

citivision



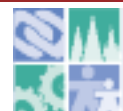
INSIDE

- Christmas Cracker
- Cycle network boost
- Help with debt advice
- WIN panto tickets

ON

OFF

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



Coventry
Partnership

HIGH VOLTAGE

COVENTRY'S *Christmas Cracker*

A CRACKING FEAST OF CHRISTMAS
ENTERTAINMENT!



WIN!

TRIPS TO NEW YORK, PARIS AND ROME

Find out more at coventrychristmascracker.co.uk



Follow us



Coventry Telegraph





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

Games give way to a year of tough new challenges

As we get to this time of year, it's always nice to look back at our achievements and challenges over the past 12 months.

We've all got some really special memories of this year, of course, when London 2012 came to Coventry and we welcomed the world to our fantastic city.

I don't think anyone would disagree with my view that the city rose to the occasion brilliantly, but it's good to have the hard evidence to back this up.

Our number crunching has revealed that the Olympics has been worth £50million to the city, which isn't a bad return on the £5million investment the Council made.

And now the hard work begins – we have to build on the legacy of the work already started and make sure we continue to benefit from the Games in decades to come. Keep watching this space, and we'll keep you updated.

We know that 2013, in contrast, will bring many challenges for the city and its residents. There are tough times ahead, but we'll continue to work with you to tackle these challenges and we'll be honest and upfront with you about the issues we need to face.

A very Merry Christmas to you all, and here's to a peaceful 2013 to everyone.

*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: *Shining Star winner, Pagan Pitaway alongside Roy Wood, Lord Mayor, Councillor Tim Sawdon and Father Christmas at the big switch on*

Full story – Page 5.

A personal message from Charley Gibbons, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

I'm delighted to have been asked to chair the Coventry Partnership, and I want to pay tribute to the work of Dave Walton, my predecessor. In my role as chief executive of the CAB, I have worked with many partners across a range of sectors and have seen the overwhelming benefits that have ultimately improved services for the people of Coventry. In my year as chair, I hope that we will together achieve measurable

successes that will address some of the key issues and challenges facing the people we serve. I hope to look closely at how the partnership can respond to welfare reform and cuts in services, while still empowering local people. I hope that meetings will be informative and give opportunities for us all to find new, or improve existing ways of working together.

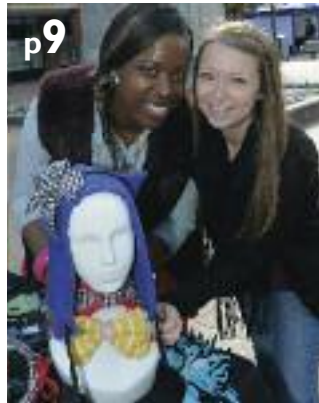


* Charley Gibbons is chief executive of the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Coventry and has agreed to be the chair of the Coventry Partnership for the coming year.



news

- 4 **Deputy council leader** Cllr George Duggins has issued a stark warning about the impact of government cuts on Council services.
- 5 **Olympic silver medallist** Lizzie Armitstead (right) set the wheels turning on a £6.9million scheme which will transform Coventry's cycling network.
- 6 **Residents** are being urged to be aware of cold callers trying to carry out roof repairs or moss removal work.



enterprise focus

- 9 **A city charity** has found a great way to recycle counterfeit clothing (pictured above) – by restyling the items into genuine goods for sale at its new fashion store!

green focus

- 10 **Renewable energy** technology is forging a stronger presence in Coventry and the region after a club formed out of an alliance of technology businesses came together.

education focus

- 11 **Students** contribute £245.8 million to the local economy, it has been claimed.

finance focus

- 12 **People** facing social or financial exclusion can get help with managing their finances from a credit union. See our two-page report on how to go about it.

community focus

- 14 **People, businesses** and organisations have been honoured for the role they play in improving community life and cohesion in Coventry at the city's Community Cohesion Awards.



social care focus

- 15 **A support** service that works with employers across the city to identify suitable employment training and job opportunities for disabled people is making a difference to lives in Coventry.

health focus

- 16 **Check out** our four-page guide on what's happening on the healthcare scene in and around Coventry.

what's on

- 20 **A round-up** of some of the attractions on offer in and around Coventry this winter.

councillors

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

contact us

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

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

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

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

Direct hospital bus route now back in service

Bus passengers in Coventry can expect improved services to University Hospital with local operator Travel de Courcey taking on another main route in the city.

