xbox Kinect to help navigate the machine, a team of Warwick students hope to take a prototype robot to the European RoboCup Rescue Championships, a title which was won by a team of University students last year.

The students are currently trialling the XBox Kinect to see if they can use it to provide a method of real time visual communication and 3D mapping, which will ultimately aid in the navigation of the autonomous robot, to give the team an edge over the competition.

The current Warwick mobile robotics team, based at the University of Warwick, is developing the design, including an arm to carry supplies to trapped survivors.

The team is raising sponsorship money to enable it to compete in both of these competitions.



■ The search and rescue robot developed at Warwick University.

Be Savvy about sex - how to handle that difficult conversation

Families across Coventry can now 'Be Savvy' about sex and prepared for those difficult conversations around relationships, thanks to a new online programme launched by NHS Coventry and Coventry City Council.

The Be Savvy website supports parents in a safe environment to engage in their children's sexual health education and relationship issues as they grow up. It supports parents to give their child one-to-one attention, passing on values and beliefs that are important to parents, for example the positive side of relationships and sex as well as the risks or dangers.

The website www.besavvy.org.uk includes

Sexual health app

NHS Coventry has launched a mobile phone app in a bid to improve access to health care services. The 'sat-nav to services' helps people get the right treatment from urgent care services and has just been expanded to include details and locations of sexual health services. Hundreds of people have already downloaded the app. Available from iTunes and the Android Market, it uses GPS to signpost patients to their nearest service, including where to get free condoms.

a DVD, interactive game devised by academics at Coventry University, and a lesson plan for teachers.

Planning forum: Converting your garage

The Council's planning officers receive dozens of calls each week about a variety of issues affecting new developments and changes to the streets where we live.

Citivism asked planning advisors at the Council about a common planning conundrum they receive and here is what they had to say...

Q I have a garage attached to the side of my house. Do I need planning permission to change this from a garage to a study/living room?

A If it is part of your house (integral) then we will need to

check to see if there were any conditions placed on the property when it was built that required the garage to be retained for parking of a motor vehicle (this is quite common in houses built after 1963).

If you contact the Planning Advisory Desk on 024 7683 1212 they will check any history attached to your property.

If there are no restrictive planning conditions you do not need planning permission to convert your attached garage to form part of your living accommodation.

You are also advised to contact Building Control on 024 7683 2058 for advice on any building regulation consents.

Introducing the new website...
BeSavvy

For information and advice on relationships and sex for young people, parents and professionals, and where you can go for more information.

www.besavvy.org.uk

Coventry City Council NHS Coventry Coventry University



ON TRACK
LOOKING FORWARD NOT BACK

COVENTRY CREATIVE FUTURES PRESENTS

ON TRACK

A tale of sport and music reflecting young people's journeys through life.

A musically entangled web of sport and life.

Competitiveness is in the air as the 2012 Games are brought to Coventry's district sports day. As the UK team's dreams are left in the hands of the class clown, it is all hands on deck to inspire Joker Yaro to focus on her 10,000m race; a race that could lead their UK team to victory.

Friday 8 April 2011

Belgrade Theatre // Main stage: 7.30pm

TICKETS

£2.00 children

£2.50 adults

£5.00 family ticket

(2 adults 2 children)

**Concessions
for youth
and school
groups**

www.belgrade.co.uk // Book now on 024 7655 3055

For more information contact the Creative Futures Team on 024 7678 5938.





London 2012 countdown

■ More than 400,000 **volunteer** applications were received from people who all want to play a part in London 2012, and the University of Warwick is one of the nine venues where interviews are being staged.

The volunteers programme – called Game Maker – is offering around 70,000 volunteer opportunities. It is estimated that over the next 12 months, over 300 people a day will attend a selection event that includes a 30 minute interview. Where possible, applicants will be invited to attend the selection event nearest to them. For more information about local volunteering for London 2012 inspired events, visit www.wmfor2012.com/volunteering

■ Over 250,000 **tickets** will be on sale for Olympic Football at the Ricoh Arena (to be renamed City of Coventry Stadium for London 2012) and between March 15 and April 26 2011 local people can apply for these and for a whole range of London 2012 tickets.

