

citivision

Job creation key to budget plans

Who's your favourite sporting volunteer?

Waste recycling hits new peak

Take a look at the shape of things to come

Plus: Your 8-page 2012 Olympic Games special

Keep up to speed with what's happening as Coventry prepares for London 2012

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YOUR 2-page guide to what's on this spring

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



COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE



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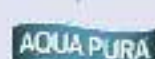


 Race for Life

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

People and issues making a difference

Like many of my colleagues on the Council, I became a councillor to make a difference in the city I love and over the years it's been an enormous privilege to do just that.

In the lead up to local council elections on May 3, there'll be plenty of debate about how Coventry should be run; this year, you're also being asked whether you think Coventry should have a directly-elected mayor.

You'll make your own mind up about this issue, but whatever your view it's crucial that you have your say by voting in both the elections and referendum.

In this issue of *Citivism*, there are some great examples of where the Council is making a difference. I'm personally very proud to be leading our initiative to make sure our most deserving sporting volunteers get tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympics.

It may be an event that the world's sports stars and VIPs will be seen at; for me, the real VIPs are those who work tirelessly in their communities to share their passion for a sport with others. You can find out how to make your own nomination on page 7.

In contrast – but another great example of where we make a difference – are our long-term plans for the city centre, which you can also read more about in *Citivism* (see pages 5, 10, 11). We won't see the benefit of some of these exciting schemes for a while yet, but we're planning for the future with confidence. Do let us know what you think about them!

*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: A computer-generated image of how Bull Yard will look once the redevelopment of the city centre is complete. For the full story, see page 5.

contents

welcome to the march 2012 issue of *citivism*

A personal message from Dave Walton, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

Citivism includes a great range of articles from organisations across the city that make up the Coventry Partnership. The partnership includes the public, private, community and voluntary sectors and as the chair, it's always encouraging to see the strong relationships between agencies. You can see the results of some of this partnership working with the stories submitted for the Proud of My City campaign: www.proudofmycity.org.uk/your-stories. This is where you can also submit your own story and digital pictures of your own community. Being the chair of the partnership in the run up to the London 2012 Olympics presents a fantastic opportunity to promote Coventry to the rest of the United Kingdom and indeed the world. And it's not long to go now...



* Dave Walton is acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer/Director with responsibility for the Technical and Operational Support sections within West Midlands Fire Service.



news

4 **Protecting** frontline services, creating jobs and investing in Coventry were the key priorities when the Council set its 2012/13 budget.

5 **A £300-million** plan to redevelop Coventry city centre has taken a major step forward with proposals for Bull Yard, Shelton Square, City Arcade, Barracks Car Park and Hertford Street.

7 **Local** people who make a difference to sports in their communities are being offered the chance to attend two of the most spectacular events at this year's London Olympics.

8 **The Council** is working with Inspire 2 Coach on setting up a Community Tennis Club at the War Memorial Park (pictured below).



19 ...Coventry Mysteries Week, the city's annual festival of dance, drama, music, film, digital media and visual art, is set to return from June 9-16.



* Could you become a foster parent? Find out on page 4

health focus

14 **People** suffering with a range of difficulties including panic attacks, worry, negative thinking and anger can now access psychological therapy wherever and whenever they want, thanks to a series of self-help audio recordings.

15 **Women** who are overweight when they become pregnant can attend a new Just4Mums course, on referral from their midwife..

green focus

17 **Pupils** from Sidney Stringer Academy have buried a time capsule under their new £30 million school.

17 **Students** and Canley residents have planted trees in support of a campaign to tidy up Coventry.

arts & culture

19 **Customers** will be better informed when eating out, thanks to a new food hygiene symbol for food outlets.

what's on

18 **A round-up** of some of the attractions on offer in and around Coventry this spring and early summer.

councillors

22 **Need to contact your councillor?** Check out our comprehensive directory.

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

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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.

Could you be the foster parents we're looking for?



Coaching's first class for the city
 Coventry City Council's Cabinet member for City Development, Cllr Linda Bigham, pictured above, was delighted to receive the Coach Friendly City award on behalf of citizens. Coach Friendly City status was awarded by the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT). It recognises the investment and commitment made in providing facilities for coaches, their passengers and drivers. The award is also for accessibility, particularly for disabled travellers.

The Council's Fostering Recruitment Team has re-opened its Friday information stall in the Lower Precinct.

The team hopes to build on the stall's success last year which prompted more than 40 people to register their interest in fostering.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet member for Children and Young People, said it was a great start and hopes for more success in the coming months. He said: "We need to recruit at least 50 new foster carers over the next three years and the Friday Fostering stall is a really convenient way to find out what fostering involves and whether you would be right for the role."

There are very few essential requirements for fostering, but potential carers must have a settled and secure home life and a spare bedroom for the child. Cllr O'Boyle added: "I urge anyone who thinks they may have the skills to



■ Cllr Jim O'Boyle with (centre) Coventry foster carer Eula Willis-Myers and (right) Xandra Gilchrist from the Fostering Recruitment Team.

foster to come along and find out more about this hugely rewarding role."

The fostering stall is open most Fridays from noon to 2pm in the Lower Precinct Shopping Centre. For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/fostering or call the Recruitment Team for a chat about fostering on 024 7683 1873.

'We need to recruit at least 50 new foster carers over the next three years...'

Protecting the vulnerable and job creation are key budget targets

Protecting frontline services, creating jobs and investing in Coventry were the key priorities when the Council set its 2012/13 budget.

Against a backdrop of stringent cuts to local government resources, the Council accepted the Government's one off grant to freeze the level of Council Tax.

Despite the economic difficulties, the budget includes a £57m Capital Programme investing in key services, including investing £200,000 in the Council's apprenticeship strategy, helping to create vital opportunities for young people.

- £15m for Children, Learning and Young People's Services, with most being invested in schools.
- A £5m highways maintenance

programme and £1m pavements programme.

■ A £2m programme of Disabled Facilities Grants.

■ £2m improvement and extension of cemetery facilities at Lenton's Lane.

Cllr George Duggins (pictured), Cabinet member for Finance and deputy leader of the Council, said: "Despite the massive financial challenges it is crucial that we continue to invest in the regeneration of the city so that we can create the jobs vital to help us fight this recession."



"The Council, like households up and down the country, is facing huge financial pressures which look like they're here for a long time, and we must take difficult decisions. Our priorities are, and always will be, to protect frontline services."

Pupils get backing from MasterChef



■ MasterChef finalist Claudia Huxtable serves up a treat for Cllrs Lynnette Kelly and Lindsley Harvard, watched by the head and pupils of Holy Family RC School.

BBC's MasterChef finalist Claudia Huxtable has been passing on culinary tips to local school pupils as part of the city's school meals menu promotion. Claudia met children at Holy Family RC Primary School where she helped them prepare a chicken tikka and vegetable wrap.

She said: "School lunches are

important to children because they are nutritious and healthy and great value for money." Senior councillors visited the school to mark the launch of the new menus. Cllr Lindsey Harvard, Cabinet member for City Services, said: "The school meals have been taste tested and approved by our pupils."



Scheme brings vulnerable in from the cold

A scheme funded by the Department of Health to reduce winter deaths and the impact of cold housing is providing emergency support services for vulnerable people.

Cllr Tony Skipper, Cabinet member for Housing, said that on average more than 30 people die every year as a direct result of cold weather conditions in Coventry.

"This initiative allows agencies to work together and provide crucial support to those who are at most risk of developing life threatening health conditions from the effects of cold winters."

The scheme has been targeting people over 75, those in fuel debt with young children, those living in poor housing conditions, isolated residents and those with health conditions.

Households can potentially benefit from free loft and cavity-wall insulation, including a seven-day fast-track service; a rapid referral and support service from fuel debt specialists; an aerial view of the thermal efficiency of all homes in Coventry and other potential support.

Keeping Coventry Warm is a grant-funded project which is being managed by a partnership between the public and voluntary sector. Coventry City Council and Coventry NHS successfully bid for the cash in December.

For more information, visit www.keepingcoventrywarm.co.uk or call Coventry Citizens' Advice Bureau on 024 7625 2025.

■ Cllr Tony Skipper with residents of Manor Farm at the launch of Keeping Coventry Warm.

New-look city set to reflect heritage

A £300-million plan to redevelop Coventry city centre has taken a major step forward after the Council in partnership with landowner Aviva drew up proposals for city centre south, covering Bull Yard, Shelton Square, City Arcade, Barracks Car Park and Hertford Street.

The proposal reflects the city's heritage and is partly inspired by the 1950s Gibson plan - recreating the iconic cross layout and better connecting Market Way, Hertford Street, IKEA and the market. Cllr Linda Bigham, Cabinet member for City Development, said that the work would build on projects already underway in Broadgate and on the Station to Bull Yard route. The scheme is based on comments received from the thousands of local people who took part in a major consultation three years ago which resulted in the Jerde vision for a new city centre. She said: "This is the beginning of one of the most exciting transformations our city has seen in 50 years - it is what people have been asking for and importantly it is a deliverable plan."

Cllr George Duggins, deputy leader, said: "The Council is facing difficult challenges because of the government spending cuts. But it's vital that we focus on the future, ensuring that we bring



jobs to Coventry, continue the regeneration of the city and build a city that everyone can be proud of."

The plans that will be submitted for outline approval include a new anchor store, a 1,200 space car park, cinema complex, hotel, apartments, new and refurbished retail units of the right size to attract new shops and the reintegration of the market into the scheme.

To find out more, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/citycentresouth

City limit cut to...
20mph
...to foster a safer city centre for all

The whole of the city centre inside the ring road is to become a 20mph zone.

Cllr Lindsley Harvard, Cabinet member for City Services, said: "Taken together with features such as widened pavements, narrowed carriageways and a host of new zebra crossings, this will complete our plans to make the city centre, a low-speed, pedestrian-friendly, more pleasant-to-the-eye environment



for everyone to enjoy.

"Moreover, to encourage people to come into the city centre, especially at night, on-street parking facilities are to be increased.

"The new limit will be prominently indicated by signs and new gateways located at each point of entry."

The new zone will be in place by the end of March.

Elsewhere, work is continuing on a series of other city-centre road projects that encourage drivers to slow down.

Keep abreast of city changes

Over the next few months, plans for more improvements to the city centre's street scene will be finalised as part of ongoing regeneration. For the latest update, see pages 10-11

Award celebrates city's young talent

An aspiring manager has scooped the title of apprentice of the year in Whitefriars Housing Group's ninth apprentice award scheme.

Amy Lyden, from Wyken, claimed the top spot in recognition of her outstanding work towards her business and administration apprenticeship and the extra help given to colleagues.

Amy, one of 16 apprentices employed by the affordable housing provider, joined the scheme in August 2010 and has already achieved her NVQ level two and is on the way towards achieving level three. She said: "It was a big shock to win. It is the first time I've won anything. My mum and dad were there right at the front to watch me get the award, they are so proud. It has made me much more confident.

"The apprenticeship gives me the chance to gain the

practical experience you need now to get employment, as well as the qualifications for my CV. I get to experience all parts of the business and work with people I like. It really has been the best option for me and my career."

The 19 year old received her award at an awards evening held at the housing association's Little Park Street office. Seventeen-year-old Adele Hargrave and Esme Jewkes, aged 19, were named as runners-up.

The most recent government figures showed almost 1.2 million people aged 16 to 24 in the UK are classed as "NEET" - not in education, employment or training. This represents 19.2 per cent of all people within this age group. The Whitefriars apprentice scheme, which has been running for ten years, has seen 135 young people go through on-the-job training.