People living in parts of Eastern Green and Tile Hill will be able to catch a direct bus to University Hospital as part of the Number 801 service.

Cllr Steven Thomas said: "I have had lots of long conversations with Centro and the bus companies about services. I am really pleased that they've listened to the 1,200 local people who signed my petition.

"Direct hospital routes are essential and it's great news that a direct bus has been brought back, I'd like to thank Travel de Courcey and Centro for making it possible."



Cool hand Luke makes his mark on work ladder

Luke Barnett, the first apprentice motor vehicle technician employed by the Council's Transport Fleet for almost 15 years, gets some valuable guidance from line managers Steve Bullock and Chris Coyle.

Based at Whitley Depot, 16-year-old Luke will take part in a formal three-year apprenticeship, focusing on heavy commercial vehicles, and will be supported by training provider, Warwickshire Garage and Transport Group Training Association.

Luke will study the principles of engines, transmission, suspension and brakes, and learn to use instruments for measuring engine and braking performance, steering angles, and wheel balancing.

Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for City Development, said: "This is great news. I am pleased that the Council are able to offer Luke a chance to learn a trade which will, hopefully, give him a good grounding to start his working life."

Thought you couldn't afford a home of your own? Think again!



Orbit HomeBuy Agents act as the government's one-stop shop for all low-cost home ownership and discounted market rent in the West Midlands. We have a range of affordable options, designed to help you get your foot on the property ladder.



We have opened the door for thousands of people just like you, so contact us today and see if we can help you too.

Make your dream home a reality.

www.orbithomebuyagents.co.uk

or call 03458 50 20 50 (option 2)

Follow us on **twitter** @OrbitHomeBuy

Terms and conditions apply. Orbit HomeBuy Agents is managed by O.B.A. Homes (2020) Limited, a member of Orbit Group Limited which is an exempt charity. Registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

part of the  building brighter futures... for people and communities



Deputy warns of budget cuts pain

Deputy council leader Cllr George Duggins has issued a stark warning about the impact of government cuts on Council services.

Cllr Duggins has warned that up to 800 more jobs may have to go at Coventry City Council on top of the 800 jobs already lost over the past two years – and that it would be impossible to avoid hitting frontline services.

Finance officers at the Council now estimate that the gap needed to be met for the Council to balance its books next year has risen from around £14million to £26million.

"It's clear that the scale and extent of government spending cuts to the public sector which was already unprecedented will need to be even bigger," said Cllr Duggins. "However we're beginning to get a picture of some important grant funding going, such as the £2.5million early intervention grant, which supports some of the most vulnerable people in the city.

"We're now looking at making

some very painful decisions about our services and losing more posts at the Council than we originally anticipated.

"Over the past two years, we have made more than £30million of savings through our abc programme of reviews of our services. These have helped us protect frontline services and continue to protect vulnerable residents. But this approach will no longer be enough. We will have to look at Council services that we know are important to local people. We will be providing less to people, and will need them to do more for themselves. But we will continue to be honest and upfront with the people of Coventry and work with them to tackle these challenges."

The Council's pre-budget report will be discussed at a meeting of the Cabinet in December, ahead of public consultation on the proposals. Councillors will make final decisions about the budget and set levels of council tax for the next financial year at a meeting of Full Council next February.

Cycle plan points way to work - and a fitter future



Olympic silver medallist Lizzie Armitstead set the wheels turning on a £6.9million scheme which will transform Coventry's cycling network and connect residents to jobs.

Coventry City Council has teamed up with transport authority Centro to fund the Cycle Coventry initiative which will provide extensive new cycle paths, maps and training to boost cycling in the city from 2015.

The scheme will see key cycle routes created in busy residential areas such as Tile Hill, Canley, and Kenilworth and link to key employment and education hubs including

Warwick University and the Ricoh Arena.

Coventry City Council has contributed £3.5million of Government funds earmarked for green and sustainable transport projects to kick-start the scheme. The remaining £3.4million comes from Centro's Smart Network, Smarter Choices programme which will deliver £50million of sustainable improvements across the West Midlands over the next three years.



■ Shoppers saddle up on a bicycle made for two.

To mark the start of the scheme a free family fun day was held in Coventry's Broadgate attended by 23-year-old cyclist Armitstead, who landed silver in this summer's women's road race. The project will see the creation of seven key cycle routes connecting both the north and the south of the city to the city centre.

