

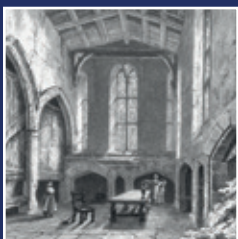
citivision

issue 67 | spring | 2020



Love and Pride

Revellers will be celebrating the diversity of the city this June for Coventry Pride



St Mary's Guildhall kitchen refurb



Addressing youth violence in the city



City centre is getting in shape



Ride The Wave

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR GO CV CARD HOLDERS
 BOOK YOUR TICKETS
www.thewavecoventry.com
 The Wave Waterpark, City Centre, Coventry CV1 2PS.



From the top



A personal message from Cllr George Duggins, Leader, Coventry City Council.

The changing face of the city centre

When you travel through the city centre you won't have missed the work underway.

There is a lot happening that will improve the look and feel of the place. The developments will retain the best parts of the city's original design while adding in some new features.

In this issue of Citivision we've put together an at a glance guide to where in the city the many schemes are.

This is important work, which in the short term, will mean some disruption for shoppers, workers and other city centre visitors - but there will be lots to look forward to.

Elsewhere, there are many events and activities coming up that you should look out for, including: The Festival of Running which returns to the city in April - including the Half Marathon, Coventry 5k and wheelchair race; Coventry Pride which will be back in Broadgate in June; and the Godiva Festival which makes its 22nd appearance in early July.

This March the new 50m pool opens at the Alan Higgs Centre and I am sure both serious swimmers and casual paddlers will all be making the most of this great venue.

We've also got details of lots more projects and what we are doing to improve the quality of life for all our communities.

This includes planning our budget for 2020/21 to ensure frontline services are protected, addressing rough sleeping by creating an alternative donations website to support rough sleepers, and introducing new policies to improve the standards of Houses in Multiple Occupation.

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

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

Cover story: Counting down to Coventry's festival of pride.

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Call the Citivision newsdesk on 024 7683 1081 or write to Newsdesk, Room 73, Council House, Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RR, or e-mail communications@coventry.gov.uk

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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.

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

All details correct at the time of going to print (17 February).

City-wide clean-up plan

The Council is planning to target its budget towards protecting highway repairs and carrying out a major city-wide clean-up to cut fly-tipping.

The Council consulted with the community on its plans to ensure it balances its spending in 2020/21.

Senior councillors will discuss the final budget report at a full Council meeting on Tuesday 25 February (after Citivision went to print). This will include plans to increase the city Council Tax by 3.9%, which includes 2% to protect social care funding as determined by central government.

As well as setting out extra grant funding for social care, the report outlines where original savings proposals are no longer being taken.

Cllr John Mutton, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, said he is hoping the budget plans are supported by fellow councillors and added:

“We have identified ways to maximise income collection and target services effectively without having any unnecessary impact on frontline services.”

“We are planning a city-wide clean-up ahead of the UK City of Culture, and on protecting road repair budgets.”

“We are also going to alter plans to charge for parking at the Memorial Park. I believe that motorists should get three hours free parking so that park users can get full enjoyment of the venue while discouraging train passengers from using the Memorial Car Park all day.”

“We also listened to residents who were concerned about the potential impact that switching off areas of street lighting may have and have asked officers to relook at this proposal.”

Cllr Mutton also announced a proposal to develop plans to tackle climate change and extend the amount of speed enforcement cameras in the city. Cameras are on Ansty Road, London Road, Henley Road and Binley Road.

Despite the better than expected government settlement for 2020/21 Cllr Mutton said that the year after next Coventry City Council could face a deficit of nearly £19m.

The Council also continues to face pressures on its housing and homelessness services.

Tenants’ fees – don’t be fooled

If you have started a new private rental tenancy some fees like a holding deposit or rent in advance are to be expected, but certain fees have been banned. To see what can and can’t be charged, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

On your bikes



£5m funding has been secured to help deliver a new cycle route, connecting the city centre with Binley Business Park.

The route will segregate cyclists from traffic and will create a route from Coventry University through to Binley Business Park.

The West Midlands Combined Authority has funded £5m towards the project. This is the first phase of a longer route from Coventry City Centre to University Hospital.

Cllr Patricia Hetherington, Cabinet Member for City Services, said:

“We want to encourage people out of their cars and the best way to do this is to ensure we have safe and accessible routes to use.”

“It will also make it easier for people to cycle to Binley Business Park.”

The plans for the route will be developed during 2020, including a public consultation to help with the design process.

Average speed enforcement

New average speed enforcement cameras are also in place along Binley Road. Measures to slow traffic also include introducing a 30mph speed limit on a stretch of Binley Road where it had been 40mph.

Similar cameras are also in place along Henley Road, London Road and Ansty Road. They work by taking two images of the vehicle at separate points along a stretch of road and measuring the time between each image. West Midlands Police administer the scheme.

Bus travel improvements

A Coventry councillor and regular bus user is hoping to encourage local companies to take steps to introduce more improvements to bus travel.

Cllr Richard Brown, who is the Chair of Coventry City Council’s Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, said that it is important that visitors have a good experience of the city. He said:

“For most people ease of use, better frequency and good value are important incentives for bus users.”

“I am keen to hear from bus companies to understand what plans they have in place,

especially as we count down to Coventry’s year as UK City of Culture.”

Martin Hancock, Development Director for National Express UK Bus, said:

“Where other regions in the UK have seen falling passenger numbers, we’re really pleased that National Express Coventry has seen growth of around 1% year-on-year.”

“We look forward to continuing to enhance the customer experience, reduce congestion and air quality problems across the city and attract new customers to the cleaner, greener mode of travel.”



CHEYLESMORE
MANOR



New ceremony space at Cheylesmore Manor

A stunning new ceremony space has been opened at the historic Cheylesmore Manor House.

The Queen Isabella Room, which can accommodate up to 20 people, is available for

intimate weddings and other ceremonies.

Cheylesmore Manor House has a suite of event rooms, and is perfect for wedding ceremonies, naming ceremonies, renewing vows and other special occasions

in the heart of Coventry.

The Queen Isabella Room has been carefully restored to create a beautiful ceremony room, with beams on the walls and ceilings, and adornments of eucalyptus branches. Guests and couples will

be able to enter from a traditional archway, and exit via a large stone flagged courtyard which will provide picturesque photo opportunities of the historical setting.

To find out more and book your occasion, visit www.ceremoniesinsidecoventry.co.uk



Guildhall kitchen refurb

Work is underway to open up a medieval kitchen which has been closed off for almost 60 years.

The St Mary’s Guildhall kitchen was built in the 1340s and is thought to be one of the last intact medieval kitchens in the country. Work has now started to open up the original structure.

The kitchen’s medieval hearth is being restored along with other features of the building as part of a major scheme to redevelop Coventry’s historic jewel.

Cllr Jim O’Boyle, Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration, said:

“It’s a magnificent building and I managed to get a sneak view of the work underway.”

“It is so impressive and will be a great attraction for local people and visitors.”



50m pool set to make a splash

The new 50m pool at The Alan Higgs Centre is set to open for the first time to the public in March.