Amy Lyden, aged 19, shows off her winner's shield, flanked by runners up Adele Hargrave (left), aged 17, Esme Jewkes, 19, and Mick Rawson, chair of Whitefriars.

Sprucing up the locality is child's play

Proud of My City is encouraging people and community groups to help keep the city clean in preparation for the Olympics. Citizens are being encouraged to take part in street clean-ups, or to think about becoming a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator or signing-up as a Coventry Ambassador. And summing up the Proud of My City ethos are members of Mossdale Rangers, winners of the



Coventry Community Cohesion under 18s Award in July 2011. The Rangers have continued their positive citizenship work in their close in Radford. After school and during the weekends they have been clearing away the leaves and litter picking. Angela Fallon, aged 70, said: "Since the Mossdale Rangers were formed, the close has changed dramatically. I wish all the children well for the future and in everything they do." For more information, visit www.proudofmycity.org.uk



A young Mossdale Ranger helps with the clean up.

United approach to payback for criminals

A project that helps offenders work in the community to 'payback' for their crimes is to be improved. From the beginning of April 2012 the Coventry and Warwickshire Community Payback Units will merge.

The new joint approach will help to provide a more comprehensive service to local communities in the Coventry and Warwickshire area and in future members of the public will be able to nominate projects through one central point.

For the Coventry area, go to the Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust website at www.swmprobation.gov.uk following the links to Community Payback, or call 02476 838 331. For Warwickshire, email dave.adams@warwickshire.probation.gsi.gov.uk or call 01926 682231.

Mayor's eye-camp mission

Lord Mayor Cllr Keiran Mulhall has been visiting a free eye camp in India that Coventry Sikh Union has funded. The Sikh Union has been raising funds for the camp in Jalandhar and invited

the Lord Mayor to see how the money was being spent. Cllr Singh Sehmi of Coventry Sikh community joined Cllr Mulhall for the visit. The camp provides care for the poor.

www.coventry.gov.uk/elections

make your mark
your VOTE counts

Register by 18 April (5pm
deadline for postal voting)
to vote in the Local Election
and Referendum

3 May

024 7683 3034

www.coventry.gov.uk/elections

Wanted! Your memories of the Sky Blues' sensational 1987 FA Cup triumph



■ **FLASHBACK:**
Skipper Brian Kilcline lifts the FA Cup after City's victory in 1987.

The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum is asking people to donate their stories, photos and memorabilia for a new exhibition, *From Highfield Road to Wembley Way*, which opens in April.

Everyone in Coventry knows where they were when Coventry City won the FA Cup in 1987. The Herbert is asking for donations of memorabilia that fans may have made or bought that hold

stories and memories from that day.

Exhibitions officer Dominic Bubb said: "The FA Cup run brought an entire city together. Even if football wasn't your game, you'd be proud of the mark the city was making."

For further information on FREE family events, exhibitions, talks and activities visit www.theherbert.org or join our family mailing list at www.theherbert.org/mailling-list

London 2012 VIP tickets offer for volunteers

Coventry City Council is offering local people who make a difference to sports in their communities the chance to attend two of the most spectacular events at this year's Olympic Games in London.

Cities like Coventry have been given the opportunity to take a small number of places at the Games' opening and closing ceremonies and many councils will be sending civic dignitaries to attend the event on behalf of their towns and cities. But the Leader of Coventry City Council, Cllr John Mutton, is giving up the Council's allocation of tickets to local people who make a difference in grassroots sports activities across the city.

Cllr Mutton said: "We think 2012 should be a year that celebrates sporting achievement in its widest context, and honours the thousands of unsung heroes who, year after year, work tirelessly in their communities to share their skills with youngsters, keep small sports clubs alive and flourishing and develop projects that encourage everyone to get fit and stay active.

"Many of these people have been responsible for setting youngsters off on a journey that has ended in medal glory or a professional sports career, others have just helped people enjoy a new sport in their neighbourhood. In Coventry we want to say thank you for that commitment by giving them the opportunity to enjoy one of the

'We want to say thanks by giving them the opportunity to enjoy one of the biggest spectacles the UK has ever seen...'

biggest spectacles we've ever seen in this country."

The Council has a total of four tickets for the opening ceremony and three for the closing ceremony at the Olympic Stadium in London. All of them will be awarded to Coventry's unsung sporting heroes, and the Council wants people to nominate friends, relatives or colleagues who they think deserve a ticket. A special form has been set up on the Council's website www.coventry.gov.uk/2012news and Cllr Mutton has written to sports clubs across Coventry asking for nominations. Alternatively, write to The Communications Team, Room 27, Council House, Earl Street, CV1 5RR, giving details of who you are nominating and why they should be considered.

The closing date for nominations is the end of March. Nominees must be aged over 16, live in Coventry or volunteer in sports in Coventry.



■ Council leader John Mutton spearheads the call for nominations for your grass roots sporting volunteers.

Be part of London 2012 in Coventry!

To celebrate the Olympic Games, Coventry community groups and clubs are invited to apply for up to £1,500 to fund their own local community games.

Your event doesn't have to be about sport, it could involve music, dance or drama or any other event that celebrates your community.

To apply:
Go to www.coventry.gov.uk/coventrycommunitygamesfund or phone the Heart of England Community Foundation grants team on 024 7688 4435.

Coventry Community Games Fund is funded by Coventry City Council, Office of the Mayor of Coventry and the Mayor of Coventry. The scheme is administered by the Heart of England Community Foundation.

Big bands in tune at Commons

Representatives from Coventry's Performing Arts Service and city school pupils were invited to the House of Commons to talk about the success of a new music scheme. The Class Band scheme, which originated in Germany, has been piloted in England by Coventry's Performing Arts Service in partnership with Yamaha Music Europe. The scheme allows children to learn to play an instrument in a band instead of the usual

method of one-to-one tuition or small groups. Over 500 pupils from five Coventry secondary schools are signed up to the scheme. Government officials invited members of the PAS to give a presentation to The All Parliamentary Group for Music Education. Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet member for Education said: "The Class Band scheme is a fantastic way to give more children the opportunity to learn to play an instrument."



Students from Coventry schools with performing arts staff on the steps of the House of Commons.

Serving up a tennis bargain

The Council is working in partnership with Inspire 2 Coach to launch a Community Tennis Club next month at the stunningly-refurbished War Memorial Park courts.

An investment of £225,000 last year saw the courts upgraded and the installation of floodlights, and now the Council is offering a year's membership of the new club at a cost of ONLY £35 per person.

There are now eight new full sized courts and two mini tennis areas.

Membership includes free use when available of four floodlit tennis courts



Anyone for tennis? Local youngsters enjoy a tennis for all session.



and mini-tennis courts seven days a week. Other benefits include free coaching session, free annual club competition and free open days.

Inspire2coach director Richard Marklow said: "We have recently appointed the highly-experienced James

Asbridge as head coach to run the activity programme and help every player to get the most out of their tennis."

An open day is planned for Saturday, April 21 (ages 10-12 between 10am-noon, adults between 1-3pm), where everyone can come and try the facilities for free.

To book a place, call 024 7615 0688.

For further details, visit www.warmemorialparktennis.co.uk, e-mail info@inspire2coach.co.uk or call 024 7615 0688. For other locations offering the chance to play tennis, visit www.allplaytennis.com



Tots discover joys of new park



Children test drive the new play equipment at the Tick Tock park.

Over 100 excited children and their families attended the grand opening of a new park on Stoke Green. 'Tick Tock' park – reflecting the history of the Joseph Levi clock that formerly stood on the site – was funded by £56,000 from the Jubilee People's Millions Big Lottery which the Gosford Park Residents' Association won with support of the public and the Council. The Council refurbished the benches and provided litter bins and a noticeboard on site. The opening of the play area was supported by the Cook and Eat Well team from

Groundwork UK, the local fire service and the Gosford Park Children's Sure Start Centre. Blue Coat School Brass Band also entertained people by playing throughout the morning. Goody bags for the children were provided by Wicksteed Playscapes and the Big Lottery. Cllr Phil Townshend, Cabinet member for Community Safety and Equalities, said: "We were very happy to work alongside the Gosford Park Residents' Association to bring the aspirations of the local residents for a play area within Stoke Green to fruition."

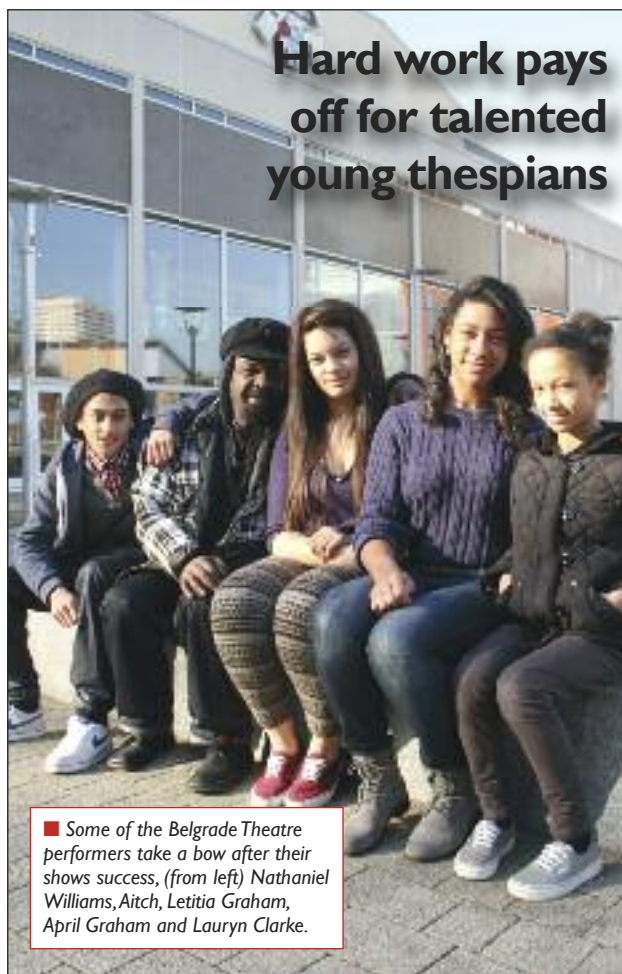
Basketball fence puts visiting louts on the back foot

Yardley Street Young People's Centre recently held an open day to mark the completion of a new fence around the centre's basketball court.

The fence was built in response to a petition organised and presented by Cllr David Welsh (St Michael's Ward) on behalf of residents who were concerned about anti-social behaviour around the site from people from outside the area. The centre was refurbished in 2005 to include a new commercial kitchen and cafe area, IT suite, music studio, art room, games area and hall. Drop-in sessions are held five evenings a week for young people aged 10 to 21 years. Around 160 young people are registered as members of the centre. Cllr Jim O'Boyle, who is responsible for children's and young people's services, said he was committed to offering safe facilities where young people can get together and receive support and information on a range of issues.

On your marks for new 10k

Hard work pays off for talented young thespians



■ Some of the Belgrade Theatre performers take a bow after their shows success, (from left) Nathaniel Williams, Aitch, Letitia Graham, April Graham and Lauryn Clarke.

Young people put on a weekend of shows at the Belgrade Theatre to celebrate youth arts in the city. The young people aged 13 to 19 years from the Council's Youth Service have been working on the project for almost a year, many of them learning new skills in both performance and technical aspects of theatre including sound, design and writing. Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet member for Children and

Young People, attended the show. He said: "Everyone taking part has worked really hard on a fantastic show including the young people, their youth workers, arts workers and volunteers. This illustrates what young people can achieve when given support through youth work programmes. There are some very talented young people in Coventry." Over 300 people attended the shows over both evenings.