Centro Chairman Cllr John McNicholas said: "Cycling has seen a major rise in popularity after the success of Lizzie Armitstead and her Great Britain teammates. It is important that we work hard to make cycling a realistic and viable alternative form of travel."

Over the next three years the project will see seven new routes built in the north and southwest of the city.

Young at heart

Young and old came together to share skills and experiences at Coventry's latest Older People's Week.

A range of events helped promote greater understanding between age groups, challenged stereotypes and addressed age discrimination.

Among the events were cookery lessons where young cooks and older chefs shared ideas about healthy food and were given tips on a selection of new recipes to try out.

On-street meters and restricted zone for city

The Council has started work to introduce metered on-street parking in the city centre.

The current waiting bays have been replaced by pay-and-display machines which came into effect at the end of October this year.

Over 450 on-street spaces have been added, which is 200 more than were originally in the city centre, and disabled parking bays have increased up from only 12 spaces to 47.

Bays are clearly marked with the charges set at 50p for 30 minutes, £1 for one hour and £2 for two hours, with parking after 6pm free to help promote and boost the night time

economy in the city centre.

The city centre restricted parking zone has also recently been introduced, meaning that the double yellow lines have been removed along with any unnecessary signs and road markings, improving the look of the city centre.

Cllr Lindsley Harvard, Cabinet Member for City Services, said: "This work is the next important stage in the transformation of the city centre to complement the 20 mph zone, widened pavements, narrowed carriageways and 15 new zebra crossings, helping to make the city pedestrian-friendly and a pleasant environment for all."

Primary school places set to rise

The Council have been consulting on proposals to increase the number of primary school places for September 2014 admissions.

Due to a significant rise in birth rate and new city arrivals, schools in Coventry are under pressure to create an additional 345 permanent reception pupil places by September 2014. Twenty schools in the city have been identified for permanent expansion.

The findings of the consultation will be reported back to Cabinet later this year with a recommendation on which schools to progress through to the next stage. Expansion work on the first wave of these schools is expected to start in the summer of 2013 ready for September 2014 admissions.

Festive Wizzard

Coventry kicked off the festive season with the city's lights being switched on by '70s pop legend Roy Wood.

West Orchards Shopping centre welcomed Peppa Pig, while Lower Precinct joined the festivities with a 14ft inflatable snow globe, eight foot penguins and magicians and clowns.

Priory Place hosted a vintage fair, Spon Street celebrated Christmas with a street market including food and craft stalls, hot chestnuts, competitions, a string quartet and live cooking demonstrations.

The festivities continue until December 28 with an International Market, Fools Paradise Christmas Show, school nativity plays and a purpose-built ice rink in Broadgate.

The programme of entertainment includes an opportunity to win trips to New York, Paris or Rome, courtesy of Thomas Cook and flexibletrips.

For a full list of all activities, visit www.coventrychristmascracker.co.uk

Levi's roots

Levi Roots – creator of Reggae Reggae sauce – spent lunch with pupils from Courthouse Green Primary School recently. Levi talked about his life and taught the children a traditional African/Caribbean song. The Council's Schools Catering Service invited all primary and special schools to take part in the Black History Month event and offered children the chance to sample traditional spiced bun and hard dough breads.

Leave rogue traders out in cold

Coventry residents are being urged to be aware of cold callers trying to carry out roof repairs or moss removal work.

Coventry City Council's Trading Standards team has recently seen a rise in the number of reports of traders going door to door offering to carry out various work.

Senior consumer protection officer Tina Lewis said the elderly and vulnerable were particularly targeted.

"Cold callers often use very persuasive and frightening tactics to sell a wide range of products or services," she said.

"This year we have noticed a real increase in complaints from householders who are pressured into having moss removed from their roofs. Although aesthetically the moss may not be very pleasing to the eye, if

Don't get caught out with online shopping

Coventry Trading Standards is also warning people to be aware of a key date if they intend ordering presents online. Unless otherwise agreed, online retailers have 30 days to deliver your goods. It means that every year some people are disappointed by paying for goods that do not arrive for the big day. Consumer protection officer Debbie Morgan said the companies have done nothing wrong unless a guaranteed

delivery date was agreed.

Cllr Phil Townshend, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities, said: "People have to be confident they are dealing with genuine websites, that the items they order are genuine and that they will arrive on time. Our aim is to keep residents safe online, not just at Christmas, but all the time."

For more advice, contact the Citizens' Advice Consumer Service on 08454 04 05 06.

you have not experienced any problems with the roof then it is unlikely that moss in itself will cause a problem."