The opening of the £13.5m pool is part of a wider development of The Alan Higgs Centre that also includes the renovation of the gym, a new and updated health suite, function room and new 3G pitches that opened last year.

Special features of the pool include the moving floor that can be raised to deck level and be lowered all the way to two metres. The pool can be divided into smaller sections using a boom, making it suitable for all events including swimming lessons and galas.

The Council and Sport England have invested funding into the new pool.

The pool is located at the back of the building where the indoor 3G pitch once was, surrounded by a large seating area with a capacity of 500 people.

Cllr Kamran Caan, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport, said:

“The venue will be another fantastic sporting asset for the city.”

The pool will be open to the public on a pay-as-you-go basis or you can receive unlimited access with a Lifestyles membership. The pool will be used by Coventry Swimming Club and is also available for private booking for clubs and events.

Swimming lessons with Aquarius Swim School are now available to book at The Alan Higgs Centre with lessons commencing on 1 March.

Funding to address rough sleeping



Cllr Tariq Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, said it is an important step in addressing rough sleeping. He added:

“The funding is needed to support specialist work on drugs and alcohol and mental health. It’s important we approach this in a co-ordinated way and the links between lots of different agencies have been vital.”

The city set out its rough sleeping strategy, which includes a target to eliminate rough sleeping by 2022.

“We want people who are on the street to feel valued, but individuals will only engage with organisations when they are ready. We also know that there is lots more to do.”

Four more posts to work with rough sleepers are being funded after the Council successfully secured £464k from the government to help address street homelessness.

The money will also be used to extend the work of the city’s rough sleeping co-ordinator and two existing outreach workers up until April 2021.

Nursing provision is also likely to be covered along with specific emergency temporary accommodation. >>>



Agencies in Coventry have also recently launched an alternative giving scheme called Change into Action www.changeintoaction.org.uk/coventry/ Every penny of the money donated goes to a rough sleeper. Funds are administered by local charity Feeding Coventry. It is then used for people in need. When making a donation via the site make sure you select ‘Coventry’ as your recipient city.



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



Standing together to promote peace

Coventry held its annual Holocaust Memorial Day event reflecting on the national theme of ‘Stand Together’.

People came together to promote peace, tolerance and remember the many victims of genocide and hate in recent history.

The event included music, speakers and poetry highlighting the potential for man’s inhumanity to man and how we can all help to prevent these events from happening in the future.

Councillor **Abdul Salam Khan**, Deputy Leader of Coventry City Council (pictured above with other attendees), said:

“This city has a proud history of welcoming people from all cultures and nationalities. It was

an extremely thought-provoking event and offered an important lesson to help prevent future atrocities.”

Lord Mayor, Councillor **Linda Bigham**, added;

“It is 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp and 25 years since the massacre of 8000 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica, Bosnia. We can all learn from history and this event helps us recognise and pay our respect to the millions who died during the Holocaust and more recent genocides.”

The event included poems read by Coventry Young Ambassadors from Good Shepherd and Stoke primary schools.

The Coventry Young Ambassador programme is a scheme that trains primary school children to be voluntary ambassadors for the city of Coventry. The Young Ambassadors have been involved in many peace initiatives, including the design of a new peace garden to be built in the War Memorial Park.

Food voucher rise

Coventry Citizens Advice allocated 264 food vouchers on behalf of the Trussell Trust in January, including support for 54 children five years old or younger. This is the largest monthly total since they started keeping records in January 2015.

New scheme to improve HMOs

Coventry will be starting an additional licensing scheme on 4 May to improve the management and condition of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs).

The additional licensing will include smaller multi-occupancy properties. This will ensure a fairer system and level playing field.

The scheme will also enable the Council to apply conditions to a licence requiring landlords to deal with the management, use and occupation of HMOs.

Approximately 4,000 properties will be affected.

Money generated by the costs of licences will cover the administration and staffing costs to run the scheme.

For more details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/propertylicensing

Tackling violent crime in Coventry



Agencies have set out a strategy to prevent youth violence in Coventry. A youth violence prevention board has been meeting regularly to bring more organisations together and co-ordinate preventative work more effectively.

Mike O’Hara, Chief Superintendent, Coventry Police, said having a multi-agency approach was vital. He said:

“Last year we achieved some notable successes: significant arrests, weapons and drugs seizures.”

“However, we can’t police our way out of this problem and that’s why we now have a broader approach. All agencies are looking at this by working with families, schools, and communities; it’s a public health approach which focusses first and foremost on prevention and safeguarding our young people.”

Paul Green, Headteacher, Lyng Hall School and Chair of the Secondary Education Partnership, said:

“The overwhelming feedback we get is that young people feel safe in school, and more importantly there are more and more examples of older teenagers taking responsibility.”

“We run regular schools panels, where together with the police, we discuss and follow up on any issues early on.”

Agencies including Positive Youth Foundation, Catch 22, St Giles Trust, the Council, West Midlands Police, City of Culture Trust, schools, faith groups, campaign



and community groups are all working as part of a co-ordinated effort to help children and young people shape the way the issue of violence is addressed.

Rashid Bhayat, Founder of the Positive Youth Foundation in Coventry, and also a Trustee of the City of Culture Trust, added:

“Violence affecting young people is complex in its nature, there is no one single answer to resolve it.”

“We must always keep in mind that the vast majority of young people in Coventry are doing very positive things for their communities and our city at large.”

High hopes for Swanswell Park

Representatives of Coventry’s diverse religious, cultural and interested communities and groups met to discuss a project based on sacred spaces in the city.

The Coventry Sacred Space Initiative will see communities working with partners to transform the area surrounding Swanswell Park, in Hillfields which is in-need of repair and regeneration, with many local people facing mental and physical health challenges.

This Summit was organised by the Coventry Safety and Security working group with representatives of the local community and supported by the Council.

In the past 12 months the city has brought in £1m to tackle violence in Coventry.

Cllr Abdul Salam Khan, Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities, said:

“Our approach in Coventry recognises the role everyone has and starts with safeguarding young people.”

■ Pictured: Mandy Bates and Natalie Kennell, who set up the Daniel Kennell Foundation, join together with partner agencies

Tag rugby scheme promotes healthy mind and body



A primary school programme designed to support Coventry’s future generations for later life is celebrating another bumper year.

Hundreds of children from across 39 Coventry primary schools took part in the CV Life Engage! Programme over the last academic year.

The educational programme teaches about teamwork, respect, integrity, enjoyment and discipline – through a combination of classroom-based activities and games

of tag rugby. Over the past year the programme has expanded its topics to include body and healthy eating, as well as mental health.

The scheme teaches the benefits of a balanced diet and healthy eating. A Mental Health Programme also made its debut to nearly 500 nine to 11-year-olds across 10 primary schools, who explored areas such as anxiety,

resilience, cyber bullying and peer pressure – and where to get support should they need it. **Stuart Bird**, Education Manager at CV Life Engage, said:

“Engage is about guiding young people down the right paths as they grow up.”

“In the first year of the programme 71 children have now signed up

permanently at their local grassroots rugby club.

“Younger children are more impressionable so it’s important, particularly in primary schools, that we are presenting them with information that gives them the chance to lead healthy and happy lives.”