The Wrap up and Run 10K charity race is to be staged at the War Memorial Park, Coventry, on Sunday, March 25, as part of Age UK's Spread the Warmth campaign.

The event is open to anyone who would like to run, jog or walk the picturesque 10K route around the park.

By signing up to the run, you will be supporting vital services provided by Age UK, including advice, support and practical services to help older people overcome issues with heating, health and isolation.

BBC Radio 6's Liz Kershaw said: "2012 is going to be a fantastic year of sport for the UK – particularly for Coventry as an official

Olympic co-host city. The money raised will make a huge difference to people in later life who need your support."

Over 200 older people die needlessly from the effects of cold weather each day in winter

Entry costs £14.95 (£13.95 for UK Athletics affiliated runners).

Registration is via the Age UK 10K website www.ageuk.org.uk/10k (when registering please state that you heard about the event through Age UK Coventry). Why not register as a team and take advantage of an offer to register three and get a fourth place free. For details, call 0800 169 8787.

The local contact is Dave Montgomery at Age UK Coventry on 024 7623 1999.

Last chance to donate £1

The Lord Mayor is reminding people that they can still support his chosen charities for this



year by popping into any branch of Coventry Building Society and donating a pound.

Cllr Mulhall came up with the idea to ask everyone in the city to give just a small amount that wouldn't put more strain on individuals' pockets.

It was hoped that well over £100,000 could be

easily raised for the University Hospital's Eye Unit, Coventry's children with special educational needs and also the Army Benevolent Fund.

If you haven't donated your pound yet, you still have until May 16.

Pop into any Coventry Building Society or you can donate online if your bank allows. For more information, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/onepound

All set for right royal knees-up



■ Last year's Telfer Road street party

Fancy a street party to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee? Then don't delay, e-mail today, and you could be celebrating in style in June. The Council has streamlined the admin processes for community events and street parties, making it easier than ever to stage an event. Simply e-mail streetparties@coventry.gov.uk, and the information, advice and forms will be sent to you.

Dad and son rev up for biking marathon

A father and son are planning a major motorcycle trek across Europe to raise funds for the Coventry Myton Hospice and strengthen city reconciliation.

Phil Baylis, aged 45, and Philip, aged 20, from Keresley, plan to visit 17 cities in Europe twinned with Coventry.

The Baylis family call their epic journey Sent from Coventry and hope to share the spirit of peace and reconciliation with the people they meet on the way.

The Baylis family start their journey on August 11. Their wheels will reach every Coventry twin from Arnhem in Netherlands to Galati in Romania.

Myton has a special significance for the Baylis family. Phil said his mother spent her last days there and her son remembers the staff as brilliant.

The pair are appealing for support from companies and individuals. For details, contact Phil on 07980632891, e-mail philcov40@yahoo.co.uk or visit www.sentfromcoventry.org

Matthew's race challenge

Caludon Castle School teacher Matthew Williams is hoping to raise £1,000 for the Snowball Charity for disabled youth by competing in six triathlon races during the 2012 race season.

The races are scheduled to take place between May and September. Merrick Binch estate agents in Coventry is backing the project which will see Matthew complete a daunting 80 miles cycling, 30 miles running and 5,000m swimming.

Take a look at the city of the future

Plans are underway for the major redevelopment of the city and surrounding area, creating up to 15,000 new jobs and providing a foundation for transforming the heart of Coventry...

With a range of developments happening in the city centre and on the outskirts of the city Councillor John Mutton, Leader of Coventry City Council, explains the challenges facing the city and the advantages of being a well connected city: "All the developments will make Coventry into a place where people are proud to live and will be the envy of many cities in England," he said.

"It doesn't stop in the city centre - major national and international companies look favourably at Coventry to relocate. They recognise that bringing their business here can mean significant long-term savings and more efficient ways of working.

"Coventry is arguably the best connected city in the UK with its road and rail links - over one million people live within a 30 minute drive, providing a strong skills base. "The area can also boast about two excellent universities, the University of Warwick and Coventry University, both of which are business-focused and crucial to

the economy and economic regeneration of the region."

Cllr Mutton believes that Coventry has an exciting future ahead - including developments like Friargate at the railway

station creating up to 15,000 new jobs, and the masterplan for transforming the shopping and leisure heart of the city.

He said: "We are spending over £7m to improve the city

centre, with a new open area in Broadgate and several other public realm projects, which will be a lasting legacy for the city. Coventry is the place to be... both now and in the future!"



1



Severn Trent moved into an environmentally friendly, purpose - built £45million new office in 2010, creating 1,500 new jobs.

2



New £9 million 80-bed hostel and training facility for The Salvation Army.

3



New £20 million 24-hour community health facilities.

4



New Extended Learning Centre opened 2011 for children aged 11 to 16.

5



Enterprise Innovation Centre - part of Sidney Stringer Academy.

6



New £28 million Sidney Stringer Academy - first lessons taught June 2011.

7



Coventry University's new £50 million student enterprise building, known as The Hub, in Gasford Street.

8



Youth recreational area created in the city centre by the swimming baths.

9



Belgrade Plaza – three phases including new hotel, restaurants and car park complete. Phase four includes plans for a further hotel, new homes and leisure schemes.

10



Broadgate – work is underway to create a new traffic – free square for events, concerts, and markets etc.

11



Work is underway to improve the connection between the railway station and Bull Yard and involves replacing two subways with surface level crossings, replacing two lanes of traffic with a new grassed area in Bull Yard, and improving the lighting along the whole route.

12



Gosford Street - this busy junction has been transformed by reducing traffic lanes from five to two, removing traffic lights, lines and signs and reducing vehicle speeds.

13



Coventry University's new £50 million engineering faculty, currently under construction.

14



Far Gosford Street - continuing to breathe new life into one of the city's best loved streets. Listed buildings are being lovingly and sensitively restored and there are plans for a creative village and hotel.

15



Earlsdon Park's latest phase will see the transformation of the former city college building in to a new 100 bed Premier Inn Hotel. The final phase will include bars, restaurants, theatre, and office accommodation.

16



The £300 million city centre southside redevelopment is set to transform the Bull Yard, Shelton Square, City Arcade, Hertford Street and Barracks car park area. Outline planning application due to be submitted later this year.

17



Friargate – Coventry's billion pound new central business district covering 37 acres at the railway station will create up to 15,000 new jobs.

18



Hertford Street is set to benefit from new lighting, benches and litter bins, repairs to the roof and a deep clean as well as re-painting.

19

London Road Gateway

The London Road Gateway development site will further extend the already successful Parkside Technology Park providing new office, leisure and education facilities and residential accommodation.

20



Vacant development site fronting Foleshill Road to be marketed for residential development this year.

21



Former Coventry and Warwickshire hospital site suitable for residential development.

22



The £60 million Bishopgate development has outline planning permission for a supermarket, health and fitness centre and 585 car parking spaces.

23



Millennium View - a mixed use, city centre development site.

24



The Coventry Telegraph building has outline planning permission for the development of a hotel, offices, student accommodation, retail and residential use.

Police alert over walk-in crime

Coventry Police are urging residents to lock their doors and windows at all times after a number of walk-in burglaries across the city.

Officers are concerned that many householders are still not securing their homes before going out to work for the day or to bed at night – often leaving rear doors and windows unlocked. Sergeant Mark Fletcher said: "Securing your doors and windows must become part of your daily routine, whether you are leaving home for the day, watching television in the evening or popping to the local shops for a few minutes."

He said that a particular favourite with burglars are laptop computers. He added: "Our advice would be to keep your laptop out of sight when it's not in use and register it on www.immobilise.com, so that if it's lost or stolen, you're more likely to get it back if it's recovered."

Residents are urged to contact Coventry Police on 101 to report any suspicious behaviour in their street.



■ Gary Hall, chair of the Coventry Festival of Motoring, and Ian Pegler, chief executive of Stoneleigh Park, at the site of the event.
* Photo by Haydn Bailey.

Under starters' orders for motoring festival

Entry for the 2012 Coventry Festival of Motoring is now open and organisers are aiming to attract around 600 cars and motorbikes and their owners to take part in the revamped event. This year's Festival will be held at Stoneleigh Park over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Organisers are putting together a range of new events and activities, including motorbike stunt shows, a classic car

auction, fairground rides, driving skills competitions and the all-new Future of Transport Expo. The flagship element of the event, the historic vehicle run, will feature a new route through the stunning South Warwickshire countryside. To take part, contact www.festival-of-motoring.co.uk. Entry will remain open until Friday, May 4 2012, or until all places are filled.

Sound advice key for householders

Homeowners who want to sell their houses need a Building Regulation Certificate, say Council building control officers. The Council can offer a unique and safe service so that new works are started with the confidence that comes from using a qualified and experienced team of building surveyors. The Local Authority Building Control Team will also inspect and advise on demolitions, dangerous structures, disabled access, fire safety, safety at sports grounds and the safe erection of temporary structures. A 24-hour service is provided with requests from the police, fire service and members of the public to inspect dangerous structures. For details, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/building-control and download an application form, or call 024 7683 2057.



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Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

WANTED

Do you remember the 1987 FA CUP when football came home for Coventry?

Yes?

Then we want to hear from you!!!

Visit www.theherbert.org/football for more information on the exhibition and how to submit your images and stories or email skybluestories@theherbert.org

.....

FROM HIGHFIELD ROAD TO WEMBLEY WAY

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of Coventry City's FA Cup win

6 APRIL - 1 JULY 2012

Jordan Well, Coventry, CV1 5GP
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Admission FREE

London 2012 chiefs impressed with Coventry

London 2012 organisers have visited Coventry to check on preparations ahead of the London 2012 Games.

Paul Deighton, Chief Executive of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG), joined Denis Oswald, chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and IOC Director of Sport, Gilbert Felli for a visit to the city's Ricoh Arena.

Talking of the venue Paul Deighton, Chief Executive of LOCOG, said: "This is a really terrific venue and the city of Coventry has really embraced these Games. It is a perfect example of a city grasping the nettle and saying 'we don't know when this will happen again, so let's make the most of it'.

"The Olympic Football Tournament is a great

opportunity for the people of Coventry to experience the excitement of the Games and provides a fantastic chance for families to watch world class men's and women's football. I would encourage people to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

"The City of Coventry has really embraced the Games"

The delegates also watched a women's football demonstration from President Kennedy School Girls' team and heard about the city's London 2012 Inspire Mark Legacy League programme.

Denis Oswald, member of



London 2012 officials with President Kennedy School children at the City of Coventry Stadium

the IOC executive board, said: "We have been impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the people of Coventry and we are grateful of the contribution of Coventry to the Games.

CLlr Linda Bigham from

Coventry City Council said: "The visit went extremely well and one of the reasons they were so impressed is that our involvement with London 2012 is city-wide and is about involving the whole community."

Inside this issue:

Page 2 Smartphone app

Got a smartphone? Download Coventry's FREE brand new Smartphone app for London 2012

Page 4 Coventry Ambassadors selection events

Get the latest update on Coventry Ambassadors and the recent selection event interviews



Olympic Football test event

Buy your tickets for the final men's qualification play off match on April 23

Page 3

Page 6 Cultural Olympiad update

Get the latest information on Godiva Awakes and the Cathedral's 50th Anniversary celebrations

Page 7 World Sports Day

Find out how your school or college can be part of World Sports Day on June 25

Cllr John Mutton - Leader of Coventry City Council

The countdown to the summer is ticking and the announcement that Coventry will host the test event for Olympic Football on April 23 is great news for the city.