Tickets cost as little as £20 or less and eight football match days are planned for the City of Coventry Stadium. Games will be played from July 25 to August 9, 2012, and pay your age tickets are also being offered for 0 to 16 year olds and over 60s. For more details, visit www.tickets.london2012.com

The London 2012 Olympic football competition by numbers:

- **28** nations (16 men, 12 women), 504 athletes, 58 games across 6 venues nationwide in just 18 days.
- **25** July-August 9, the period of the games.
- **2** million tickets available – on sale March 2011.
- **12** games at The City of Coventry Stadium, plus the bronze medal match.
- A 25-metre sq **Live Site** screen in Millennium Place will be bringing you up to date all the latest Olympic and Paralympic events from the end of April, plus coverage of the Royal wedding on April 29. Local event listings and community events will also be featured. For more information, visit www.bbc.co.uk/bigscreens



■ Local volunteer Katherine Durkin, Rugby (left) with London 2012 staff at the Games Maker volunteer roadshow in Coventry.

2012 Games beckon for city venue proud to be involved

Coventry is one of only nine venues outside London hosting the 2012 Olympic Games.

As a venue for Olympic football, the city is gearing up for a range of events and activities in the run-up to London 2012, with many opportunities for local people to get involved.

Among the activities is the community games programme which encourages people to create their own Olympic and Paralympic inspired events.

The Council is also a host council for London 2012. Council leader Cllr John Mutton said: "It's a massive opportunity for Coventry and I know that local people will grasp this chance to be part of the Olympic ethos. We've got great sporting credentials and we're a city with a rich multicultural history and a fantastic setting for Olympic football."

He added: "As we count down to the games in July next year, we are already redeveloping parts of the city centre, and I hope that local people will be able to get involved in many of the activities being planned. The input of the community is vital and I hope that

In training for Godiva Awakes showcase

A 50-strong team of cyclists is in training – to power a huge Lady Godiva (**pictured below**) from Coventry to the site of the London 2012 cultural celebrations. The Godiva Awakes artwork created by local firm Imagineer Productions is

one of a series of 12 public art commissions across the UK marking the arrival of the games. The cycle team, supported by local companies Nortoft and NP Aerospace and Coventry-based British cycling champion Mick Ives, has been training at the Ricoh Arena (**below**) in readiness for the challenge. To find out more, visit www.imagineerproductions.co.uk/godivaawakes.



in neighbourhoods from Willenhall to Whoberley people young and old are able to share in the Olympic spirit."

■ A free downloadable community games toolkit packed with ideas and guidance about how people

can stage their own games is now available at www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012. The site not only offers tips and suggestions about sport, but also aims to inspire people to celebrate culture and diversity across the UK.

Spring into summer

Here are some of the things you can enjoy during the spring months around Coventry

MARCH

■ **Saturday 5 - Coventry Women's Forum Launch**, Coventry Transport Museum 10am-4pm. Stalls and workshops. Guest speakers, and the Women of Achievement Award Ceremony. Contact Catherine Tennant on 024 7623 4515.

■ **Study Day: Costume Study Day** The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum 11am-4pm. Explore the costume collection, and let the team shed light on the hidden past of your own items. Book at the Herbert reception, call 024 7629 4774 or visit www.theherbert.org

■ **The Stereoscopic Society** (also April 2), St Barbara's Church Hall, Earlsdon 2.30-5pm. The Stereoscopic Society promotes the taking and showing of photos, slides and films in 3D. Call Francis Heath on 024 7641 4381.