Visit www.engagecoventry.com for details

Disused railway line to become cycling and walking route

Coventry City Council is working with Historic Coventry Trust to create a safe, accessible and traffic-free walking and cycling route along the old loop line from Binley Road to The Charterhouse.



■ Les Ward (left), David Griffiths (right, with Rudy the dog) pictured with Cllr Hetherton, Cllr O'Boyle and Ian Harrabin.

The route will be on the loop line which was closed to railway traffic in 1981 and the tracks were then removed in 1982.

Gosford Park Primary School was constructed on the old goods yard site, but the embankment is overgrown.

Historic Coventry Trust has recently secured funding from the Better Streets Community Fund to develop

proposals to reopen the first part of the loop line from the A444 to Humber Avenue. The 350m long path will provide a traffic-free route to Gosford Park Primary School and Humber Avenue from Binley Road

The money will fund the opening up of the fenced-off wildlife corridor providing a cycle link between the local residential areas.

This route will also form the first phase of Historic Coventry Trust's planned two-mile Heritage Park green walk along the River Sherbourne and through woodland centered on the 14th century Charterhouse, which is currently under restoration.

The proposed works include:

- constructing a 3.5m wide multi-user path along the railway embankment
- constructing wheelchair accessible earthwork ramps from Binley Road up to the path on the embankment

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

"This investment is going to help this area reach its full potential. We want to make sure we're making the most of the assets we have here in Coventry."

Ian Harrabin, Chairman of the Historic Coventry Trust, said:

"This is the first step in delivering the overall vision of a country park right on the edge of the city centre and University. There will be several miles of paths and bags of heritage ranging from the medieval to the very early days of the railways."

On your bike

Other projects to successfully bid for funding include improvements to signage, lighting and cycle parking in Stoke Aldermoor; a new crossing at Allesley Park; new cycle parking at the I Can Day Care Nursery; the setting up of a Parkride Inclusive Cycling Centre and new cycle parking at Stivichall Primary School.

Councillor Patricia Hetherton, Cabinet Member for City Services, said:

"This funding is going to make a massive difference for local people."

Places of Peace

A new project is underway in Foleshill where places of worship and community spaces are being opened as after-school safe spaces for young people aged 10 – 14.

The project, which is aiming to expand across other neighbourhoods in Coventry, will provide places where young people can relax and socialise in safety.

The 'Places of Peace' (POP) project held its first session in February, between 4.30pm and 6.30pm, at St Paul's Church in Foleshill. POP will continue to run at St. Paul's every Thursday. From March, the project will also operate from Shri Guru Ravidass Gurdwara, from 4.30pm until 6.30pm every Monday.

The scheme is part of a wide range of work by the Council, West Midlands Police and other partners to address the issue of youth violence in Coventry. The scheme is the idea of the Bishop of Coventry's office.

Funding for the POP pilot in Foleshill has been secured through the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner's Violence Reduction Unit.

Youth work partners, YMCA Coventry & Warwickshire, will be in each venue with the aim of supporting the young people and making community relations in Coventry even stronger.

Places of Peace will be youth-led from the design of the space to what equipment is purchased for the venues.

Faith or community leaders who manage a large space suitable for youth work activities, and who are interested in participating in the POP project, can get in touch with Fred Kratt, the Bishop's Research Assistant, at fred.kratt@bishop-coventry.org

Calling front line housing workers

If you work in the housing sector in or around Coventry, you are invited to join the Coventry Front Line Network at our next quarterly forum in March – e-mail Zoë on ztitchener@coventrycab.org.uk for more information. Find out more about the national network at www.frontlinenetwork.org.uk

AmbasSENDors helping overcome barriers

Young people with special needs have been helping identify the way services for people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can be improved.

Coventry's 'AmbasSENDors' took to the Council Chamber recently. The young people were able to discuss how they felt about their access to their local community and to education and employment, and any barriers that they faced. Their feedback will help to identify any inequalities and provide recommendations for commissioners and service providers in the future.

The 'Cov AmbasSENDors' are young people aged up to 25yrs with special educational needs and the scheme is organised through Coventry's SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

The young people have been able to advise on training staff in a Secondary school around dyslexia and analysing the key priorities for local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Start-up firm marks 15 years in business



■ Pictured (left to right): Back - Amar Iqbal, Mark Allison, Daniel Wale, George Hooper; Front - Richard Hooper, Kerry Hooper,

A Coventry IT firm that began life in a shared council office for start-up businesses is celebrating its 15th anniversary on the back of a record year.

PS4B was established by Richard Hooper in Coventry City Council's Steeple House in 2005 after he'd built-up two decades of experience with regional IT companies.

He used some of his own savings and a loan from NatWest to get started and the company has gone from strength to strength ever since.

It now employs six staff and supports well in excess of 100 clients, largely across Coventry and Warwickshire as well as the wider Midlands. PS4B landed a string of new customers in 2019 – including a portfolio of clients from a Black Country IT company that was winding up operations.

And Hooper, who employed the company's first apprentice last year, is looking forward to building on that success. He said:

"When you start a business, you never know just how successful it might be."

"I secured a small business loan, I took a desk in Steeple House and the rest, as they say, is history."

"Sustaining a business is about building trust with clients so they know that you have their best interests at heart when you are offering advice. It is something that has stood us in good stead for 15 years and long may that continue."

Easy route to business help

A Coventry technology entrepreneur has launched a new app, which makes busy people's lives easier when trying to find local businesses, after being inspired by his father and supported by the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce.

Phil Mattu gave up his job selling software to help look after his father, who had suffered several strokes and was later diagnosed with vascular dementia.

Phil's time became even more precious and he found tracking down the businesses he needed for certain services was becoming too cumbersome and that he was using various forms of communications to stay in touch so he wanted to devise a solution using technology.

The new app – CastGrab – has been created to offer a quick and easy route to businesses and professional tradespeople for users who require any service, either personally or professionally.

He has been given support by the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce through Coventry & Warwickshire Business Support to get the free app out to market.

Phil said:

"The support from the Chamber has been incredible. My business mentor, Margaret Bull,



■ Pictured: Phil Mattu with Margaret Bull

has been a great sounding board for me and sometimes you just need someone to be able to bounce ideas off."

"The app was inspired by my father and family situation and I want it to be a success for him."

To get the free app visit the App store or Play store to download and use or go to www.castgrab.com

Local businesses to welcome Olympic champion

One of the UK's greatest ever athletes and the man who won and delivered the 2012 Olympic Games in London will be the keynote speaker at a major business event in Coventry and Warwickshire.

Sebastian Coe, who won four gold medals and three silver medals at Olympic and European Games – setting 12 world records

- will be speaking at the Chamber of Commerce Big Business Lunch at the Ricoh Arena in March.

It is the first Big Business Lunch to be organised by the Chamber and will take place on Thursday, 26 March, from 10am until 3pm. CityFibre has been confirmed as a main sponsor for the event while Kumari Hart Solicitors is a supporting sponsor.

Louise Bennett, Chief Executive at the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, said:

"We are absolutely thrilled. He is one of our greatest ever athletes and has gone on to have a successful career after retiring as a sportsman."