Playing host to the final men's qualification play off match, brings more people to Coventry and I would encourage you all to show support by buying a ticket, spreading the word and help to fill the stadium. Being a co-host provides the city and wider region with a great window to showcase itself to the nation and the world.

A key aim for the year is to engage local residents and the community in the celebrations, so it's really pleasing to hear how local schools, volunteers and community organisations are getting involved and playing their part in making the 2012 Games one massive celebration.

One way people can do this is by joining the London 2012 Local Leaders programme, which gives people access to tools, hints and tips for how they can plan celebrations to mark the Games. Sign up to be a Local Leader at: www.london2012.com/localleader



David Moorcroft - Coventry 2012 Games Ambassador

On April 24 the draw will be made in London for the Olympic Football Tournament and finally we will know the teams that will be playing at the City of Coventry Stadium.

One day before that, on April 23, two teams will have the final chance to become the last nation to qualify for that tournament in the Olympic Football test event in the City. The whole test event programme has been a great success. It gives organisers and the venues the opportunity to test all of their logistical and operational functions and it also crucially has given the public an opportunity to get a feel of the Olympic and Paralympic spirit before the Games finally arrive.

To be chosen as the Olympic Football test event venue is great for our city and will mark the beginning of a wonderful few months for us all, before we welcome the world to our region. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for juniors and can be purchased at: www.coventry.gov.uk/testevent



Coventry gets smart for London 2012

Mobile users can get rights of a different kind on their smartphones after a mobile app of Olympic proportions was launched in Coventry.

Coventry will be the first English city to host an Olympic event this year when the London 2012 Olympic Football Tournament kicks off on July 25 – two days before the opening ceremony in London.

To ensure residents and visitors to the city experience as much as possible during Games-time, Coventry City Council has developed a mobile application to help people plan and make the most of their 2012 Games experience in Coventry.

It features all the London 2012 Olympic Football Tournament information, results and fixtures for men and women – including the 12 matches which will be played at the City of Coventry Stadium.

The free app is available on all major smartphone

platforms and also serves as an interactive guide to London 2012 in Coventry, listing all the events happening in the city during Games-time, such as sport on the Live Site big screen, the Olympic Torch Relay celebration event and includes links to buy London 2012 tickets for Coventry.

In addition, users have access to details to a wide range of London 2012 related content including information

The free app is available on all major smartphone platforms

on the Olympic Torch Relay route, details of Cultural Olympiad programmes, information on key events and tourism attractions across the region as well as GPS map navigation and transport information.

The Council is the only local authority to have launched a London 2012 application.

Subject to availability the mobile app can be downloaded from Apple, Blackberry, Android, Windows, Symbian, Bada and HP Web OS app stores or at www.coventry.gov.uk/smartapp

Got a smartphone? Scan here



Coventry to host last men's qualification play off match

Serving as the official test event, the final qualifying place in the Men's Olympic Football Tournament at London 2012 will be up for grabs in a play-off match to be held at the City of Coventry Stadium on Monday April 23, 2012.

Senegal's participation is already confirmed after finishing in fourth place in the African qualifying competition. Their opponents will be the fourth-placed team from the Asian qualifying competition which concludes on March 29, 2012.

Stuart Pearce's Team GB has a chance to win Olympic football gold, exactly 100

"It's a real privilege that Coventry has been chosen to be the national Test Event for Olympic Football."

years since they last won the tournament, in Stockholm in 1912.

Justine Hewitt, events manager at the City of Coventry Stadium, said "This will be a great chance for football fans from the region to see exciting young internationals in action in Coventry.

The first matches of Olympic Football at the City of Coventry Stadium will take place on July 25, 2012, two days ahead of the London 2012 Opening Ceremony, and concludes with the Women's Olympic Football bronze medal match on August 9, 2012.

Tickets for the qualification game are on sale now at

www.theticketfactory.com/footballtournamentqualification or telephone 0844 338 800 and from www.ticketmaster.co.uk or telephone 0844 277 0700.

Hospitality packages are also available starting from £20, to book telephone 0844 873 6323 or e-mail loft@ccfc.co.uk for more information.



The City of Coventry Stadium



Men's Olympic Football Tournament Qualification Play-Off Match

City of Coventry Stadium - Monday 23rd April 2012
Tickets priced at: Adults £10.00* Children £5.00*

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO
*PLUS BOOKING FEE IF PURCHASED VIA CREDIT CARD



Buy your tickets now to see the last two nations
compete for a place at London 2012



Journalists visit Coventry ahead of the Games

Coventry is already attracting the attention of the international press as it continues to gear up for its role as a co-host city during London 2012.

The city welcomed journalists from two of Poland's leading publications including Maciej Milosz from daily newspaper Rzeczpospolita and Piotr Hykawy-Zablocki from men's lifestyle magazine Logo. Visit Britain super blogger Paul Steel and photographer Cindy Vriend also joined the other journalists to cover the activities online and via Twitter.

During the visit, organised by Visit Britain and supported by Coventry City Council, the journalists were shown key locations around the city including

Coventry Cathedral, the Herbert Art Gallery, Coventry Transport Museum and the Ricoh Arena, which will be temporarily renamed the City of Coventry Stadium during Games-time.

The guests were also briefed on the huge amount of the London 2012-related activity taking place in the region in the build-up to, during and after the Games.

As well as the Olympic Football qualification match, and the 12 Olympic Football Tournament fixtures during London 2012, the visitors also heard about Coventry's involvement in the Torch Relay, Godiva Awakes, The World Shakespeare Festival, the cathedral's 50th anniversary and the redevelopment of the city centre.

Volunteers selected to show



Back row: Roland Harrison, Tina Adkins, Adam Moore, Tsitsi Myabako. Front row: Emma Holden, Penny Wilkin, Harjeet Matharu Bali Virk, and Fran Doherty

Hundreds of applicants have been invited to a series of selection events to recruit over 300 Coventry Ambassadors for London 2012.

Ambassadors will welcome visitors to Coventry during London 2012 and the selection events will help to recruit team leaders, linguists and ambassadors who will be based at key city centre locations and leading up to the City of Coventry Stadium during Games time in July and August.

Between Monday February 6 and Saturday February 11, the selection events included interviews for the applicants and presentations from lead staff outlining more details of the roles and responsibilities of the

volunteer ambassadors. More than 500 local people applied to be a Coventry Ambassador and volunteer to support London 2012 in Coventry. The scheme has been one of the most successful public engagement campaigns the city has seen, with over 7,000 people visiting the Coventry Ambassador website.

Applicants needed to be over 18 and either live, work, study or volunteer in the city. Funded by Coventry City Council, the Ambassadors scheme is a partnership programme delivered by Coventry University and supported by Voluntary Action Coventry and CSW Sport. Vince Mayne, deputy director of Student Health and Well

London 2012 is coming to Coventry...

April 23

Men's Olympic Football qualification play off match at the City of Coventry Stadium

May 1

London 2012 Live Site big screen opens at Millennium Place

June 23

New music commission 'Gloria' performed at Coventry Cathedral

July 1 - 2

Celebrate the Olympic Torch Relay evening and morning events in Coventry



showcase the city



Coventry Ambassadors

Being at Coventry University, said: "We've had a wide range of applicants and we have set up a number of selection events so that people have every opportunity to attend.

"This is a great opportunity for people who want to be part of London 2012 in Coventry and we want the volunteer ambassadors to enjoy the experience and feel part of a wider team that will welcome visitors to the city during the Olympics."

The selection and interview process will be followed by further training sessions in the spring to ensure the Ambassadors are fully prepared for the Games. For more details visit: www.coventry.gov.uk/coventryambassadors

Get on board the river relay walk

Exciting plans are underway to stage a 'relay walk' along the Sowe Valley in east Coventry as part of celebrations for London 2012.

The 'Sowe Valley Relay Walk' will be a one day event on Saturday June 23, in which people will walk all, or part, of the Sowe Valley footpath. The 11-mile walk will be divided up into five relay sections, with handover points at community centres.

The event is one of a number of projects in Coventry that have been awarded the London 2012 Inspire Mark. The Inspire Mark is awarded to projects that help to maintain the key values of

the Olympic Games.

The walk is a partnership project between Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Sowe Valley Project and the Council's Healthy Walks team.

Anna Squires, Sowe Valley project co-ordinator, said that it was fantastic to be granted the Inspire Mark: "We've spent time working with the local community to improve the river valley and we are really looking forward to encouraging people to get out and enjoy it more!"

The relay walk will also be encouraging people to join the regular healthy walks across the city, coordinated by the Healthy Walks team, and to take up more independent walking as part of their daily lifestyle. Many

Focus on



of these walks already use the River Sowe as an escape to nature within an urban environment.

The walk will start from Whitley in the south of the city and finish at Longford Park in the north and will be open for anyone to attend. Participants will be able to register for the walk from April onwards. For further details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/inspire or call Warwickshire Wildlife Trust on 024 7630 2912.

The Sowe Valley Project has received funding from Natural England's Access to Nature programme, funded by £25m from the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme.



Members of the Sowe Valley walk

July 25

First Olympic Football match to be played at the City of Coventry Stadium

July 27 - August 12

London 2012 Olympic Games

July 28 - 30

Godiva Awakes Performances

August 29 - September 9

London 2012 Paralympic Games



Godiva Awakes

Imagineer Productions have unveiled Godiva's extraordinary vehicle, the Cyclopedia, for the first time.

Godiva Awakes' extraordinary vehicle, the 7m long and 8m high Cyclopedia has been designed by Coventry based engineers NP Aerospace in partnership with designers from Coventry University and built by Rugby based engineers Shaw Sheet Metal. The Cyclopedia has been created making the most of the region's technical and engineering knowhow whilst

retaining the charm and ethos of the original sketches for the vehicle.

Producing a road-going multi-seated cycling machine capable of travel to London and powering Godiva requires a structurally sound and innovative design. The Cyclopedia draws on Coventry's past ingenuity in bicycle design, with NP Aerospace adapting the region's best known cycle, the Pashley Cycle, and using contemporary lightweight materials, technology and human power in the design.