■ **Wednesday 9 Coventry Conversations: BBC College of Journalism International Conference - Investigative Journalism-alive and well!** Coventry University ETG 34. Contact John Mair on 07785 378156 or e-mail johnmair100@hotmail.com

■ **Thursday 10 Coventry Conversations: Trish Adudul/Arti Hari - Formats/Diversity**. Coventry University ETG 34, 1pm. Free hour-long talk with media movers and shakers. Contact John Mair on 07785 378156 or e-mail johnmair100@hotmail.com

■ **Saturday 12 The V Word**. The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum 11am-4pm. A day of insights and inspirations on issues affecting women's lives. Visit www.theherbert.org or call 024 7683 2386.

■ **The Great Daffodil Ball**. The Hilton Hotel, Coventry. Cost £35per head. Proceeds to go to Marie Curie Cancer Care. For tickets, visit www.bloominwonders.org.uk or call 024 7645 9333.

■ **Saturday 19 Spring forward to fun**. War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Join the staff for free fun and games, outside if weather allows. Dress warmly. Suitable for ages four and above. Call 024 7683 2441 or visit www.coventry.gov.uk/parks

■ **Sunday 20 Love spring! Guided walk**. Coombe Country Park 10am-noon. Cost £2.50 and booking is



Unravelling the secrets of Ancient Egypt

Getting all wrapped up in the secrets of Egypt is this ancient mummy, one of the hundreds of visitors to a new exhibition at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum. *Secret Egypt - Unravelling Truth from Myth* brings together over 200 items from around the country, including a mummy from the Manchester Museum. Also on display is a never-before displayed portrait of Queen

Nefertiti from the Ashmolean and a granite colossus of Ramesses II. *Secret Egypt* has been made possible because of the support of donations from the British Museum and museums across the country. The show runs until June 5. Visit www.secretegypt.org.uk for regular blogs, film clips, information and the chance to enter the Secret Egypt competition.

essential by calling 024 7645 3720. ■ **Guide in the hide**. Coombe Country Park 10.30am-noon and 1-2.30pm. Spend time with Coombe's guide in the hide. Free. Meet at the Bird Hide.

APRIL

■ **Saturday 2 Marvellous Mums**. War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Make a Mother's Day card and present. Dress warmly. Cost 50p. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged four and above. No booking required.

■ **Easter Fun Monday 11** Longford Park 1.30-3.30pm. **Tuesday 12** Allesley Park 1.30-3.30pm. **Wednesday 13** Primrose Hill Park 1.30-3.30pm. **Thursday 14** Caludon Castle Park 1.30-3.30pm. **Saturday 16** Quinton Park 1.30-3.30pm.

■ **Sunday 17** Radford Common Play Area 1.30-3.30pm. **Monday 18** The Lindfield 1.30-3.30pm. **Tuesday 19** Holbrooks Park 1.30-3.30pm. **Thursday 21** Nauls Mill Park 1.30-3.30pm. Outdoor fun with the rangers. Craft activities

and Easter trail. Events are open access, all under eights must be supervised and over eights must have a completed parental permission slip (available from the rangers on the day). Free. Suitable for eight-12 year olds.

■ **Tuesday 12 Chick chick chick chicken, lay a little egg for me**. Coombe Country Park, 11am-1pm. Drop into the Easter marquee and get busy creating bird nests and decorating eggs. Cost £2.50. Meet at the visitor centre. Suitable for children aged five and above. No booking required.

■ **Wednesday 13 Beautiful butterflies**. War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. Make beautiful butterflies to take home. Dress warmly as event may be held in a marquee. Cost 50p. Meet by the play area. Suitable for children aged four and above. Drop in session, pay on the day.

■ **Thursday 14** (also 21 and June 2) - **Iris May Falcons**. Coombe Country Park, 11am-1pm. Get up close and personal with fearsome

birds of prey. Free. Meet outside Visitor Centre.

■ **Thursday 14 Osteoporosis Support Group - Balancing your diet**. Church Hall, St John's Church, Hill Street, 2pm. Cost £2.50. No free car parking, with a few disabled spaces in Hill Street.