For details visit www.cw-chamber.co.uk/events/coventry-warwickshires-big-business-lunch/



The **FESTIVAL OF RUNNING** is coming to Coventry on **Sunday 5 April 2020**



Runners can take part in a choice of three events - **Coventry 5k, Half Marathon and 2.5k Wheelchair** races. A **Children's Mile** event will be held at the War Memorial Park on **Sunday 22 March 2020**. In 2019 more than 6000 people took part in the events, raising more than £100,000 for charities.

It's not too late to enter this year's event, and you can sign up online: www.enjoycoventry.com/festivalofrunning

Go CV
We are partnering with Go CV this year to offer discounts for anyone with a Go CV or Go CV Plus card. If you haven't already registered for your card, sign up now to unlock your discounts: www.go-cv.co.uk/registering

Wellbeing partnerships
The Festival of Running is encouraging businesses and organisations in the region to become a Wellbeing Partner. Having a staff team representing your local business or organisation in the Festival of Running is a great opportunity to develop and encourage team-building, and to raise funds for a shared charity or cause. Find out more on our website: www.enjoycoventry.com/festivalofrunning/wellbeing

Attracting visitors from near and far
The event attracts runners from all over the UK and internationally, including runners from Dresden in Germany. The event is delivered by Coventry University Students' Union by working with local businesses such as Saltem and Arena to deliver core services.

Road closures
There will be a series of road closures and diversions in place on the morning of the event. We aim to keep disruption to an absolute minimum during this time. For full details of road closures you can visit www.enjoycoventry.com/festivalofrunning

CROSSING POINTS

- A Lawrence Saunders Road to/from Lydgate Road Closed 8:30am - 12:00pm
- B Browett Road into Moseley Avenue (exit only) Closed 8:30am - 9:25am
- C Kingsbury Road to/from Grayswood Avenue Closed 8:30am - 9:35am
- D Coundon Wedge Drive to/from Pickford Way Closed 8:30am - 9:40am
- E Browns Lane to/from The Windmill Hill Closed 8:40am - 9:55am
- F Brownhill Green Road Closed 9:15am - 11:15am
- G Cedars Avenue/Southbank Road/Courtland Avenue into Scotts Lane Closed 9:15am - 11:30am
- H Browett Road into Three Spires Avenue Closed 9:15am - 11:30
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Roads open in one direction at all times
Estimated road reopening times

Major cycle event returns to city
The UK's second biggest cycling event, **Vélo Birmingham & Midlands** will take up to 18,000 riders of all abilities on an unforgettable 100 or 45 mile journey through the West Midlands this summer.



Coventry Cathedral. It's expected local residents will once again line the streets and cheer on the cyclists in their thousands as local pubs and community halls host street parties and barbecues on the big day.

Road closures – plan ahead
To facilitate the safe passage of riders, road closures will be in place at various times during the event. Businesses and residents based on or near the route are advised to visit www.velobirmingham.com/the-route/road-closures to find out the road closure timings and how best to navigate around them.

For details on how to enter visit www.velobirmingham.com

Passport to Leisure and Learning is ending soon and will be replaced by the Go CV card.

Make sure you collect your Go CV card and show proof of your benefits to continue to get the discounts you currently get, plus more with Go CV partners. Your card will allow Go CV Plus prices where advertised. Collect cards from *The Wave, The Transport Museum, Centre AT7, Alan Higgs Centre, Xcel Leisure Centre, The Herbert and the Council's Customer Service Centre.*

www.go-cv.co.uk

Inspirational athletes highlight value of organ donation



More than 1000 transplant athletes, aged from three to over 80, and of all abilities, will travel from across the UK to the West Midlands next summer as the 2020 Westfield Health British Transplant Games return to Coventry.

The event, which aims to raise awareness of the value of organ donation and encourage transplant recipients to get active post operation, will take place at venues in and around the city from 30 July – 2 August.

Organised on behalf of the charity Transplant Sport, the Games showcase the benefits of life-saving organ transplants and allow heart, lung, liver, kidney, stem cell and other transplant recipients to compete in 22 different sporting events

with the emphasis on taking part, becoming active and having fun, in events such as walking, darts, bowls, table-tennis, archery and snooker. These are the ultimate "friendly games!"

This year's Games are predicted to bring more than £2m into the Coventry economy, with over 1,500 supporters expected to stay in the city.



For any transplant recipients from Coventry who wish to take part in the 2020 Games, registration will open in February via the British Transplant Games website. See details at the bottom of the page



Courageous Sylvie is going for Gold

Sylvie Allison, from nearby Leamington Spa, will be competing in her third Westfield Health British Transplant Games this summer in Coventry.

Aged just three, Sylvie was diagnosed with acute liver failure in 2016 and her family faced an anxious wait. Fortunately, a match was swiftly found and Sylvie successfully received her new kidney shortly after.

At the 2018 Westfield Health British Transplant Games in Birmingham, Sylvie represented the home team, Birmingham Children's Hospital – or 'Birmingham's Courageous

Heroes' as they are otherwise known. This year, Team BCH will form the largest ever competing team in British Transplant Games history.

After four medals in her first Games and a further two last year in Newport, Sylvie is striving for more in Coventry and hopes to be going for Gold in the obstacle course, 50m sprint and tennis events.

Getting active is key to games

The first Transplant Games were held in Portsmouth back in 1978, and since then they have been held in different host UK cities every summer to celebrate the gift of life. Teams from transplant centres come together to compete in a medley of sports, aiming to raise awareness of the need for organ donation and to encourage transplant recipients to lead active lifestyles post operation.

Coventry will be the 43rd host of the Westfield Health British Transplant Games.



New opt out system

From spring 2020, organ donation in England will move to an 'opt out' system, meaning all adults will be considered as donors when they die, unless they have recorded a decision to 'opt out'.

Therefore, it is more important than ever for people of all ethnicities and faiths to have the chat with their loved ones about their wishes, as family members can override a decision if they

are unaware of a relative's choice. **The Westfield Health British Transplant Games is a platform for starting crucial conversations about organ donation.**

For more details about the transplant games visit www.britishtransplantgames.co.uk or alternatively, e-mail btg@mlsgb.co for more advice.

City centre is getting in shape everywhere you look



■ Pictured: Cllr Jim O'Boyle (front) and Stewart Underwood.

In the short term this will mean some disruption for shoppers, workers and other visitors. Although there is lots to look forward to.

Here's a look at what we can all expect in the year ahead.

- Public Realm work
- Developments

There is lots of work going on to improve the look and appeal of the city centre that will transform shoppers' and visitor experience in the city. The aim of the developments will be to keep the best of the old alongside the best of the new. This includes retaining the pioneering design of the Upper Precinct which was set out in the 1950s.

The city's Upper Precinct which was developed as part of the post-war reconstruction masterplan to rebuild the city is now being reborn as part of an ambitious new scheme. This is one of many developments underway.