The Cyclopedia having its first public unveiling



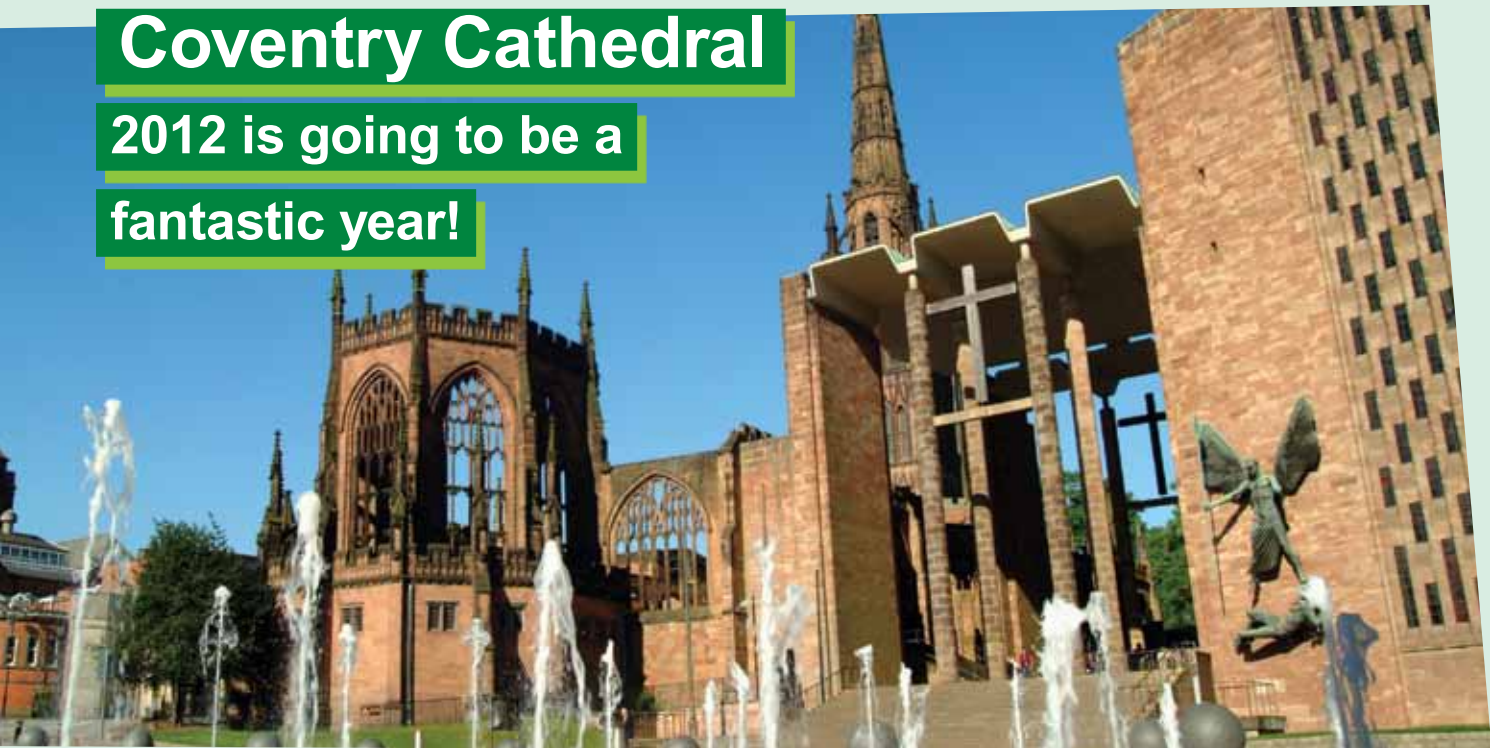
Godiva Awakes is part of Artists Taking the Lead, a series of 12 public art commissions across the UK to celebrate the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, funded by Arts Council England.

Godiva Awakes is also supported by Coventry City Council and is part of the Cities 2012 programme.

For further information or to sign up to receive regular updates visit: www.imagineerproductions.co.uk

Coventry Cathedral

2012 is going to be a fantastic year!



Amongst other things Coventry Cathedral celebrates its Golden Jubilee – a landmark occasion for a landmark building. The Cathedral is recognised internationally as a World Centre for Peace and Reconciliation. The ruins are listed on the World Monuments Fund 2012 Watch List as an internationally important and sacred landmark. As a place of beauty and creativity, housing one of Britain's best collections of 20th Century art, during 2012 we are planning a cultural

programme of art, music, theatre, poetry and worship that will inspire everyone.

Our exciting list of events features a world premiere performance of the Cathedral's newly commissioned Gloria by James MacMillan as part of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad, as well as performances by distinguished guests such as Aled Jones, Dame Gillian Weir, the Jaguar Land Rover Band, Elvis in the Cathedral and so many more! The broad mix also includes a stunning Flower Festival extravaganza, a Reconciliation

Film Festival, a unique and exclusive Art Exhibition, RSC Youth Theatre "Redcrosse" St George production as well as Imagineer's "Godiva Awakes" Carnival in University Square. The Cathedral has a very interesting Visitor Centre and is always a great place to visit whilst the hidden gem of the Blitz Experience is now open daily to visitors for the first time in 2012!

John Irvine, Dean of Coventry, says "We are thrilled to be part of the Cultural Olympiad, as we share the Olympic values and promote

the Cathedral's peace and reconciliation mission. London 2012 provides a once in a lifetime opportunity to both showcase Coventry to millions of people across the world, and celebrate the extraordinary spiritual and cultural heritage of the Cathedral."

Programme announcements will be made throughout the year. Please visit www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/50 for further details on events and tickets.

Join with us in celebrating the past and embracing the future.

London 2012 reveals plans for Olympic Flame

The Flame will be lit in Greece on May 10 and travel on board a special gold-liveried aircraft **Flight BA2012** to Cornwall ahead of the Torch Relay, which starts on the morning of May 19. The Olympic Flame will travel from RNAS Culdrose to Land's End then be carried on a 70-day journey across the UK, arriving at the Olympic Stadium on July 27 for the Olympic Games Opening Ceremony.



L to R: George Mollison of the Premier Group with Sebastian Coe, the Olympic Torch and the company's manufacturing director Gez Halton

World Sports Day is coming on June 25, 2012



Plans announced for London 2012 World Sport Day

Plans for schoolchildren across the UK to take part in sporting and cultural activities for **World Sport Day on June 25** have been announced. The day, which will open Lloyds TSB National School Sport Week will give thousands of young people the chance to celebrate the athletes and cultures of the world in a variety of ways, including staging their own opening ceremony and profiling the sports, music, languages, flags and food of the world.

London 2012 Games Maker training begins

The first orientation training event for London 2012 Games Maker volunteers and Games-time employees has taken place. By Games-time, up to 70,000 people will have been recruited and trained to provide a first class welcome to visitors to London 2012. Hosted at Wembley Arena and attended by 10,000 people, the training was the first of six national orientation events taking place and provided an introduction to the heritage of the Games, as well as an insight into what working at London 2012 will be like.

Lord Coe (centre), Eddie Izzard (right) with Games Makers



Get Set profile: President Kennedy School

As the closest secondary school to the Ricoh Arena, our official Olympic Football venue, President Kennedy School is working hard to give all students the opportunity to be involved in London 2012. The school has nine Student Olympic Leaders who are registered through the London 2012 website as "local leaders" and will organise events and trips along with promoting competitions. The School has linked with two schools internationally, in Kenya and New Zealand and will be sharing stories on their Olympic experiences and blogging about how the Olympics have affected staff and students.

The games has been incorporated into the curriculum in many different subjects; students have explored the geographical implications of the Olympics; yr 8 Technology student have redesigned the London 2012 logo and enterprise students have organised a mini Olympic Games. The school has also joined the girls' Legacy Football League and are benefiting from coaching sessions with the Sky Blues' coaches.

In July the school will organise an Olympic community festival with students taking inspiration from the Olympics to design a mural on the theme of success/achieving your goals.

Designs will then be amalgamated to contribute to a mural painted in the gateway. The school has also secured external funding enabling a professional artist to work with students in this project.



President Kennedy Legacy League team with Olympic athlete Kelly Sotherton

Is your school registered on Get Set? Ask your teacher to register to get access to London 2012 resources, competitions and exclusive rewards. Register for Get Set at: <http://getset.london2012.com>

Local Leaders

Local Leaders is a London 2012 programme to invite the nation's organisers, planners and doers to get ready for the Games.

Across the whole of the UK, millions of people will be part of the celebrations and at the heart of every celebration will be the one person who makes it happen - the person who makes a difference and just gets stuff done. If this sounds like you, why don't you sign up to be a London 2012 Local Leader?

Being a Local Leader is simple: all you need is an idea of how you will celebrate

the Games and then get organising. Local Leaders can create their own events or get involved with some of the ideas communities across the UK have suggested to London 2012.

When you sign up, you will get hints and tips to help you plan your celebrations, plus access to exclusive toolkits as we get closer to the Games.

Join thousands of others around the UK to organise events to make the Games local. Sign up at www.london2012.com/localleaders



Local Leaders

Competition

Win a limited edition pin badge marking 200 days to go until the start of the Olympic Games by answering the following question:

Q: When will the City of Coventry Stadium host the men's qualification play off match for the last place at the London 2012 Olympic Football Tournament?

- A) March 23
- B) April 23
- C) July 23

Please send your answers followed by your name, address and contact number by e-mail to: communications@coventry.gov.uk

Entries by **Friday March 30, 2012** please. The winner will be announced on Thursday April 5, 2012 at www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012



Next issue:

London 2012 – Your guide to the Games in Coventry



As we countdown to welcoming the world to Coventry, your next issue will be a complete guide to London 2012 in Coventry.

Olympic Legend



Shelia Carey
Athletics
1968 & 1972 Olympic Games

Shelia Carey, from Coventry, was a member of Coventry Godiva Harriers. After competing in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico and coming fourth in the 800 metres, she then went on to compete in the 1500 metres in the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. Shelia went on to teach locally at Exhall Grange School and is very much involved in Athletics coaching.

London 2012 Hopeful

Nigel Murray
Boccia

Nigel Murray, from Leamington, is the world number one in his sport, which is similar to boules with participants in wheelchairs. London 2012 would be his fourth Paralympics, during a career that has seen him win two gold medals, one silver and a bronze. With this in mind he is hoping to add to his collection before calling time on an impressive career.



Search for **Coventry-2012 Games:**



Coventry City Council, Council House, Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RR
e-mail: 2012gamesenquiries@coventry.gov.uk

www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012

Your four-page guide to what's new on the healthcare scene in and around Coventry

Centre of excellence

City of Coventry Health Centre is now up and running

Eighteen months after work started on site, the new £22.5 million City of Coventry Health Centre is now fully operational.

The Centre, located in the Hillfields area of Coventry, replaces the old Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and is one of the most modern and well equipped primary care centres in the region.

In 2008, it was confirmed that a new centre would be built on the site of the Hillfields Health Centre and would form an important part of the Swanswell initiative – the biggest single regeneration project in Coventry. The project was developed by Coventry Care Partnership through a Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) partnership approach – a private and public partnership working together to build patient-focussed facilities. Patients, carers and local people were then involved throughout the planning stages.

Comfortable

The City of Coventry Health Centre provides an attractive and welcoming environment for patients and visitors with light and airy public spaces, comfortable waiting areas and fresh, modern consulting rooms and will treat around 350,000 patients a year.

The five-storey building has been specifically designed to help deliver new improved models of care in a community setting, reducing the need for patients to go into hospital for services. Covering 10,000m², the Centre is one of the largest Primary Care centres in England.

Patients can attend the Centre for an outpatient appointment or for a blood test. The Walk-In Centre and Out of Hours service are also located there, along with four GP surgeries and a pharmacy.

Community services in the Centre are delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust and include:

- **Clinical Assessment Services – outpatients including diagnostic support**
- **Integrated Sexual Health Services**
- **Adult physiotherapy**
- **Podiatry – foot health**
- **Adult Speech and Language Therapy**
- **Psychological Services**
- **Community Dentistry**
- **Child and Family Services**
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**
- **City of Coventry Health Centre, 2 Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, CV1 4FS.**



■ A warm welcome from staff at the new City of Coventry Health Centre

Therapy where you want, when you want it...

People suffering with a range of difficulties including panic attacks, worry, negative thinking and anger can now access psychological therapy wherever and whenever they want thanks to a new series of recordings from Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust.