The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) Ltd., the UK's oldest roofing trade association, has also received an

unprecedented number of calls from people approached about moss removal or the painting of roof tiles. In fact many techniques used to remove moss such as power washing often causes damage to the roof.

Tina added: "Our advice is never to deal with cold callers as this is a favoured approach used by rogue traders whose sole intention is to extract as much money from their victims as possible."

"If you are thinking of carrying out any work, we would always recommend people use a trader who has been vetted and is a member of an approved trader scheme such as Trusted Traders."

For more information about Coventry's Trusted Trader scheme, call 024 7643 3982 or visit www.ageukcoventry.org.uk

Can you put a face to the name on war memorial?

Historian and author Trevor Harkin is appealing for the help of Citivision readers to add to the Missing Faces panel of city war dead housed at the Visitor Centre in the city's War Memorial Park.

Visitors to the park cannot fail to notice the commemorative panels, which bring to life the faces of those who died in the First World War, and who have memorial plaques in the park.

Evidence shows that 264 plaques were bought and located throughout the park – not all with an accompanying photograph – and he is now inviting relatives to supply any surviving images. Provision has been made to add more photographs as families come forward.

Trevor said: "It would be wonderful to put a face to the names of these honoured servicemen and women, and I am hopeful that families will come forward to add to the Missing Faces."

Copies of information can be left in the Visitor centre or by contacting Trevor via www.coventry.gov.uk/missingfaces

The park has over 800 memorial trees dedicated to service personnel who lost their lives in conflict, and about a third of the trees include a plaque in their honour.

Tractor name ploughs on, thanks to Matt



Woodlands Ward councillor Steve Thomas (left) with Matthew, Cllr Ruane, and Matthew's picnic table design.

A Blue Coat Academy student has come up with a picnic table design idea to help commemorate one of the city's largest former employers.

Matthew Dille, aged 17, made a model of his design including the famous triple triangle logo of Massey Ferguson as part of his A Level in Product Design after being inspired by coverage of a petition from people wanting a permanent memorial on the former factory site.

A petition was presented by local ward councillor Steve Thomas to Cllr Ed Ruane,

Coventry City Council's Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture.

Massey Ferguson has agreed in principle to provide financial support to any memorial and that planning consent for the site – which is being transformed into a 1,000 home estate – includes a piece of public artwork.

Cllr Thomas said: "We should commemorate a site which for over half a century ensured that a little bit of Coventry was exported to communities all over the world."

Cllr Ruane added: "It is only right that this is recognised."

Name change, but the aim is the same at local forums

Ward Forums are changing to Neighbourhood Forums – but it's only the name that is changing.

The meetings still offer the same opportunity for people to have their say on what's going on in their neighbourhood.

Cllr Ed Ruane, Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhood Action, Culture and Leisure said: "If you want to



have your say on tackling anti-social behaviour or roads and traffic problems, then Neighbourhood Forum meetings are the right place to raise these issues and any others you may have."

Meetings are held four times a year between 7-9pm unless otherwise stated, and are chaired by a councillor.

For more details, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/neighbourhoodforums

Flying high in 2013



This striking view of Coventry city centre, taken by Greg Wainhouse of City Lines Photography, is one of 12 photographs which feature in the official Coventry 2013 calendar. Produced by the Council together with Jaguar Land Rover, West Orchards Shopping Centre, Complex Developments and Warwick Conferences, the newly-launched calendar features winning photographs chosen from over 400 entries. The images of historic buildings, beautiful landscapes and famous locations showcase the city at its best. The calendar costs £4.99 and all profits are being awarded to the Lord Mayor's chosen charity, the Heart of England Community Foundation. The calendar is available from Waterstones, Precinct Cross, WHSmith, Smithford Way, Central Library, Smithford Way, the Tourist Information Centre at St Michael's Tower, Coventry Cathedral Ruins, the Council House in Earl Street or online at www.visitcoventry.co.uk (p&p applies).

Early warning for city's flood prone areas

Residents and businesses at risk of flooding from the River Sherbourne, River Sowe and Canley Brook in Coventry and surrounding areas can now receive flood warnings.

People with a landline in the areas at risk of flooding will automatically be signed up to receive the free service. Letters have been sent to homes more likely to be at risk of flooding.

Households who have received advice letters are being encouraged to sign up to the full warning service by calling 0845 988 1188 or visiting our website.