■ Telegraph Hotel
New boutique hotel



■ Upper Precinct
Demolition of green escalator and upper balcony area of Upper Precinct. New planting, paving and water feature



■ Smithford Way / Market Way
New paving, seating, greenery and water features



■ City Centre South
Demolition of Coventry Point



■ St Mary's Guildhall
Revamped and re-opening medieval kitchen



■ Friargate hotel
New 4 star Hotel Indigo



■ Railway Station
New car park, second station building



■ Food kiosks
Moved to Hertford Street and a new gold-coloured resin-bonded finish to the paving



■ Coventry Cathedral
Extending to add events space



■ Daimler Powerhouse Redevelopment
Creation of artists' space



■ Battery and mobile phone stalls moving to Broadgate



■ Belgrade Theatre
Extension of cafe and a new space for conferences, workshops and hospitality



■ The Box at FarGo
Multi-purpose events space



■ Bull Yard
New water feature, children's play area, new paving and new lighting



■ Redevelopment of Pepper Lane
New lighting, paving, artwork and living wall installed



■ Drapers' Hall -
Drapers' Hall - revamped



■ New wayfinding
New wayfinding across the city centre

These projects are funded by Coventry City Council, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership, West Midlands Combined Authority and The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport.

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Health hero recognition

Nominations are now open for the 2020 Health and Wellbeing Awards.

They recognise individuals across Coventry who work to reduce health inequalities and go above and beyond to make the city a better place.

The awards cover areas like digital innovation, public participation, social value, a brand-new partnership award for 2020; and recognise the role of volunteers within the public health services - "our Health Heroes".



MEN'S SHED won the award for last years Health Hero. For any question about the awards or nominations email: covhwbawards@coventry.gov.uk

Supporting people with hearing or sight loss

BID Services, a charity based in Birmingham supporting children, young people and adults with a hearing or sight loss, offers an information and advice support service to people over the age of 16 living in Coventry. The free service can be delivered both in the community and in people's homes.



Commissioned by Coventry and the Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group, the service gives access to quality

information on a range of issues, such as getting help with tenancy support, managing budgets, information around benefits and debt, staying safe and secure in the home, and advice about employment, education, training and volunteering.

The Enablement Team include **Rob Reynolds and Emma Kennard** pictured, and can offer communications in a range of ways, including British Sign Language for people with a hearing loss.

With the support of the Enablement Team, **Amanda**, who has complex physical disabilities and is visually impaired is now registered with a local NHS dentist; she has also received some travel training which will help her to travel independently. Amanda is also now registered with a home-finding service, to help her find a new accessible home.

If you, or someone you know, needs support, then please get in touch. Please call us on **0121 246 6100** or email coventrysupport@bid.org.uk

What's it like living in Coventry

A series of new reports on the current health and well-being of residents in Coventry has been launched.

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) brings evidence from a variety of sources together to help inform future decisions on the local health and care conditions in the city.

The main report explores what is happening in Coventry and how communities can work together to improve peoples' health and wellbeing.

The local reports set out what life feels like in different parts of Coventry.

They highlight how the city's population is growing and changing; education levels are rising and job prospects are improving. Housing, the environment, safety and social inequalities in each area are some of the key issues that will inform future local policies.

To find out more about your neighbourhood visit www.coventry.gov.uk/jsna



View your local JSNA report

Find out what life feels like in different areas of the city

Online health tool launched

A free, interactive, online tool designed to give tailored recommendations to support a person's health and wellbeing needs has been unveiled.

The Dimensions Tool is produced by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust's Dimensions Team. It was initially launched in 2017.

Individuals, or parents and carers of children, can go through the dimensions of health and wellbeing outlined in the tool and rate themselves or their child against each.

An individualised report will be produced, highlighting

areas of most need and providing self-care information. It's a way of collating reliable information and local resources in one place.

Robyn Dorling is a parent who has used the Dimensions Tool to help with challenges her child was facing. She said:

"I like the positive focus on the issues I am dealing with, without relating to a label or diagnosis my child might have."

To find out more and to try the Dimensions Tool, visit www.dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk.



■ Pictured: The Dimensions Team who designed the tool. L-R: Heather Moran, Dawn Nicholls and Gemma Cartwright

Getting active for 20 minutes a day



Health professionals are calling on us to make time for 20 minutes a day of activity that makes us breathe faster and feel warmer.

Tips include activities that: make us breath faster, can be spread throughout the day, break up periods of inactivity and are something we enjoy.

The advice is that 150 minutes a week of physical activity can reduce the chance of developing Type II Diabetes, reduce the chance of joint and back pain and help to manage stress and anxiety.

The top tips will be provided on regular one page updates for visitors to GP surgeries.

Leanne is by your side

Coventry and Warwickshire perinatal mental health champion, **Leanne Howlett** pictured below has won the 2020 Mental Health Star Award in the West Midlands Combined Authority's annual Thrive Awards.



the stigma and lack of awareness surrounding perinatal mental illness.

"As soon as I was well again I knew I wanted to provide support to other parents who are going through what I did."

The regional award formally recognises individuals for improving health inequalities and mental health across the West Midlands.

Leanne is the founder of 'By Your Side', a service user forum aimed at helping support parents with perinatal mental health (PMH) problems during pregnancy or in the year following the birth of their child.

Since recovering from PMH illness, Leanne's worked tirelessly to challenge the PMH stigma that prevents parents seeking early help and hosts a Stay and Play for mums patients of the PMHT or those recently discharged to receive peer support.

Leanne said:

"When I experienced postnatal depression following the birth of my son I found it really hard to accept the support I needed because of

You can hear more about Leanne's Story on post-natal depression on the NHS England and NHS Improvement YouTube channel, **'By Your Side'**.

Coventry man, **Mark Gibbins** who won "Health Hero" at the 2019 Health and Wellbeing Awards, was also nominated for the award. He set up Coventry Men's Shed project five years ago, and engages men over the age of 30 who are recovering from issues like alcohol and drug abuse and men who are socially isolated and have mental health issues.

Mark said:

"We first started off with cooking projects that we ran for the first few years, then an arts and craft project, a model making project, a woodwork project and a photography project."

You can see more about what projects they've been involved in on the Coventry Men's Shed YouTube channel: **"What's Eating Coventry"**.

See opposite page (page 14) where Mark Gibbins is pictured with Coventry Lord Mayor, Linda Bigham receiving his award for Health Hero at the 2019 Health and Wellbeing Awards. Nominations for the 2020 awards are now open.

Safe Haven service announced

A mental health support service that aims to increase help for people in mental distress, has been launched.

The brand-new Safe Haven service has been developed by Coventry and Rugby CCG and Coventry City Council. The provision will be run by

Mental Health Matters (MHM) on behalf of the Coventry and Warwickshire Health and Care Partnership for Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing.

The service is based at Broad Street Centre, Broad Street, Coventry and is open from 6pm-11pm, Monday to Sunday, 365 days a year. Mental health professionals provide one-to-one support and can help create staying well and crisis plans for visitors.

The Safe Haven is available to anyone aged 18 or over who will

also have access to a 24-hour telephone emotional support line staffed by trained counsellors, with no formal referral or appointment needed.

To contact the Safe Haven for support call **07921 876 065** or email coventrysafehaven.mhm@nhs.net.

Update from the Coventry UK City of Culture Team

With 11 months to go until 2021 we're working across the city to make sure everyone is ready.