■ **Friday 15 Pat Collins Fun Fair** Hearsall Common

■ **Sunday 17** (until Monday 18) **Vicus training**. Lunt Roman Fort, 10.30am-4.30pm. The Vicus are one of the most professional Iron Age and early Roman re-enactment societies. For more information, visit www.vicus.org.uk. Cost £7 family (two adults and four children), adults £2.50/£1.25 concessions.

■ **Sunday 17 St George's Day celebration** War Memorial Park, 1-4pm. Join the city of Coventry scout group in celebrating the Patron Saint of England. Free.

■ **Monday 18** (until Friday 22) **Half-Term Activity: Incredible Inventions**. The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, 10.30am-3.30pm. Discover some of the ancient Egyptians' amazing inventions. Visit www.theherbert.org or call 024 7683 2386.

■ **Tuesday 19 Heron's Island ahoy**. Coombe Country Park, 10am-noon. Take a closer look at the fantastic herons. Cost £2.50. Meet at the visitor centre. Suitable for children aged five and above. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

■ **Wednesday 20 Rangers' volunteer day**. Blackwatch Open Space, Blackwatch Road. 10am-3.30pm. Help repair and resurface the path across the public open space at Blackwatch. Free. Suitable for 16-plus. Booking is essential on 024 7683 1951.

■ **Easter egg-citement**, War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. Follow the Easter Bunny's treasure trail. Can you solve the clues? Have a go at some egg-citing arts and crafts. Dress warmly. Cost 50p. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged four and above. Drop-in session.

■ **Thursday 21 Hunt for the white rabbit** Coombe Country Park, drop in between 11am-3pm. The Easter bunny has got lost in the woods at

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

Coombe. Help save him and Easter by following the clues, cracking the codes. Small egg prize to all those who find him. Cost £2. Pick up your trail from the information centre. Suitable for families. No need to book.

■ **Friday 22**

Challenge 66. War Memorial Park. Support Andy McMenemy as he runs 66 marathons in 66 consecutive days in 66 cities in aid of 'The Soldiers' Charity. Visit www.challenge66.org

MAY

■ **Sunday 1**

Sikh Union Vaisakhi sports day War Memorial Park, 10am-6pm. A family day out with good food, a variety of stalls and sporting activities Free. Visit www.sikhunion.co.uk

■ **Thursday 5**

Batty Bats. Tile Hill Woods, 8.30pm. Join the rangers for an evening exploring bats using sonic bat detectors. Cost £2 or £1. Passport to Leisure and Learning. Meet at the layby on Banner Lane. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

■ **Saturday 7**

Dawn chorus guided walk. Coombe Country Park, 4.30-7am. An early morning walk listening to the birds at dawn. Cost £2.50. Meet at the visitor centre. Suitable for adults and older children. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

■ **Sunday 8**

Sunbeam Alpine spares day War Memorial Park, 10am-3pm. Display of these rare cars.

■ **Saturday 14**

Pets Galore! War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Celebrate National Pets' Month by making your own pet to take home and look after. Drop-in and dress warmly. Cost 50p. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged four and above.

■ **Sunday 15**

The Coventry Walkathon. War Memorial Park, 11am-3.15pm. Coventry Leofric Lions charity walkathon. Prizes for the best fancy dress. Entry forms from the Coventry Telegraph reception or at www.leofriclions.org.uk

■ **Wednesday 18**

Rangers' Volunteer Day, Purcell Road, 10am-3.30pm. Constructing log compost bins to compost down the invasive species, Himalayan Balsam. Free. Suitable for 16-plus. Booking is essential on 024 7683 1951.

■ **Friday 27 (until June 4)**

Coventry Crock and Fun Fair Hearsall Common, Friday 6-10pm, Saturday and Sunday 2-11pm, Monday noon-11pm, Tuesday-Friday 2.30-11pm.