The 10 new flood-warning areas are River Sowe at Bedworth, River Sowe at Longford, River Sowe at Wyken and Stoke, Coventry, River

Sowe at Manor House, Coventry, River Sowe at Baginton, River Sherbourne at Pinley and Whitley, Coventry, River Sherbourne at Coventry City Centre, River Sherbourne at Allesley, Canley Brook at Tile Hill and Canley Brook at Canley.

- Find out if your home or business is at flood risk by entering your postcode at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodmidlands or calling 0845 988 1188.
- If you are at risk sign up to receive FREE flood warnings
- There are more steps you can take to help prepare on our website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodmidlands.

Sports stars lead cheers for local adoption campaign

City sporting stars and council colleagues flew the flag for National Adoption Week recently to raise awareness of the topic in Coventry.

During the week, the Council joined up with Coventry City FC, Coventry Blaze and the Coventry Rugby Club to promote the Adopt for Coventry message.

Since April this year, 26 children have been adopted and a further 15 have been placed with adoptive families – the final stage before being recognised as legally adopted by the courts. But 30 young people are ready to be adopted in the city and a further 60 are at the start of the process.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, said: "Our adoption service has made considerable progress but there is much more to do and it's really important to keep adoption at the

top of our agenda. It is pleasing to see we have made significant steps forward in terms of attracting more people to find out more about adoption within the city, and we are actively promoting that message to come forward and get in touch.

"Our priority is to provide children in our care with loving secure homes, regardless of people's relationship status, be it single, married or in a same sex relationship."

To find out more about adopting in Coventry, call the Council on 024 7683 2828 or visit www.coventry.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering



New civic role for former councillors

Former councillors Trevor Webb OBE, Joan Wright, Dave Batten and John Gazey have become the city's first honorary Aldermen and Alderwoman. It's the first time the honorary title has been given to previously elected council members.

Cllr Phil Townshend, Cabinet Member for community safety and

equalities, said: "These men and women have given a lot to the people of Coventry and so by giving this civic role helps show our gratitude."

Their names will be recorded in the Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman Roll. Each was also presented with a special medal and certificate at a ceremony in the council house.

Christmas-New Year opening times

All Coventry City Council offices are closed on December 25, 26 and January 1, but will be open as usual on December 24, 27, 28, Saturday 29 (9am-1pm) and 31. Normal working resumes on January 2. For further details, visit www.coventry.gov.uk. Other festive opening dates are as follows:

Coventry Market

- Wednesday, December 19 – 8am-5pm.
- Thursday, December 20 – 8am-5pm.
- Friday, December 21 – 8am-5.30pm.
- Saturday, December 22 – 8am-5.30pm.
- Sunday, December 23 – 10am-4pm.
- Monday, December 24 – 7.30am-4pm.
- Tuesday, December 25 – closed.
- Wednesday, December 26 – closed.
- Thursday, December 27 – 8am-2.30pm.
- Friday, December 28 – 8am-5.30pm.
- Saturday, December 29 – 8am-5.30pm.
- Sunday, December 30 – closed.
- Monday, December 31 – 8am-4pm.
- Tuesday, January 1 – closed.
- Wednesday, January 2 – 8am-5pm.

Household waste and recycling centre

Open Monday to Saturday 8am to 4.45pm and Sunday 9am to 4.45pm every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Bereavement services

December 24

Cremation: Services available from 9-11.30am.

Burials: Last burial time will be 1.30pm.

Office hours: 8.30am-3pm.

December 27 & 28

Services as normal.

December 29

Cremations: Morning services as normal.

Burial: Service supplied as normal.

December 31

Cremation: Services available from 9-11.30am.

Burials: Last burial time will be 1.30pm.

Office hours: 8.30am-3pm.

January 2-4, 2013

Services as normal.

January 5, 2013

Cremations: Morning services as normal.

Burial: Service supplied as normal.

Coventry Direct

- Normal hours up to w/c December 24.
- Monday, December 24 – 8.30am-5pm.
- Tuesday, December 25 – closed.
- Wednesday, December 26 – closed.
- Thursday, December 27 – 8.30am-5pm.
- Friday, December 28 – 8.30am-5pm.
- Saturday, December 29 – 9am-1pm (normal hours).

hours).

■ Monday, 31 December – 8.30am-5pm.

■ Tuesday, January 1, 2013 – closed.

■ Return to normal working hours, Wednesday-Friday, January 2-4 – 8am-8pm.