We are collaborating closely with our partners at Coventry City Council as they make improvements to the city centre and will soon be finalising our events programme, ensuring that there is something for everyone in 2021.

In the next few months, we'll be launching a brand new website, unveiling details of some of the events we have planned and will be announcing details of events for this year. We'll also be revealing how you can get involved.

We will start to recruit our City Hosts from all communities across the city, as we seek the support of 5,000 volunteers prepared to welcome audiences from across the world to events, sharing their passion for Coventry and helping to tell visitors about our exciting plans.

We will also begin the search for 21 individuals from Coventry and Warwickshire to join our 18-month apprenticeship programme. This exciting scheme will provide successful applicants with the opportunity to work across all aspects of our year as UK City of Culture, from event production to fundraising to marketing and communications. In return, the apprentices will help to make Coventry's year in the spotlight come to life while learning vital skills to join the workforce after 2021.

You will be hearing a lot more from us soon, but keep reading here to find out more about the timeline for 2020 and our new project, Moving Blue.

2019 IN NUMBERS



Carnival of Lights - Credit: Dylan Parrin Photography

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2020

SPRING

- Apprenticeship programme launches
- First 2021 events announced
- New website and ticketing platform launches
- City Hosts programme launches

SUMMER

- Music Month 2020
- A major warm-up event in Coventry

AUTUMN

- Full 2021 programme announcement
- Tickets go on-sale
- App available to download

MOVING BLUE

Have you heard about Moving Blue?

Coventry was once famous for its unique blue dye, made from woad plants and water from the River Sherbourne. Unlike other blue dyes at the time, the colour never faded. The recipe was never written down so was lost to history, but Coventry's connection to blue can still be seen across the city today, from the CCFC kit through to the Blue Ribbon Roundabout.

In honour of this, we have worked with the Weaver's House to create a special shade of blue, called Moving Blue. We are painting hundreds of locations across the city Moving Blue all through 2020 in the build-up to our year as UK City of Culture.

We have named the colour Moving Blue because our city has always moved people: we have a proud history as pioneers in the transport industry, and our culture has moved people for centuries.

These Moving Blue surfaces across the city will be a big part of 2021, and we'll reveal more later in the year.

Do you have an idea for something we could paint Moving Blue?

People around the city are already getting involved, including The Weaver's House, Coventry Building Society and Belgrade Theatre.

If you have a creative idea drop us a message on social media (@coventry2021 on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter), fill out a suggestion card at The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum or email us at movingblue@coventry2021.co.uk



Culture Conversations - Credit: Richard Nelmes

CULTURE CONVERSATIONS

We are continuing our Culture Conversations in 2020.

These free to attend morning sessions are a chance to come and talk about what is happening in the city. They are a platform for sharing ideas, networking with different people, building partnerships and bringing the city together.

The next Culture Conversations, in Albert's Café at the Herbert Art Gallery are:

Tuesday 10 March when we will be considering the 'Amazing Women of Coventry' - past, present and future

Tuesday 14 April when we will be discussing activities and actions we can all take to create a truly healthy planet

Tuesday 12 May when we will be encouraging all those attend to imagine how they can create their ideal city, a Utopia, here in Coventry

See coventry2021.co.uk/culture-conversations for more information.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH ALL THINGS 2021

We will keep you up to date with everything that's going on at 2021 HQ through our newsletter and social media channels.

However, we know that not everyone is able to get online. If this is you, and you'd love to be kept in the loop, please give us a call on **02476 998 221** and choose **option 3**, and our marketing team will help you out.



Moving Blue at The Weaver's House - Credit: Aaron Keane



Godiva dates announced

Coventry's flagship Godiva Festival will return to the War Memorial Park on 3-5 July this year.

Godiva Festival will again be a fantastic family event for everyone to enjoy, with superb live music from well-known artists alongside a variety of Coventry and Warwickshire talent. There will also be a wide range of family attractions on offer.

Coventry City Council has also committed to support the Festival for the next three years.

Godiva Festival will continue to be a ticketed event. While ticket prices have risen, the festival continues to offer a fantastic value day out for all the family, especially

when compared to similar events. You can find more information, including the full list of ticket prices and sign up for alerts by heading to www.godivafestival.com/tickets

The organisers are currently hard at work programming artists and attractions for the festival, and there will be some exciting line-up announcements soon.

To keep up to date with all the latest news, head to www.godivafestival.com or follow @godivafestival on Facebook and Twitter.

VWs evening line up for MotoFest

MotoFest Coventry is to demo wheel to wheel motorsports on an evening circuit programme for the first time ever at this year's festival.

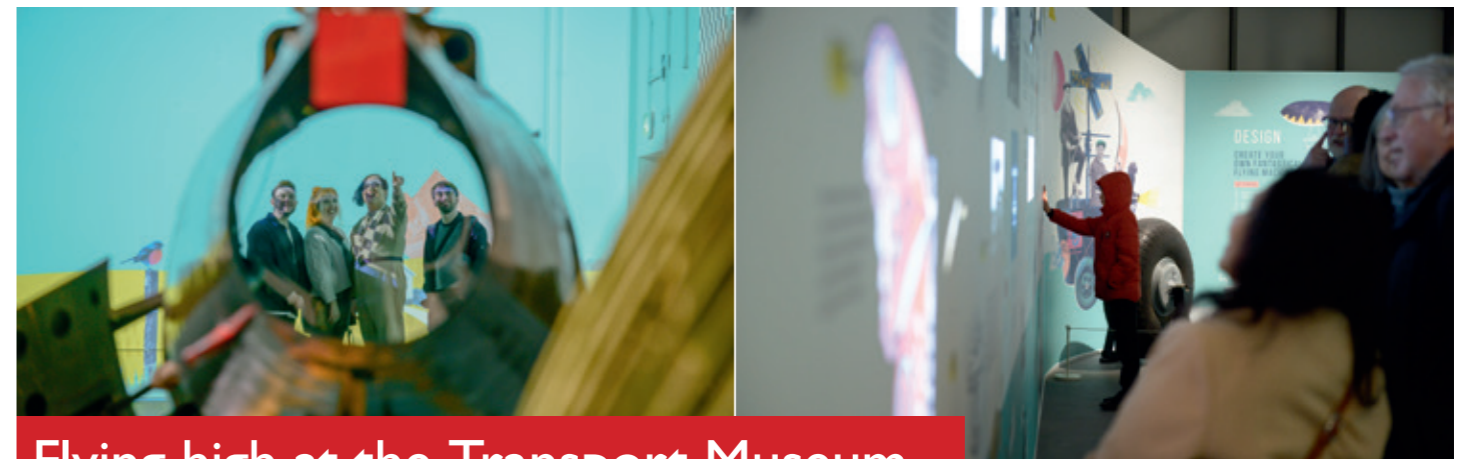
The main GT Radial sprint circuit will host a full track evening programme with the highlight set to be a dynamic display by top drivers from the VW Fun Cup UK Championship on **Saturday 6 June**.

A grid of 30 identical, race designed, single seater cars with a super-strong space frame chassis based on the Volkswagen Beetle, will compete in an eight-round endurance championship.