The Don't Panic Project is available through the Trust's website www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/dont_panic, via Books on Prescription in local libraries, or through the Trust's services. The project offers a series of psychological self-help audio recordings developed by Consultant

Clinical Psychologist, Dr Dan Barnard, and Community Psychiatric Nurse Phil Marriott. The recordings take the listener through a simple but effective treatment similar to that which would be offered during Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT). So far there has been a very

Cervical cancer – Laura’s story told to Coventry and Warwickshire women

A major cancer screening campaign has been launched across Coventry and Warwickshire, encouraging local people to go for their cancer screening test as part of an NHS drive to increase uptake of cervical, breast and bowel cancer screening.

Screening is free of charge and can detect changes early when there is a good chance of successful recovery.

Local woman Laura Robson, who is fronting the cervical screening element of the campaign, has written a postcard to the women of Coventry and Warwickshire telling her story and urging others to attend their screening appointments.

The postcard has been delivered to hairdressers, spas, beauty salons and gyms across the region to spread Laura's message.

Cancer screening adverts are being used to raise awareness of the importance of a simple screening test - which could save your life.

The latest prevention week focuses on symptoms and causes of cervical cancer and ways to prevent it and highlights the importance of women attending their screening appointments.

Louise Bennett, chief executive of the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, said: "It's fantastic when local



businesses can support important health campaigns like this one. Local businesses play an important part in the community and it's great that they can help spread positive health messages to their customers."

If you are between 25 and 64 years old and have missed your last test, make an appointment with your GP now.

For more information go to www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk or speak to your GP.

'Businesses play an important part in the community and it's great that they can help spread positive health messages to their customers.' ...'



Campaign uncovers the truth about shisha smoking

A new campaign called 'The truth about shisha smoking' has been launched in Coventry to help people understand how it affects their health.

The campaign will be showcased around the city revealing the true facts about shisha smoking. Shisha is a fruit-scented tobacco which is

smoked through an ornate water pipe.

Shisha smoking originated in the Middle East over 500 years ago but in recent years its popularity has been growing rapidly.

Shisha bars/restaurants are opening across the UK (including Coventry) and are typically decked out with low

stools and soft cushions to create an inviting atmosphere.

Anyone who smokes shisha or knows of someone who wants to stop smoking can call 0800 051 1310.

To find out more information about the campaign visit www.coventry.nhs.uk/shisha

positive response throughout the Trust, with many teams requesting additional copies for use with clients. Dr Dan Barnard said: "Not everyone needs or wishes to access formal therapy but they can still benefit from these recordings which deliver the same approach at the listener's convenience. We are obviously not

suggesting that these recordings are a replacement for therapy, which will be more in-depth, but people are reporting that they are very helpful.

"An added bonus is that the user can listen to the recording more than once so that they can master the material and we are finding that this is getting the best

results for users."

As well as the four titles in the Don't Panic series, two relaxation recordings have been made available, which have been reproduced with the permission of Jim White from Glasgow STEPS. Titles concerning stress, relationships, addictions and others will be added in the near future.



Volunteers serve up the gift of time to staff and patients

Volunteers at University Hospital in Coventry have been thanked by the nursing staff after taking part in a trial of patient feeding on the Stroke Ward.

Hospital volunteers went through a training programme to show them how to prepare and feed patients that would struggle to feed themselves following a stroke.

They helped nurses prepare patients for their meal by washing hands and clearing bedside tables and assisting patients to eat and drink.

They also reported to the nurse in charge details of what the patients ate and if they enjoyed it.

One of the volunteer team, retired butcher Denis Brooks from Whitley, Coventry, has been volunteering for just three months.

Denis said: "I get such a buzz from doing this; it is an extremely rewarding job. It is not just about giving patients

food but you soon form a bond and get to really know them."

The program was organised by University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust Practice Facilitator Jacqui Ledsham, who said: "Nutrition is so important in patient recovery. We know that on a ward such as the stroke ward there are always patients who will need assistance when it comes to feeding.

"There are examples of other Trusts using volunteers in this way and our volunteers were keen to help.

"The programme has been such a success that we are looking to recruit more volunteers and extend this to the Hospital Of St Cross in Rugby as well as other wards at University Hospital.

If you would like to know about volunteering at UHCW please contact Kristine Horne (Voluntary Services Facilitator) 024 76965147.

Course for mums-to-be helps tackle weight issue

Coventry women who are overweight when they become pregnant can attend a new Just4Mums course, on referral from their midwife.

This is a six-week course of nutritional and physical activity support to help manage weight in pregnancy as well as giving hints and tips for how to watch their weight after the baby is born.

Esther Higdon Healthy Weight Co-ordinator at NHS Coventry, said: "Ideally women should enter pregnancy a healthy weight and make use of all the support available in the city to manage their weight before they become pregnant, but if they are overweight when they become pregnant it is important to ensure that they do not put too much weight

on during pregnancy as this weight is hard to shift after the baby is born, as well as having health implications for the mother and baby."

Eating well and being active during pregnancy can help to:

- Reduce backache and other unwanted pregnancy symptoms.
- Improve sleep patterns.
- Increase energy levels.
- Increase the chance of the baby being born a healthy weight, as well as reducing serious health risks for the mother and baby.

Mums-to-be can register on the course with Just4Mums by calling 'Be Active Be Healthy' on 024 7683 3148 you can also find out when other courses are running. To be referred, please contact your midwife.



■ The poster (left) highlights how mums-to-be can get help to deal with any weight issues during pregnancy.

Don't pass it on!

TB crackdown warns people of the dangers of spreading disease

Local communities can expect to see information displayed in their GP surgery and a promotional team in some parts of the city helping people to understand what they should do if they have signs and symptoms of Tuberculosis (TB).

John Forde, Acting Director of Public Health at NHS Coventry and Coventry City Council, said: "There is a particular need to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of TB among the general public in Coventry as early diagnosis is critical in preventing the disease being spread to other people.

"Some of the common symptoms of TB are a fever with night sweats, a persistent cough and blood in the spit, and weight loss.

"If anyone is experiencing symptoms of TB they need to go

and see their GP as soon as they can."

TB is a bacterial infection which is spread through inhaling small droplets of saliva when someone with infectious TB coughs or sneezes.

Getting treatment can help stop TB being passed on. The earlier people get treatment for TB the sooner they will feel better.

Early treatment also reduces the risk of long-term damage to the body.

- Common TB symptoms are:
- A cough for three weeks.
 - Fever.
 - Tiredness.
 - Night sweats.
 - Weight loss.
 - No appetite.

Any of these could mean TB, contact your GP or visit www.nhs.uk for more information.



■ Some of the NHS Trust's award-winning volunteers.

Healthcare volunteers in running for award

Volunteers and staff at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust are celebrating after being nominated for a Pride of Coventry and Warwickshire Community Award.

The Trust's volunteers service, based at the Caludon Centre in Coventry, will be joining other nominated 'Community Heroes', the award's sponsors and the organisers, at the Ricoh Arena on Friday 16 March 2012 to hear the judges' final decisions.

Volunteers provide an invaluable service to patients, their families and carers at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust in many ways. People with a few hours to spare regularly volunteer to help out in the coffee shops or help patients gain access to services by driving them to their destinations safely. Patricia Sheasby, Volunteer Driver Co-ordinator, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, said: "We are delighted that our volunteers have been nominated for a Pride of Coventry and Warwickshire Community Award. Mental health services are often perceived unfavourably and this stigma can sometimes mean we do not attract as much volunteer support that other organisations experience. Our dedicated team of volunteers learn for themselves how rewarding the work with our

service users can be and this nomination is testimony to their commitment in providing a vital community service that helps so many people access the care that they need."

This isn't the first award that the volunteers have been nominated for. In July 2011, the volunteer drivers at the Caludon Centre won the Volunteers' Award at the Partnership Trust's annual Q Awards ceremony, which celebrates the outstanding work of the Trust's staff and volunteers. Mr Kenneth Timson, Volunteer Driver at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, said: "I decided to volunteer after seeing an advertisement in the local paper. At first I was a little apprehensive as I had never worked in mental health before. Since I started, I have met some really nice people and I have found the whole experience very rewarding. It's so nice to see people getting better and I feel privileged to be part of it. I would recommend anybody thinking of volunteering to give it a go after all if you don't try it, you will never know."

Anyone interested in volunteering opportunities at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust can find out more by calling 024 7696 8165 or 024 7696 8047. Alternatively, email Patricia Sheasby at patricia.sheasby@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

THE TRUTH ABOUT TB

the sooner the better

The earlier people get treatment for tuberculosis the sooner they will feel better. Early treatment also reduces the risk of long-term damage to the body.

Common TB symptoms are:

- a cough for three weeks
- fever
- tiredness
- night sweats
- weight loss
- no appetite

Any of these could mean TB. Go to a doctor - TB is curable!

TB ALERT

thetruthabouttb.org

Planting the history of the future

Pupils and staff from Sidney Stringer Academy were joined by representatives from the Council and Kier, the building contractor, for a time capsule burial ceremony under the reception of the Academy's new £30-million state-of-the-art building.

The capsule contained contemporary magazines and quotes from students

about what they like about the Academy and their new building.

Also included were newspaper articles from the day that a large part of the predecessor school burnt down and from the first day that it opened as an Academy. The Academy moved into the new building in June 2011.



450 species for Canley Brook



■ Dig this! Students and Canley residents get planting at Canley Brook.

Students join woodland folk for a degree of tree planting

Students and Canley residents have planted trees in support of a campaign to tidy up Coventry.

Thirty student volunteers and members of the Friends of Canley Spaces planted around 450 trees including Oak, Ash and Scots Fir species trees at Canley Brook.

The campaign is backed by The Jubilee Wood Project, organised by the Woodland Trust charity, which has the Queen's support, and aims to plant trees across the UK and involve millions of people to celebrate the Queen's 2012 diamond jubilee.

Back in November 2011, Warwick Volunteers and Friends of Canley Green Spaces planted over 250 trees in the Parkwood area of Canley, bringing the total number of trees planted up to 700.

University of Warwick Volunteers provide opportunities for students and staff to get involved in the local community.

If you are a community organisation in Coventry and Warwickshire, visit <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/about/community/volunteers/> to see how Warwick Volunteers might be able to help you.

What a waste!

...and it's all good news for our rising recycling rates

Cllr Lindsley Harvard stands amid some of the growing tonnage of waste now being recycled by the people of Coventry. The Council's recycling rates are higher than previous years, with 1,366 tonnes of waste being collected in the space of just a week. Cllr Harvard, Cabinet member for City Services, said the trend reflected the growing commitment to recycling across the city. "We are pleased that the tonnage being recycled has increased throughout the year. It is a clear sign that Coventry citizens care for their environment."

FACTfile

- The waste separation takes place as the materials are passed over a series of large conveyors through various screens separating out the heavier and lighter materials. This will be followed by separating the waste according to material itself, forming individual waste streams – paper and cardboard, glass, aluminium, plastic.
- Specific technology is used to separate the waste - such as magnets for ferrous metal or optical sorters to separate a variety of plastics. Sorting by hand is necessary to manually remove unwanted items, which will be sent to be recycled into new products.

The Recovery Partnership

Supporting recovery from drug and alcohol misuse in Coventry and Warwickshire



**“People
recover from their
alcohol and drug
problems
every day.
You can, too.”**

www.cw-recovery.org.uk

The Recovery Partnership is here for people across Coventry and Warwickshire. **We're here for anyone affected by alcohol and drugs.** We're here for families. And we're here for you. **If you have a problem, we can help.** We will always listen and respect what you have to say.