■ **Sunday 29 (until 31)**

Vicus Re-Enactment Lunt Roman Fort, 10.30am-4.30pm. Exciting combat and living history displays. Family £7 (two adults and four children), adults £2.50/£1.25.

■ **Monday 30 (until June 3)**

Half-Term Activity: A day in the life of ancient Egypt. The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, 10.30am-3.30pm. Explore the busy everyday lives of ancient Egyptians including food, hygiene, leisure, work and worship, in this action packed week of family activities.

■ **Tuesday 31**

Family Environment Day. War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. Help clean up the park. Children can take part in natural scavenger hunts and make recycled junk robots. Dress warmly. Free. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged four and above. Register at 024 7683 5763.

JUNE

■ **Wednesday 1**

National Family Week Den Building Challenge. Coombe Country Park, 11am-1pm. It's competition time – you have one hour to build a shelter from anything you find in the park. Can it survive the weather? Prizes for the best overall den and the most creative. Cost £1 per team member, maximum eight in one team. Meet at the visitor centre. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

■ **Water vole awareness**

Brookside Avenue, Whoberley, 4.30-5.30pm (also **Thursday 2** at Longford Park 4.30-5.30pm and **Saturday 4** at Lake View Park 1.30-3.30pm). Find out more about water voles and what you can do to help them. Free.

■ **Thursday 2**

Buzzy bee bouquets. Coombe Country Park, 11am-1pm. Join us in the wildflower meadow making bouquets fit for a queen bee. Cost £2.50. Meet at the wildflower meadow by the lake. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

■ **Family health and fitness day**

War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. Fun and games at the park. Dress warmly. Free. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged seven and above. Register on 024 7683 5763.

■ **Saturday 4**

Tennis open day. War Memorial Park. Free tennis open day, 10am-noon. Juniors (ages nine-15 years) 10.15-11am. Children session 1 (ages five-eight) 2-2.45pm, session 2 1-3pm. Adults (16+ years). Advance booking at 024 7615 0688 or e-mail infor@inspire2coach.co.uk

■ **Sunday 5**

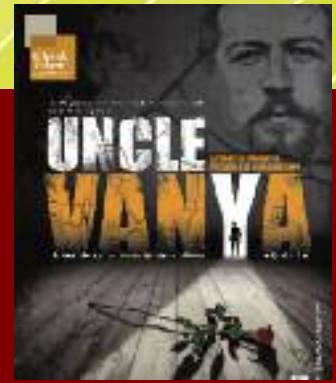
World Environment Day. War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. Make a wacky animal mask to take home and wear. Drop-in and dress warmly. Cost 50p. Meet adjacent to play area. Suitable for children aged four and above.

■ **Wednesday 8 (also Saturday 11,)**

Vole Volunteers. Lake View Park, 10am-3pm (and **Wednesday 15** at Guphill Brook, Whoberley, 10am-3pm). Help protect the endangered water vole. Volunteer days organised in partnership with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Bring your own lunch. Free. Suitable for 16-plus. Booking essential on 024 7683 1951.

■ **Sunday 12**

Coventry Fun Run. War Memorial Park, 10am-3pm. Coventry Three Spires Round Table annual fun run. register at www.coventryfunrun.co.uk
Cov Art Fair (Summer Edition) Coventry Canal Basin, 11am-4pm. Street arts and crafts fair. Book at www.thelockgallery.co.uk



Win tickets for Chekhov classic

Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* will be playing in the Belgrade's B2 auditorium from Saturday, April 2-23. The story follows a retired celebrity and his beautiful young wife as they return to their country estate and turn the humdrum lives of those around them upside down. *Citivism* has a pair of tickets up for grabs for Monday April 4. For a chance to win, e-mail the name of the author to communications@coventry.gov.uk. Don't forget to include your name and details.

The Citivism listings page

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

Herbert
An Gallery & Museum, Coventry

SECRET EGYPT

UNRAVELLING TRUTH FROM MYTH

11 FEBRUARY – 5 JUNE 2011

This brand new blockbuster exhibition will allow visitors to investigate the truth behind some of the popular myths about ancient Egypt.