Off the track, the MotoFest Coventry party will also include a new food village experience, open air film show and pop up bars all planned as part of the evening festivities.



MotoFest Coventry is the largest FREE urban motorsport festival in the UK taking place on **Saturday 6 June** and **Sunday 7 June**. For more details visit www.coventrymotofest.com



Flying high at the Transport Museum

A new exhibition has landed at the Coventry Transport Museum – one that inspires visitors to discover, dream and design.

Taking Flight, a new interactive experience at Coventry Transport Museum, is on until 14 June.

Visitors can get hands-on with the touch sensitive wall and discover huge examples of aviation ingenuity on loan from

the Midland Air Museum, before dreaming up and designing their own fantastical flying machines which will be brought to life in an immersive digital landscape.

Taking Flight, has been created by TECH:SQUAD and Firecatcher in partnership with Coventry Transport Museum.

For more information on Coventry Transport Museum opening times and pricing go to www.transport-museum.com



Copyright Lottie Davies (www.whquinn.com)

Photos capture theme of grief and loneliness

A poignant exhibition exploring grief, loneliness and the human search for meaning goes on display at a Coventry gallery.

Quinn: A Journey will be on show at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum and follows William Henry Quinn's fictional journey across post-Second World War Britain.

The exhibition, which will run until the end of May, reflects the experiences of young men and women post-trauma from the early 20th Century through to the present day, and addresses the search for meaning in a complex and changing 21st Century world.

The artist behind the exhibition is award-winning photographer Lottie Davies. Her work is described by the former National Portrait Gallery Director Sandy Nairn as 'brilliantly imaginative'. Francis Ranford, Cultural and Creative Director of Culture Coventry, said:

"We are sure that Quinn's odyssey will have a poignant impact on visitors."

The exhibition will be complemented with a Performance & In Conversation event at Coventry Cathedral, from 2pm on Sunday 17 May.

For more information on *Quinn: A Journey*, visit www.theherbert.org/whats_on/1515/quinn_a_journey

Coventry residents save more with Go CV

Collect your free card, register and validate to start to benefit from:

- ▶ reduced price entry to The Wave
- ▶ exclusive discounts on theatre and stand-up comedy
- ▶ discounts on exercise classes and gym membership
- ▶ reduced price Aquarius Swim School
- ▶ free entry to Coventry Transport Museum
- ▶ discounts at the new 50m pool at the Alan Higgs Centre

With partners being added all the time.

Collect your card from:
The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum,
The Wave,
Coventry Transport Museum,
Alan Higgs Centre,
Xcel Leisure Centre,
Centre AT7 and the
Council's Customer Service Centre

www.go-cv.co.uk



Go CV will soon replace Passport to Leisure

Parks are all set for spring



Some of the activities you can enjoy in and around Coventry

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

Unless otherwise stated, the meeting point for all events is the Information Desk/Shop in the Visitor Centre five minutes before a session begins. Advance booking and payment is essential for all events unless otherwise stated. All bookings are taken online at www.coventry.gov.uk/coombeevents. Once a booking has been made, we require 48 hours' notice to be able to give a refund. Please note that car parking charges apply. All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

Unless otherwise stated, the meeting point is the Information Desk in the Visitor Centre five minutes before the session begins. Advance booking and payment essential for all events unless otherwise stated. All bookings are taken online at www.coventry.gov.uk/wmpevents. Once a booking has been made, we require 48 hours' notice to be able to give a refund. All children need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Tot Waddles

Every Friday (except 10 April and 8 May)

10.30am-12noon

£4 per child, booking not essential.

Come and have some fun in the park. Listen to a story and have some outdoor fun before coming inside for some arts and crafts. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Suitable for two years and above.

PARK RANGERS

19 March, 29 April, 21 May

10.30am – 3pm.

FREE at various locations

Good fresh air and healthy exercise! Join the Park Service Rangers and help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. Bring your own lunch if staying all day. Come once, come every time or just come when it suits you. All volunteers must register in advance.

For further information contact **Roland Mackie**

Tel: **07985 816560**. Email: roland.mackie@coventry.gov.uk

Suitable for adults and accompanied teenagers

APRIL

3 – Bat Walk

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

7.45pm

FREE, no booking required

Wyken Slough, meet at car park off Alderman's Green Road opposite junction with Jackers Road. Join the Rangers for an hour introduction to these fascinating night flying mammals. The Rangers will bring bat detectors for participants to share. These events are open access, all under 8s must be supervised. Rangers are not responsible for young people leaving the event. Suitable for families with children to 12 years.

4 to 26 | Easter Bunny Trail

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

10am – 2.30pm

£2 per trail sheet

Help the Easter Bunny find all his bunny rabbit friends hiding in the park. Collect all the clues they have to help you crack the code and claim a small prize. Pick up a trail sheet from the Information Centre. One prize per trail sheet. Last trail sold at 2.30pm. All prizes must be collected by 3.30pm. Suitable for families. Dogs also welcome.

14 | Down on the Farm

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

11.15am – 12.15pm

£4.25 per child

Come along and have a go at making some of your own favourite farmyard friends to take home. Suitable for children three years and over.

14 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Longford Park, meet near the 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 up to 12 years.

15 | Fabulous Frogs

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

11.15am – 12.15pm

£4.25 per child

Rabbit Ribbit! Come along and have a go at making some of your own froggy friends to take home. Suitable for children three years and over.

15 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Allesley Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

16 | Down on the Farm

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1pm – 2.30pm

£4.25 per child

Come along and have a go at making some of your own favourite farmyard friends to take home. Suitable for children three years and over.

16 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm,

FREE, no booking required

Caludon Castle Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

17 | Fabulous Frogs

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1.30pm – 2.30pm

£4.25 per child

Rabbit Ribbit! Come along and have a go at making some of your own froggy friends to take home. Suitable for children three years and over.

17 | Bat Walk

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

8.10pm

FREE, no booking required

Quinton Pool, meet at Cecily Road behind Asda. For more information please see 3 April.

21 | Fantastic Beasts

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

11.15am – 12.15pm

£4.25 per child

Have a go at making some fantastic, mystical and magical beasts. Suitable for children three years and over.

21 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Edgwick Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

22 | Miniature Gardens

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

11.15am – 12.15pm

£10 per child

Design and create your own living miniature garden in a tray. Plant some plants, create a pond and even make your own mini furniture from sticks. Then all you need to do is enjoy your unique garden. All materials provided. Suitable for children five years and over.

22 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Whitley Common, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

23 | Miniature Gardens

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1pm – 2pm

£10 per child

Design and create your own living miniature garden in a tray. Plant some plants, create a pond and even make your own mini furniture from sticks. Then all you need to do is enjoy your unique garden. All materials provided. Suitable for children five years and over.

23 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Nails Mill Park, meet near the play area. Join in the outdoor fun with the Rangers including games and craft activities. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

24 | Fantastic Beasts

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1.30pm – 2.30pm

£4.25 per child

Have a go at making some fantastic, mystical and magical beasts. Suitable for children three years and over.

24 | Bat Walk

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

8.30pm

FREE, no booking required

Lake View Park, meet at Lake View Road opposite junction with Malvern Road. For more information please see 3 April.