Coventry 8 Ironmonger Row CV1 1FD
T: **02476 630135** F: 02476 234686

Nuneaton 37-38 Coton Rd CV11 5TW
T: **02476 641100** F: 02476 388060

Rugby 1 Regents Place CV21 2PJ
T: **01788 569582** F: 01788 562576

Leamington 16 Court St CV31 2BB
T: **01926 885000** F: 01926 435198

Stratford Stratford Healthcare Arden St CV37 6HJ
T: **01789 206770** F: 01789 417750

Out of Hours Support
Coventry - **0800 7830447**
Warwickshire - **01926 425488**

Guide shows what's on menu



Taking mystery out of street art

Coventry Mysteries Week, the city's annual festival of dance, drama, music, film, digital media and visual art, is set to return from June 9-16.

Mysteries Week is staged in streets, public squares, shopping centres, on bridges, subways, and in parks, and attracts artists from across the UK.

Festival co-ordinator Hannah Grainger said: "The city-centre event will include walkabout shows, stiltwalkers, dancers from around the world, and graffiti walls. Interactive story games using your mobile phone and giant art in the streets are also among the attractions being planned."

For more information, visit www.coventrymysteries.com

Inspiring writers book place at first literary festival

Local author Celia Rees (pictured) was on hand to announce the winners of this year's Coventry Inspiration Book Awards.

The winners were revealed at a recent gathering of contenders, and the awards will be presented at Coventry's inaugural Literary Festival on June 13. Tickets for the event are available by e-mailing sls@coventry.gov.uk

The X-Factor-style awards competition attracted almost 5,000 votes from around the world, with two books with the least votes in each poll being evicted on a weekly basis.

The 2012 winners in each class are as follows:

- Never Too Young (0-4) – **Lulu Loves Stories**, Anna McQuin.
- What's the Story (4-7) – **Good Little Wolf**, Nadia Shireen.
- Our Favourite Classics (all ages and



abilities) – **Northern Lights**, Philip Pullman.

■ Raring 2 Read (7-11) – **The Memory Cage**, Ruth Eastham.

Read It Or Else (11-14) – **H.I.V.E.**, Mark Walden (Coventry author).

■ Simply The Book (14+) – **Blood Red Road**, Moira Young.

■ Fancy A Quickie (quick reads) – **The Fall**, Anthony McGowan.

■ Scene It, Read It (book of the film/TV) – **Case Histories**, Kate Atkinson.

■ Word of Mouth (recommended by read) – **Mr Chartwell**, Rebecca Hunt (Coventry author).

■ Murder & Mayhem (crime) – **The Daughter of Time**, Josephine Tey.

■ As Time Goes By (historical) **Coventry**, Helen Humphries.

■ Alternative Realities (sci fi/ fantasy) – **The Silent Land**, Graham Joyce (Coventry author).



Snap-happy duo in frame

Two second year City College students – Lewis Bench and Bethany Rivers – have been highly commended in the Association of Colleges' third annual student photography competition. Lewis and Beth entered their images in the 'my journey to college' category and were awarded highly commended by a judging panel of professional photographers. Lewis said: "I'm really pleased, I've learned loads on my photography course and to be given this award is fantastic." Tutor Sam Baxter said: "This is excellent for our course, and the students, to win two out of six prizes in a national photographic competition."

£53k grant for arts project

Coventry Artspace, one of the city's leading visual arts organisations, has received a £53,536 Arts Council Grant.

Artspace director Laura Elliott said the 18-month grant would support new projects.

The funding will also

fund a new part-time co-ordinator role to support public events and projects with specific community groups. For details, visit www.coventry-artspace.co.uk/events, or phone the Artspace office on 024 7655 3533.

Customers will be better informed when eating out, thanks to the introduction of a new scheme which tells them about the hygiene standards of food outlets.

The Council is switching to the new Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which will be run across the city from April 1. This national scheme, developed by the Food Standards Agency in partnership with local authorities, provides information on food hygiene standards to help people to choose where to eat out or shop for food.

The new scheme builds on the success of Coventry's current Scores on the Doors scheme.

Food outlets, such as restaurants, takeaways and

pubs, are inspected by Food Safety Officers from Coventry City Council to check that their hygiene standards meet legal requirements.

The hygiene standards found at these inspections are rated on a scale ranging from zero at the bottom, which means urgent improvement necessary, to a top rating of five, meaning very good.

These ratings will be available for anyone to view on the FSA website at www.food.gov.uk/ratings from April 1. Restaurants and food outlets will receive a sticker and certificate and be encouraged to display them at the entrance to their premises so that customers have a better idea of the quality and service on offer.

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26
66
66

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- Advance Booking
- Ring Back



Minibuses



Wheelchair Service



Airport/ Hotel Transfers



Customer Service



Computerised Booking System

Warm to a glorious springtime

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

MARCH

24 – Spring into Action!, War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Take a walk around the park to see the spring flowers and creatures before returning to the new visitor centre to make some spring inspired pictures and collages. Cost £2.50 per child, suitable for ages 4+. Call 024 7678 6280 for more details.

APRIL

1 (Until 15) – Pat Collins Easter FunFair, Hearsall Common, 1-11pm.
6 (Until July 1) – From Highfield Road to Wembley Way: Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Coventry City's FA Cup Win, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum. How a football team united a whole city.

10-19 – Easter Holiday fun at the following venues:
 10, **Caludon Park**, 1.30-3.30pm;
 11, **Allesley Park**, 1.30-3.30pm;
 12, **Longford Park** (Windmill Road), 1.30-3.30pm;
 16, **The Lindfield**, 1.30-3.30pm;
 17, **Radford Common**, 1.30-3.30pm;
 19, **Primrose Hill Park**, 1.30-3.30pm.

Outdoor fun with the Rangers, including games and craft activities. These events are FREE and open access, all under eights must be supervised and all over eights must have a completed parental permission slip (available from the Rangers on the day). Suitable for eight-12 years, and no booking required.

10-13 April (also 16-20) – Coombe Kids Club, Coombe Country Park, 8am-6pm (length of session can be adjusted to suit your needs). The perfect place for active kids to get out into the fresh air and have fun. Cost £3.15 per hour; minimum of five-hour stay. Suitable for eight-14 year olds, and bookings are essential – call 024 7645 3720.

11 (also 12 & 13) – Meet King Frog, Coombe Country Park, 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-

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

Making drama out of health and fitness

As part of its Creative Gymnasium project, Coventry's Belgrade Theatre is inviting people aged 50 and over to take part in a series of free workshops which will use drama and the arts to raise levels of health and well-being.

Developed by the Belgrade Theatre and in partnership with Age UK, the project will provide opportunities for people to meet and develop new creative skills.

The project will culminate with

the creation of a brand new performance at the Belgrade Theatre in June.

Creative Gymnasium aims to raise understanding of the extent to which the arts can play a key role in health and well-being, and can be used to roll out the benefits of the programme at a national level.

To find out more, contact Antonia Beck on abeck@belgrade.co.uk

3.30pm. Join King Frog in his magical kingdom for some watery tales of life in the royal pond. Then hop into the park to help him find some of his special friends before heading back and getting crafty creating your own pond life scenes and animals. Cost £5.25, suitable for children aged five plus. Bookings are essential – call 024 7645 3720.

12 – Hopping Mad, War Memorial Park Visitor Centre, 10am-noon & 1-3pm. Join the egg-citement on the Easter Bunny Trail, then head to the Visitor Centre for Easter crafts. Cost £2.60 per child per session. Suitable for ages four-plus.

17 – Cracking egg codes, Coombe Country Park, 10am-3pm. Follow the clues to find as many different bird eggs as possible and solve the cracker code. Cost £1 per child, suitable for families, and no booking required.

18 – Volunteer day, Wyken Slough, 10am-3pm. Join the Park Service Rangers on the third Wednesday of every month and help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. All volunteers must register in advance. Call 024 7683 3633 (option 3) and ask for a Ranger.

19 – Iris May Falcons, Coombe Country Park, 11am-1pm. Get up close and personal with fearsome birds of prey during this FREE event.

19 – Rubbish Monsters, War Memorial Park Visitor Centre, 10am-noon & 1-3pm. Make a monster out of recycled rubbish to take home. Cost £1.55 per child per session, suitable for children five-plus.

21 – Dragonastic, War Memorial Park Visitor Centre, 11am-1pm. Help us celebrate St George's day early. Follow St George's trail around the park to find the dragon, then make your own dragon, sword and shield. Cost £2.60 per child, suitable for five-plus.

29 – Dawn Chorus, Coombe Country Park, 4.30-7am. Get ready for National Dawn Chorus day on May 6 with this inspirational walk listening and identifying the park's birds. Cost £2.70, and booking essential – call 024 7645 3720. Suitable for adults and older children/teenagers.

29 – St Georges Day (Scouts), War Memorial Park, 1-4pm. Join the City Of Coventry Scout County in celebrating the Patron Saint of England.

MAY

12 – Booktastic, War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Come and meet characters from classic children's books, listen to stories and make book-themed crafts in celebration of National Book Week. Cost £1.55 per child.

13 – Walkathon, War Memorial Park, 10.30am-4pm. Be part of this charity event. Cost £5. For more information, visit www.leofrictions.org.uk

13 – Sunbeam Alpine Spares Day, War Memorial Park, 10am-3pm. See a display of these rare cars and buy parts.

16 – Volunteer day, Quinton Pools, 10am-3pm. Join the Park Service Rangers on the third Wednesday of every month and help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. All volunteers must register in advance. Call 024 7683 3633 (option 3) and ask for a Ranger.

19 – Pink Picnic, War Memorial Park, 11am-2pm. A family picnic in the War Memorial Park with sporting and cultural activities. Bring your own food and soft drinks.

19 – Pre-season tour of the fishery, Coombe Country Park, 2.30-4.30pm. Thinking about joining Coombe Pool Fishery for the 2012/13 season? Then why not join our fisheries Estate Officer for a free tour of the lake? Suitable for prospective anglers. Booking is essential – call 024 7645 3720.

26 – Be Nice to Nettles, Coombe Country Park, 10am-noon. Find out why nettles are so much more than a troublesome weed. Cost £3.70, suitable for all, and booking is essential – call 024 7645 3720.

26 – Get Set for the Jubilee, War Memorial Park, 11am-1pm. Make some bunting to decorate your street and garden parties to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Cost £2.60 per child. Suitable for four-plus.

26 – Bat Walk, Tile Hill Wood (lay-by in Banner Lane). Join the Rangers to learn more about

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

these fascinating night flying mammals. Cost £1.50, or £1 Passport to Leisure and Learning. Booking essential – call 024 7645 3720.

27 – Coventry Fun Run, War Memorial Park, 10.30am-3pm. Coventry Three Spires Round Table invite you to take part in the annual fun run. For more information, visit www.coventryfunrun.co.uk

28-30 – Water Vole Awareness at the following locations:

28, **Lake View Park**, 4.30-5.30pm;
 29, **Brookside Ave, Whitaker Road**, 4.30-5.30pm;
 30, **Longford Park** (Windmill Road), 4.30-5.30pm. Join the Council's Park Rangers and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, and find out more about Water Voles and how you can help them. Free and no booking required
 30 – Introduction to Spring Flowers, Coombe Country Park, 6.30-8pm. Inspiring workshop learning how to identify the different varieties of spring flowers. Cost £2.70, suitable for adults.

JUNE

3 – The Big Diamond Jubilee Lunch with Live Band, Millennium Place. Bring your lunch and enjoy live music, a singalong and the screening of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations live from London.