St Mary's Guildhall

Godiva's café at St Mary's Guildhall will be closed from Monday, December 24 until Wednesday January 2. The St Mary's Guildhall office will be open as usual for event inquiries, bookings and meetings by appointment, except December for 25-26 and January 1.

Libraries

December 24

Central Library – 9am-5pm.

Arena Park, Earlsdon, Foleshill and Stoke Libraries – 9am-4.30pm. All other libraries closed.

December 25 & 26 – All libraries closed.

December 27 to December 30

All libraries open as normal

December 31

Central Library – 9am-5pm.

Arena Park, Earlsdon, Foleshill and Stoke Libraries – 9am-4.30pm.

January 1 – All libraries closed.

January 2 – Libraries open as normal.

Christmas 2012/13 collection dates

We will collect all of your household waste and recycling - that's your blue and green lidded bins - the week before Christmas so you go into the holiday period with empty bins. There will be no collections during the week beginning 24 December.

During week beginning the 31 December we will collect your household waste only - that's your green lidded bin - but it will be one day later than your usual collections day. We will then collect all of your recycling on your usual day week beginning 7 January.

We will provide clear sacks for you to use for your additional recycling.



Week beginning 17 December - all green and blue lidded bins collected

Week beginning 24 December - no collections

Week beginning Monday 31 December - green lidded bin collections only this week

■ Collection scheduled for Tuesday 1 January will be collected on Wednesday 2 January

■ Collection scheduled for Wednesday 2 January will be collected on Thursday 3 January

■ Collection scheduled for Thursday 3 January will be collected on Friday 4 January

■ Collection scheduled for Friday 4 January will be collected on Saturday 5 January

Week beginning 7 January - all green and blue lidded bins collected

From week beginning 14 January please refer to your calendar opposite.

It's magic!

Making high fashion from fake goods – that's the challenge for city students

Coventry Cyrenians have found a great way to recycle counterfeit clothing seized by trading standards officers in the city – by restyling the items into genuine goods for sale at their new fashion and music store!

All fake branding is removed and the confiscated clothing and shoes are then turned into other items in a process known as Up-cycling, before being offered for sale in the charity's new Windsors and Refreshed outlet in Far Gosford Street.

All the money earned by selling the rebranded clothes is ploughed straight back into the charity, which works across Coventry and Warwickshire supporting young, unemployed, homeless and ex-service personnel.

The new store offers work and educational training, and Coventry

Cyrenians' Stuart Sullivan said: "So far we have supported 15 young, unemployed and homeless people to access the project. In the first year we plan to take at least 40 young unemployed people through the project, providing them access to employability skills, retail and customer service experience and access to qualifications through our partnership with Henley College."

Clothing for Up-cycling has all trademarks and logos removed before being restyled by Coventry University fashion students; a pair of fake Ugg boots, for example, might become a handbag. The new products are then tagged with a Refreshed label and sold in the shop.

Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for City Development, said: "The new shop is an enterprising project and will add to the range of outlets in Far Gosford Street."



■ Monique Williams and Stephanie Grant with a sample of the up-cycled garments.

'Scissors' are doing it for themselves as Christine's salon takes off in style

A Coventry hairdresser has opened her first salon with her sister after only taking up the profession in her early 40s.

Christine Winkless began a hairdressing course at Henley College at age 42 after working in the catering industry for several years.

After completing her level one, two and three, she opened Guys and Dolls on Humber Road, Coventry.

She persuaded her sister Dorinda to go back to college, and after getting her level 2 qualification in hairdressing, she too joined the business.

Christine said: "The hairdressing course at Henley has given me so much confidence. I would definitely



■ Sisters Christine and Dorinda at the new salon, with student Kirsty.

recommend it."

Christine also employs Henley College student Kirsty Dennison, and the shop works with the college offering work experience to students.

commercial
property
management



**'SMALL SPACE'
FOR BUSINESSES
WITH BIG IDEAS**

We have industrial and office space to let
- waiting for your business

T: 024 7683 2748



www.coventry.gov.uk/commercialproperty

Get a warmer home this winter and save money

With winter on its way and energy prices continuing to go up, it's a good time to think about whether your home could benefit from some extra insulation.

Many homes in Coventry still don't have any cavity wall insulation or enough insulation in the loft, where it's now recommended that the thickness should be 11 inches or 270mm.



In a typical home around 35 per cent of heat is lost through the walls and 25 per cent through the roof. It's reckoned that installing cavity wall insulation can save around £135 a year and loft insulation around £175 a year off your heating bills. Even topping up your existing loft insulation to the full 270 mm is worthwhile and will bring savings.