MAY

26 | Den Building

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

10.30am – 12noon

£4.25 per child

Join us for some fun in the park. Come and make your own den in the woods, from natural materials. How creative can you be? Suitable for families.

26 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Longford Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

27 | Nature Crowns

COOMBE ABBEY PARK

11.15am – 12.15pm

£5 per child

Have a go at creating a beautiful willow crown and decorate it with living plants. All materials provided. Suitable for children five years and over.

27 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Allesley Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

28 | Nature Crowns

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1pm – 2pm

£5 per child

Have a go at creating a beautiful willow crown and decorate it with living plants. All materials provided. Suitable for children five years and over.

28 | Fresh Air and Fun

RANGERS' ACTIVITIES

1.30pm – 3pm

FREE, no booking required

Caludon Castle Park, meet near the play area. Suitable for families with children up to 12 years. For more information please see 14 April.

29 | Plucky Pirates

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

1.30pm – 2.30pm

£4.25 per child

Ahoy There! Come and make some fun pirate-themed crafts to take home with you. Suitable for children three years and over.



We are proud of you

Look out for more information on Coventry Pride 2020

It's taking place on

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 June 2020 in Broadgate.

It's a massive festival of music, arts and entertainment with headline acts to celebrate LGBT+ diversity in Coventry. Everyone is welcome.

For more details in the coming weeks visit coventrypride.co.uk



I BABLAKE



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



Cllr Tarlochan Jandu
Tel: 07582 928802 or e-mail
tarlochan.jandu@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



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 10.30-12noon, Good Honest Food Company, Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village.

I BINLEY AND WILLENHALL



Cllr Christine Thomas
Tel: 07908 228112 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
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For an appointment or advice please contact me.



Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE
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I CHEYLESMORE



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I EARLSDON



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kindy.sandhu@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Allan Andrews
Tel: 024 7697 1621 or e-mail
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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

I FOLESHILL



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Tel: 024 7697 1629 e-mail
tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Abdul Salam Khan
Tel: 024 7697 1620 (day) or
07903 847160 or e-mail
abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Balvinder Kaur
Tel: 07976 719438 or e-mail
balvinder.kaur@coventry.gov.uk

I HENLEY



Cllr Patricia Seaman
Tel: 07813 528963 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
pat.seaman@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Kevin Maton
Tel: 07852 450953 or
024 7697 5555 e-mail
kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Ed Ruane
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk

I 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 7697 5555 or e-mail
rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk
Every Thursday 10-11am at Holbrooks Community Centre, John Shelton Drive CV6 4PE.



Cllr Ann Lucas OBE
Deputy Lord Mayor
Tel: 024 7697 1664 or e-mail
ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

I 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
Lord Mayor
Tel: 024 7697 1664 or e-mail
linda.bigham@coventry.gov.uk
Please book 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 7697 1619 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.

I LOWER STOKE



Cllr Catherine Miks
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr John McNicholas
Tel: 024 7697 5555 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 7697 5555 or
07960 962642 or e-mail
rupinder.singh@coventry.gov.uk

I RADFORD



Cllr Mal Mutton
Tel: 024 7630 4497 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Patricia Hetherton
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
patricia.hetherton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Maya Ali
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
maya.ali@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

I SHERBOURNE



Cllr Seamus Walsh
Tel: 07956 546983 or
024 7697 5555 (day) or e-mail
seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Lynnette Kelly
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Gavin Lloyd
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or e-mail
gavin.lloyd@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

I ST MICHAEL'S



Cllr David Welsh
Tel: 07956 307437 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
david.welsh@coventry.gov.uk
Second and fourth Friday of the month, 12noon-1pm, Hope Centre, Sparkbrook Street.




Cllr Jim O'Boyle
Tel: 024 7669 4873 or
024 7697 5555 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.

I UPPER STOKE



Cllr Kamran Caan
Tel: 024 7697 5555 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 7697 5555 or e-mail
randhir.auluck@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

Position currently vacant.
By-election Thursday 19 March.

I WAINBODY



Cllr John Blundell
Tel: 024 7697 5555 (weekdays)
or 024 7641 9794 (evenings/
weekends) or e-mail
john.blundell@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Mattie Heaven
Tel: 024 7697 5555 or
07974 668163 e-mail
mattie.heaven@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Tim Sawdon
Tel: 024 7697 5555 (day) or
024 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail
tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk


I WESTWOOD



Cllr David Skinner
Tel: 024 7697 5555 (day) or
024 7646 8106 (out of hours)
or e-mail
david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Marcus Lapsa
Tel: 07813 528946 or
024 7697 5555 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.

I WHOBERLEY

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



Cllr Pervez Akhtar
Tel: 07813 529217 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
pervez.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.




Cllr Jayne Innes
Tel: 024 7697 5555 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-12noon at St Mary Magdalen Centre, Sir Thomas White Rd.
For an appointment please contact me.

I WOODLANDS



Cllr Peter Male
Tel: 07812 741220 or
024 7697 5555 or e-mail
peter.male@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Gary Ridley
Tel: 024 7697 1621 or e-mail
gary.ridley@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Julia Lepoidevin
Tel: 024 7697 5555 (day) or
07710 716913 or e-mail
julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

I 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 7697 5555 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 Salam Khan**, Deputy Leader, Policing and Equalities (Deputy, Cllr Pervez Akhtar)
- Cllr John Mutton**, Strategic Finance and Resources
- Cllr Pat Seaman**, Children and Young People (Deputy, Cllr Becky Gittins)
- Cllr Kevin Maton**, Education and Skills
- Cllr Jim O'Boyle**, Jobs and Regeneration (Deputy, Cllr David Welsh)
- Cllr Patricia Hetherton**, City Services (Deputy, Cllr Gavin Lloyd)
- Cllr Mal Mutton**, Adult Services
- Cllr Kamran Caan**, Public Health and Sport (Deputy, Cllr Rois Ali)
- Cllr Tariq Khan**, Housing and Communities (Deputy, Cllr David Welsh)

COMMITTEES

- Audit and Procurement**
C Cllr Ram Lakha
- Ethics**
C Cllr Seamus Walsh
- Licensing and Regulatory Committee**
C Cllr Christine Thomas DC Cllr Balvinder Kaur
- Planning**
C Cllr Lindsay Harvard
DC Cllr Dr Randhir Auluck
- Scrutiny Co-ordination**
C Cllr Richard Brown DC Cllr Lynnette Kelly
- Finance and Corporate Services**
(Scrutiny Board 1) C Cllr Rupinder Singh
- Education and Children's Services**
(Scrutiny Board 2) C Cllr Dr Kindy Sandhu
- 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 Joe Clifford

C = Chair DC = Deputy Chair

COVENTRY MPs

- Colleen Fletcher MP**
Coventry North East, Call 0207 219 8036
e-mail colleen.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk
- Zarah Sultana MP**
Coventry South, Call 0207 219 3000
e-mail zarah.sultana.mp@parliament.uk
- Taiwo Owatemi MP**
Coventry North West, Call 0207 219 3000
e-mail taiwo.owatemi.mp@parliament.uk