6-8 – Half-term fun at the following venues:
 6, **Allesley Park**, 1.30-3.30pm;
 7, **Longford Park** (Windmill Road), 1.30-3.30pm;
 8, **Caludon Park**, 1.30-3.30pm. Outdoor fun with the Rangers, including games and craft activities. These events are FREE and open access, all under eights must be supervised and all over eights must have a completed parental permission slip (available from the Rangers on the day). Suitable for eight-12 years, and no booking required.

7-8 – Teddy's Right Royal Picnic, Coombe Country Park, 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-3.30pm. Bring your sandwiches along and join in the fun as Royal Ted tries to get to the bottom of his missing magical tea cakes! Cost £2.70 and booking is essential – call 024 7645 3720.

Olympic glory as shows land 2012 honour

The Belgrade Theatre's productions of *Stars in the Morning Sky* and *We Love You City* have been granted the Inspire mark, which recognises innovative projects directly inspired by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Running in the Belgrade's B2 auditorium from March 17 to April 7,



Stars in the Morning Sky is Chris Hannan's new adaptation of Alexander Galin's Moscow 1980 Olympics drama. And following a hugely successful run last year, *We Love You City* returns to Coventry's Belgrade Theatre from May 8 to 26, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Coventry City FC winning the FA Cup and the arrival of the London 2012 Olympic Football Tournament.

Tickets for *We Love You City* and *Stars in the Morning Sky* are available on 024 7655 3055 or via www.belgrade.co.uk where cheaper tickets are available.

7 – Flutterby butterfly, War Memorial Park, 10am-noon. As part of Butterfly Awareness Week, come and create beautiful butterfly crafts and take part in the National Butterfly Survey. Cost £1.55 per child. Suitable for five-plus.

7 – World Environment Day, War Memorial Park, 1-3pm. As part of World Environment Day activities, come and create some themed crafts. Cost £1.55 per child. Suitable for five-plus.

9 (Until 16) – Coventry Mysteries Week Festival. Exciting new dance, drama, music, film, digital media and visual art events will transform the city centre's buildings, streets and parks. Creative and interactive work by established and emerging artists and performers. Time/venue: every day and evening across the city centre – see www.coventrymysteries.com for details of events.

Coventry Transport Museum

Spring Craft Fair

24 & 25 March 2012

Local craftspeople, beautiful one-off gifts and a lovely day out
Admission FREE

SCAN ME

Coventry Transport Museum

An exhibition of vehicles used by members of the British Royal Family

ROYALTY ON THE ROAD

6 April to 10 June

PLUS:
6 to 22 April
Royal Easter Holiday Activities
 Crown Jewels Activity Trails and a different craft activity each day

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I BABLAKE

Cllr John Gazey: Call or fax 024 7633 3780 for attention or appointment. Will visit you.
Cllr David Kershaw: Keresley surgery held at the Coronation Club, Keresley Road noon-1.30pm the first Saturday in the month. Allesley surgery held at Allesley Parish Church Hall, 5-6pm on the second Monday of the month. For an appointment please call 07985 81 1885 or 024 7671 1107 or e-mail david.kershaw@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Andrew Williams: Call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail andrew.williams@coventry.gov.uk

I BINLEY & WILLENHALL

Cllr Dave Chater: For an appointment, call 024 7667 2619 or 07759 062733. Happy to make a home visit or e-mail dave.chater@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE: For an appointment, call 024 7645 6161 or 024 7683 1039. Happy to make a home visit. e-mail ram.lakha@btinternet.com or ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr John Mutton: Call 024 7683 2672 for an appointment or advice.

I CHEYLESMORE

Cllrs 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.
Cllr Kevin Foster: 024 7683 1276 (daytime) or e-mail kevin.foster@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Noonan: 024 7683 1039 (daytime) or 024 7650 5109 (evenings), or e-mail hazel.noonan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Harjinder Singh Sehmi: Last Friday of the month at Cheylesmore Social Club, Quinton Park, 6-7pm or call for an appointment on 07507 687268 or e-mail harjinder.singhsehmi@coventry.gov.uk

I EARLSDON

Cllr Allan Andrews: Surgeries are held second Thursday of the month, from 6-7pm at the West Orchard United Reformed Church, Bagington Road. Home visits also conducted. Call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk www.allanandrews.com or follow on twitter @allanandrews
Cllr Michael Hammon: Call 024 7644 8585 for an appointment or e-mail michael.hammon@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ken Taylor OBE: Call 024 7667 3717 for an appointment.

I FOLESHILL

Cllr Tariq Khan: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1039 or 07983 600286 e-mail tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Abdul Salam Khan: Call 024 7683 1039 (Council House) or 07903 847160, or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr 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

Cllr Lynnette Kelly: Call 024 7671 1682 e-mail lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Kevin Maton: Call 07941 827229 e-mail kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ed Ruane: Call 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

Cllr 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

Cllr Rachel Lancaster: Call 024 7636 0021 or e-mail rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.
Cllr 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

Cllr 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.
Cllr 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) or e-mail george.duggins@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Lindsley 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 lindsley.harvard@coventry.gov.uk

I LOWER STOKE

Cllr John McNicholas: If you have a problem, need help or advice, can visit you in your own home and can be contacted on 024 7683 1039 (daytime), 024 7650 4037 (evenings) or e-mail john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Phil Townshend: Call 024 7683 1034 (daytime) for details of dates and venues of surgeries or e-mail philip.townshend@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Catherine Miks: Call 07759 676 490 or e-mail catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk

I RADFORD

Cllr Mal Mutton: Call 024 7630 4497 or 024 7683 4855 for an appointment or e-mail mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Keiran Mulhall (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.
Cllr 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 1039.

I ST MICHAEL'S

Cllr 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
Cllr Dave Nellist: First Friday of month St Peter's Church Centre, Charles Street, Hillfields, 6-7pm and third Friday of each month at St Anne's and All Saint's Church, Acacia Avenue, Charter House 6-7pm.. Alternatively call 024 7683 1039 (daytime), leave a message on 024 7622 9311 or e-mail dave.nellist@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr 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 1032, or e-mail jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk

I SHERBOURNE

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

seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Gary Ridley: Happy to help where I can, please feel free to call 024 7683 1039 (day). e-mail gary.ridley@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.
Cllr Damian Gannon: For an appointment call 07985 81 1877 or e-mail damian.gannon@coventry.gov.uk

I UPPER STOKE

Cllr 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 upperstokefocus@covlibdems.org.uk
Cllr Sucha Bains: Barras Green Social Club, Coventry Street, between noon-12.45pm every first and third Saturday. Or call 024 7645 9484.
Cllr Colleen Fletcher: For an appointment call 07939 111992, or 024 7683 1039 or e-mail colleen.fletcher@coventry.gov.uk

I WAINBODY

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

I WESTWOOD

Cllr Marcus Lapsa: Call 024 7647 4540 or 024 7683 1039 (daytime) for an appointment or e-mail marcus.lapsa@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr David Skinner: Call 024 7683 1039 (Council House) or 024 7646 8106 (out of hours) or e-mail david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Sandy: Surgeries will be held at The Lime Tree Club, Templar Avenue second Saturday of the month from noon-1pm and every fourth Saturday of the month from 11.30am-12.30pm at Canley Library, Prior Deram Walk. For an appointment please call 07949 900445 or e-mail richard.sandy@coventry.gov.uk

I WHOBERLEY

Cllr Dan Howells: To arrange an appointment call 07540 083974 or e-mail dan.howells@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Roger Bailey: Call 024 7683 1039 (daytime) for an appointment or e-mail roger.bailey@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Bally Singh: Call 07779 256898 for an appointment, or e-mail bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk Regular Surgeries are held every third Saturday of the month 10am-noon at the St Mary Magdeline Centre, Sir Thomas White Road. Also morning chat every first Friday of the month 8.30-9am at Stoke Bakery, Allesley Park.

I WOODLANDS

Cllr Patricia Hetheron: Please call 07985 81 1881 for an appointment or e-mail patricia.hetheron@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Heather Johnson: Call 024 7683 1039 (Council House) or 024 7667 0901 (home) for an appointment. Alternatively e-mail heather.johnson@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Julia Lepoidevin: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1039 (daytime) or e-mail julia.lepoidevin@coventry.co.uk
Cllr Lepoidevin and Johnson: Next surgeries are at Jardine Crescent Library, 5-7pm on 23 March.

I WYKEN

Cllr Susanna Dixon: Call 024 7683 1039 (daytime), 024 7662 2206 (evenings), or e-mail susanna.dixon@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Faye Abbott: For an appointment call 07944 996294 or e-mail faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Sweet: For an appointment or home visit call 024 7661 6273 or e-mail hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk You can visit Cllr Abbott or Cllr Sweet every Friday 6.30 - 7.30pm at Wyken Working Mens Club, Ansty.

Cabinet members

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

Committees

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 C Cllr Abbott DC Cllr Singh Sehmi
Planning
 C Cllr Maton DC Cllr Walsh
Audit
 C Cllr Chater DC Cllr Blundell
Scrutiny Co-ordination
 C Cllr Lucas DC Cllr McNicholas
Council Resources Communities and Sport (Scrutiny Board 1)
 C Cllr Ruane DC Cllr Bains
Children, Young People, Learning and Culture (Scrutiny Board 2)
 C Cllr M Mutton DC Cllr B Singh
Economy, Regeneration and Transport (Scrutiny Board 3)
 C Cllr Lakha DC Cllr Noonan
Environmental and Community Safety (Scrutiny Board 4)
 C Cllr Lancaster DC Cllr Auluck
Health and Social Care (Scrutiny Board 5)
 C Cllr Welsh DC Cllr Sweet
 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 emmal.davies@parliament.uk
Geoffrey Robinson MP
 Coventry North West
 Call 024 7625 7870
 e-mail robinsong@parliament.uk

European MPs

West Midlands Region

CONSERVATIVE - Malcolm Harbour, Philip Bradbourn, 285 Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common, CV7 7EL
 Call 01676 530621/01676530297
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 01789 266354
UKIP - Mike Natrass, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD
 Call 0121 333 7737
INDEPENDENT - Nikki Sinclair, 125 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD
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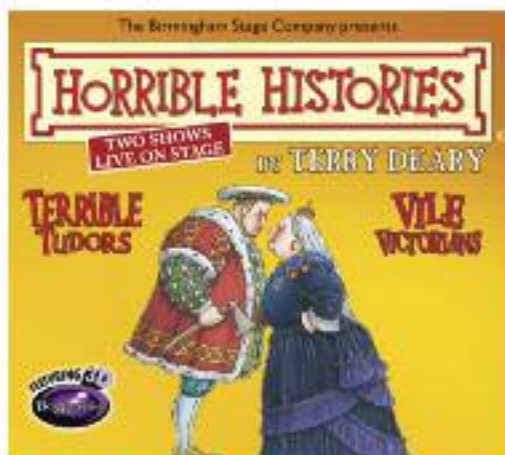
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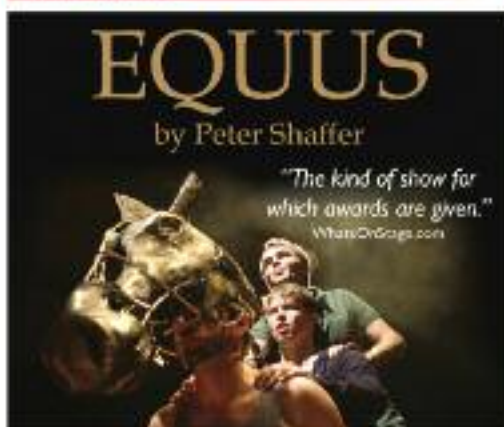
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