For further information on our programme of FREE events, workshops and family activities linked to this exhibition visit www.theherbert.org

Egyptomania! \$10 / 25 Friends
Friday 18 March 7.30pm – 10.00pm
Join us for an evening of entertainment inspired by Secret Egypt. Booking is essential.
Call 024 7629 4774

★ The Herbert is proud to be a family friendly venue ★

I BABLAKE

Clr John Gazey: Call or fax 024 7633 3780 for attention or appointment. Will visit you.
Clr Brian Kelsey (Lord Mayor): Call 024 7683 3100 or e-mail brian.kelsey@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.
Clr Andrew Williams: Call 024 7683 4100 or e-mail andrew.williams@coventry.gov.uk

I BINLEY & WILLENHALL

Clr Dave Chater: For an appointment, call 024 7667 2619 or 07759 062733. Happy to make a home visit. e-mail dave.chater@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Ram P Lakha OBE: For an appointment, call 024 7645 6161 or 024 7683 3730. Happy to make a home visit. e-mail ram.lakha@btinternet.com or ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
Clr John Mutton: Call 024 7683 2672 or 024 7630 4497 for an appointment or advice.

I CHEYLESMORE

Clr's Foster and Noonan hold regular surgeries at the Cheylesmore Community Centre at 6.30-8pm on the last Wednesday of each month (Except December) and at Whitley Community Centre every second Saturday of the month between 1-2pm. You can also contact them directly on the details below.
Clr Kevin Foster: 024 7683 1276 (daytime) or e-mail kevin.foster@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Hazel Noonan: 024 7683 1103 (daytime) or 024 7650 5109 (evenings), or e-mail hazel.noonan@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Harjinder Singh Sehmi: First Thursday of the month at Cheylesmore Social Club, Quinton Park, 7-8pm or call for an appointment at the Council House on 07507 687268 or e-mail harjinder.singhsehmi@coventry.gov.uk

I EARLSDON

Clr Allan Andrews: Happy to help where I can. Call 024 7683 1034 or email allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk. Online hour-long surgery at 7pm on last Wednesday of every month using Windows Live Messenger; earlsdonsurgery@live.co.uk, visit www.iloveearlsdon.co.uk or www.allanandrews.com.
Clr Michael Hammon: Call 024 7644 8585 for an appointment or e-mail michael.hammon@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Ken Taylor OBE: Call 024 7683 1276 (Council House) for an appointment.

I FOLESHILL

Clr Tariq Khan: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1039, or e-mail tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Abdul Salam Khan: Call 024 7683 4100 (Council House) or 0790 3847160, or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Malkiat Auluck: Last Monday of each month, 6-7pm at the Indian Community Centre, Cross Road, 2nd Tuesday of the month 6.30pm-7.30pm at the Foleshill Community Centre, Foleshill Road, or call 024 7663 7965 for an appointment.

I HENLEY

Clr Lynnette Kelly: 024 7671 1682. e-mail lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Kevin Maton: 07941 827229. e-mail kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Ed Ruane: 07817 218137. e-mail ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk. If there is something you need us to help with, call us or visit us at 4pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Moat House Leisure Centre, Winston Avenue, Henley Green.

I HOLBROOKS

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

Clr Ann Lucas: Call 024 7633 2084 for a chat or appointment. Surgery on first Monday of each month 9.30-10.30am at Holbrook Health Centre, Wheelwright Lane.