There are currently local schemes running which will insulate your home at no cost – you don't need to be means-tested or be over a certain age. Some of these schemes are time limited so please get in touch on 024 7683 2158 to find out if you can benefit.

Taste of success

Eighty-eight per cent of kitchens run by the Council's Schools Catering Service have been given top marks of 'very good' by Environmental Health inspectors, with 10 per cent rated as 'good'.

The food hygiene rating scheme has been developed by the Food Standards Agency in partnership with local authorities and helps people choose where to eat out or shop for food.

People wanting to check on the rating of their school kitchen or any food outlet in the city, can visit www.ratings.food.gov.uk

Wind in the sails of energy alliance



■ Jim Allen (front) from Green Energy Networks and Vice Chair, Chris Hawker from Zest Energy Solutions.

Renewable energy technology is forging a stronger presence in Coventry and the region after a club formed out of an alliance of technology businesses came together.

Best practice club RETA - Renewable Energy Technology Alliance - was set up in June 2011 and has recently appointed a new Chairman.

Jim Allen is Managing Director of Green Energy Networks Ltd, - a West Midlands based company providing expertise and services enabling the delivery of large scale renewable energy generation and the deployment of smart grid technologies.

As a new chair he said he hoped that he could build on the Alliance's reputation. He also thanked Coventry City Council Business Sector Growth Team, the Steering Group and all the existing members for all their terrific work and support they have given.

"I hope we can continue to create opportunities for developing business links so that we are seen as the 'place to go' for renewable energy and low carbon services across Coventry, Warwickshire and the West Midlands."

Cllr Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member for Sustainability and Local Infrastructure, at Coventry City Council, said: "I am delighted with Jim's appointment. The RETA Steering Group will continue to focus on extending services, addressing skills and technology issues, increasing its membership, and establishing a reputation for its member companies. Each is set to benefit from unrivalled opportunities for developing and growing the business in the exciting new low carbon sector across Coventry, Warwickshire and the Midlands."

For more information about RETA click on to www.reta.uk.com

College gets go-ahead for £6m expansion

Henley College Coventry has been given planning permission to redevelop and expand the college in Bell Green. A third of the cash is from the Skills Funding Agency and the college is funding the rest.

The new facilities will include a new atrium with an exhibition space to display students' work, a student internet café and a new block with 14 large classrooms and state of the art conference facilities.

Engineering will have a new block and there will be a larger student services and learning resources facility. The new redevelopment will not only benefit students but the wider Wood End and Henley Green area of the city which is also undergoing redevelopment.

College principal Ray Goy said: "This redevelopment has been in the pipeline for over 18 months and is long overdue. The design was put together after consultation with students and staff.

"We wanted to provide more good quality teaching space which can be used in a variety of ways and bring all our student support services together."

The work will be finished in time for the new students starting in September 2013.

Theatre workshops paying off all round

Commercial theatre workshops for children and young people helped earn £350,000 for Coventry's Belgrade Theatre last year.

Figures released in the Belgrade Theatre's 2011/12 annual report show that the theatre's commercial enterprises, which includes Belgrade Production Services (BPS) and Events & Conferencing, has earned almost £1 million since 2007.

BPS builds sets for theatres around the country, while an events and conferencing service has introduced theatre workshop programmes for children and young people.

Combined with the money raised from tickets sales, sponsorships and donations, these commercial enterprises have helped the theatre earn 51 per cent of its own income in the last year, up from 30 per cent four years ago.

In addition to providing a new income stream for the theatre, BPS also retains a pool of skilled workers at its workshop on Red Lane.



Iconic building supports new ways of learning

Coventry University's Faculty of Engineering and Computing has recently moved into its iconic new £55m home.

The building features an impressive range of technologies including rainwater harvesting, solar thermal energy and biomass boilers.

The building includes a high-precision wind tunnel designed and built by the Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 team.

The venue also features a 2,000 square metre, £3m high-performance engineering centre home to a Harrier Jump Jet aircraft, three flight simulators, the UK's largest magnet, engine test cells for petrol and electric power trains, and a leading precision measurement facility.

The state-of-the-art building, designed by Arup Associates and built by Vinci Construction, is part of the University's overall £160m redevelopment plan for the city centre campus.

£245 million! ...that's how much the city's students bring to economy

Students contribute £245.8 million to the local economy, it has been claimed.