I LONGFORD

Clr Linda Bigham: First Friday of every month 3.30-4.30pm at the Longford Primary Care Centre, Longford Road, and 5.30-6.30pm at the Scout Headquarters, Aldermans Green Road. Last Friday of every month 6-7pm at the St Thomas' Parish Church Hall, Longford Road. Please phone 024 7636 0898 to confirm an appointment.
Clr George Duggins: Second Saturday of every month noon-1pm at Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Road and 1.15-2pm at Royal Hotel, Old Church Road. Second Sunday of every month 11.30am-1pm at Bell Green Working Men's Club, Roseberry Avenue or call 024 7683 1003 (daytime).
Clr Lindsay Harvard: First Saturday of every month 10.45-11.45am at the Scout Headquarters, Aldermans Green Road and noon-1pm at the Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Road. First Sunday of every month 11am-noon at the Church Hall, St Thomas' Parish Church, Longford Road, and 12.15-1.15pm at the Bell Green Working Men's Club, Roseberry Avenue. Call 024 7667 5717, e-mail lindsay.harvard@coventry.gov.uk

I LOWER STOKE

Clr Jack Harrison MBE JP: 024 7683 1039, e-mail jack.harrison@coventry.gov.uk.
Clr John McNicholas: If you have a problem, need help or advice, visit me at one of my Tuesday surgeries from 6pm onwards: First Tuesday - One-Stop Shop, Barley Lea. Second Tuesday - Ravensdale Primary School, Ravensdale Road. Third Tuesday - United Reformed Church, front vestry, Harefield Road. Fourth Tuesday - The Humber Hotel, Humber Road. Will also visit you in your own home and can be contacted on 02476 831 038 (daytime), 02476 504 037 (evenings) or e-mail john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Phil Townshend: Call 024 7683 1034 (daytime) for details of dates and venues of surgeries.

I RADFORD

Clr Mal Mutton: Call 024 7630 4497 for an appointment.
Clr Keiran Mulhall (Deputy Lord Mayor): Every Tuesday at Jaguar Sports and Social Club, Middlemarch Road, 6.30-7.30pm. Also Radford Social Club on the first Sunday of the month 11.30am-12.30pm. Or call 024 7683 3048 for an appointment.
Clr Tony Skipper: Available to see Radford residents at Coventry Coachmakers' Club, 72 Radford Road, CV1 4BY. For details and to make an appointment or to leave a message, call 024 7683 1032.

I ST MICHAEL'S

Clr David Welsh: First Saturday of each month, noon-1pm at the Redeemed Christian Church of God (former Howitzer Club), Albert Street. 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
Clr Dave Nellist: First Friday of month St Peter's Church Centre, Charles Street, 6-7pm. Alternatively call 024 7683 4847 (daytime), leave a message on 024 7622 9311 or e-mail dave.nellist@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Jim O'Boyle: Second Saturday of each month, noon-1pm at Zeenat Restaurant, Cambridge Street, Hillfields, fourth Saturday of month, noon at Transport House, Short Street. Call 024 7669 4873 or 024 7683 3156, or e-mail jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk

I SHERBOURNE

Clr Seamus Walsh: Call 07956 546983 or 024 7683 1039 (Council House), or e-mail

seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Gary Ridley: Happy to help where I can, please feel free to call 024 7683 1032 (day). e-mail gary.ridley@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.
Clr David Smith: Call 024 7683 1039 (daytime). e-mail david.smith@coventry.gov.uk

I UPPER STOKE

Clr Russell Field: First Wednesday of month at St Albans Centre, Mercer Avenue, 7-7.30pm. Or call 024 7661 2689. e-mail russell.field@coventry.gov.uk or www.upperstokefocus@covlibdems.org.uk, or visit www.covlibdems.org.uk
Clr Sucha Bains: Barras Green Social Club, Coventry Street, between noon-12.45pm every first and third Saturday. Or call 024 7645 9484.
Clr Raja M Asif: Call 024 7683 1038 or 07791 055749 or e-mail raja.asif@coventry.gov.uk. First and third Saturday of each month at the Stoke Ex-Servicemen's Club, Clay Lane, from noon-12.30pm; second Saturday of each month at Barras Green Social Club, Coventry Street, from 12.30-1pm; fourth Saturday of each month at Stoke Heath Community Centre from noon to 1pm; Saturdays also at Ball Hill, 155 Walsgrave Road from 1-3 pm; Fridays at King Edward Social Club, Blackberry Lane, 6.30-7pm. If you cannot attend a surgery, ring and I will visit you at home.

I WAINBODY

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

I WESTWOOD

Clr Marcus Lapsa: Call 024 7647 4540 or 024 7683 1004 (daytime) for an appointment or e-mail marcus.lapsa@coventry.gov.uk
Clr David Skinner: Call 024 7646 8106 or e-mail david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Nigel Lee: For a personal appointment or home visit, call 024 7667 5772 or e-mail nigel.lee@coventry.gov.uk

I WHOBERLEY

Clr Ken Charley: Call 024 7647 4990 or 024 7683 1039 or e-mail ken.charley@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Roger Bailey: Call 024 7683 1039 (daytime) for an appointment or e-mail roger.bailey@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Bally Singh: Call 07779 256898 for an appointment, or e-mail bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk. Regular surgeries are held every 3rd Saturday of the month between 10am-noon at St Mary Magdalene Centre on Sir Thomas White Road.

I WOODLANDS

Clr Christian Cliffe: Call 024 7683 1039 (Council House) or 024 7650 2127 (home) for an appointment. Alternatively, contact me by e-mail at chris.cliffe@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Heather Johnson: Call 024 7683 1038 (Council House) or 024 7667 0901 (home) for an appointment. Alternatively e-mail heather.johnson@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Julia Lepoidevin: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1039 (daytime) or e-mail julia.lepoidevin@coventry.co.uk

I WYKEN

Clr Susanna Dixon: Call 024 7683 1039 (daytime), 024 7662 2206 (evenings), or e-mail susanna.dixon@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Faye Abbott: For an appointment call 07944 996294 or e-mail faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
Clr Hazel Sweet: For an appointment or home visit call 024 7661 6273 or e-mail hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk

Cabinet members

Clr John Mutton, Leader
 Policy, Leadership and Governance
Clr George Duggins, Deputy Leader
 Strategic Finance and Resources
Clr Joe Clifford
 Children and Young People
Clr Lynnette Kelly - Education
Clr Linda Bigham - City Development
Clr Lindsay Harvard - City Services
Clr Tony Skipper - Housing, Sustainability and Local Infrastructure
Clr Jim O'Boyle - Community Services
Clr Phil Townshend - Corporate and Neighbourhood Services
Clr Abdul Khan - Culture, Leisure, Sport and Libraries

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 C = Chair DC = Deputy Chair

Coventry MPs

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

European MPs

West Midlands Region

CONSERVATIVE - Malcolm Harbour, Philip Bradbourn, 285 Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common, CV7 7EJ
 Call 01 676 530621
LABOUR - Michael Cashman, Terry Duffy House, Thomas Street, West Bromwich B70 6NT
 Call 0121 569 1923
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - Liz Lynne, 55 Ely Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6LN
 Call 01 789 266354
UKIP - Mike Nattrass, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD
 Call 0121 333 7737
INDEPENDENT - Nikki Sinclair, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD
 Call 0121 359 5933



TTP is Coventry's recovery service and designed to help addicts become and remain drug- and alcohol-free.

We offer...

- 12 weeks of daily structured groupwork and counselling
- Access to education
- Job training and lifeskills
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Coventry Recovery Programme

... permanent recovery

**Can you imagine life
without drugs and alcohol?**



Neither could we!

Affected by a loved one misusing drugs or alcohol? Need a chance to share your experience with others in a similar situation? TTP Recovery Community also offers a family and carer service.

**For information and help looking after or living with a drug user call 024 7683 7067.
4 The Quadrant • Coventry • CV1 2DY**

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Theatre
Coventry


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The Belgrade Theatre presents



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20%

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by arrangement with Killian Morris
Enfavour New York presents



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PRESCRIPTION:
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Brian Capron

by Richard Lewinson
& William Link
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By Anton Chekhov
In a new version by
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