There are some 56,000 students at Coventry and Warwick universities and the new research shows that students spend an average of £146.10 per week on items such as groceries, clothes, transport and rent, clearly demonstrating how they benefit the local economy, even before tuition fees are taken into account. This compares with the average figure for the UK of £175.20 per week.

Rent represents the biggest portion of students' outgoings, accounting for almost half (48 per cent) of their weekly spend.

This is followed by groceries – which take up 16 per cent of their budget – going out (10 per cent) and transport (nine per cent).

When asked how their overall spending had changed since the previous academic year, 36 per cent of students claimed that it had gone up, with rises in groceries, transport and rent the most commonly cited reasons for this increase.

Rent represents the biggest portion of students' outgoings, accounting for almost half (48 per cent) of their weekly spend, according to Santander which surveyed 1,000 students.

Professor Nigel Thrift, vice-chancellor of University of Warwick, said: "This confirms just how much money is spent by students in the local economy but we should also acknowledge how much time students give to our local communities, helping out in schools, and community projects, and in raising money for good causes."

Kennedy have final word in debating comp



■ Lord Mayor Cllr Tim Sawdon with students and staff from the winning President Kennedy school.

Year 12 students have been taking centre stage in the council chamber for a schools' debating competition. Pupils from Barr's Hill, Coundon Court, Foxford, President Kennedy, Cardinal Newman, Caludon Castle, Sidney Stringer and Westwood battled it out for the winners' shield. President Kennedy and Cardinal Newman competed in the final, debating the issue 'This House believes that the voting age should be reduced to 16'.

President Kennedy were the winners in a closely fought contest and, as part of their prize, won tickets to see Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons.

The event was part of Local Democracy Week which aims to encourage people across the country to take a more active role in civic life.

Doing it in style

Students from City College Coventry have just returned from the Alternative Hair Show at the Albert Hall.

Established 29 years ago by Tony Rizzo, the show hosts teams and stylists from around the world. Tutors at City College Coventry are hoping the young students will be able to apply ideas from the event to their own end-of-year show.

Lecturer Karen Walls said it was an amazing experience for the students. "They got the chance to see some incredibly talented stylists at work and came away buzzing with ideas. I'm sure we'll see them incorporated in their designs," she added.

Don't let new 'bedroom tax' catch you napping

Thousands of Coventry social housing tenants could find themselves having to find extra rent money as part of government cuts to Housing Benefit.

New rules from April next year state that working age social housing tenants considered as under-occupying their homes will face a reduction in their Housing Benefit.

It means that those affected will have to pay the difference in increased payments for rent although the changes will not affect pensioners.

Nationally, it is estimated that 670,000 households face losing between 14 and 25 per cent of their Housing Benefit for living in a council or housing association home that is judged to have more bedrooms than they need.

Whitefriars Housing, Coventry's largest social housing provider, estimates that more than 2,300 of its customers will potentially be affected by the move.

Coventry City Council, which administers Housing Benefit in the city, is in the process of sending out letters on this welfare reform.

But Cllr Ed Ruane, Cabinet Member for Housing, believes many people are unaware of the imminent changes and the financial impact it will have.

He said: "These changes effectively mean a new 'bedroom tax' which will turn a spare bedroom into a very expensive luxury.

"The penalty is about 14 per cent deducted from Housing Benefit which will mean effectively a tax of £728 a year.

"This is three-and-a-half times the winter fuel payment, to put it into perspective. The impact this tax will have, particularly on vulnerable households in these harsh economic times, will be devastating.

"I know social landlords such as Whitefriars are doing all they can to make sure that tenants realise what will happen in just six months' time.

"If people cannot pay the extra, it means tenants could have to relocate to find suitable smaller properties."

Any social housing tenant receiving Housing Benefit who is concerned about the changes are urged to contact their social landlord as soon as possible.

FACTfile: Welfare Reform changes in detail

National Benefits cap

The Government is introducing a limit on the total amount of benefits that working age people can receive. This cap will be set at £500 per week for a couple and single parents, and £350 per week for single people. Benefit above the cap will be deducted from Housing Benefit payments. Support is available via a national helpline on 0845 6057064.

Under Occupancy in Social Housing

Social housing tenants of working age who "under occupy" their homes will face reductions in their Housing Benefit. Where a household has one more bedroom than the Government defines they need, Housing Benefit will be reduced by 14 per cent. Those who

under occupy by two or more bedrooms will see a reduction of 25 per cent. Speak to your landlord if you have any concerns about being able to pay your rent. If you cannot afford to pay the additional rent and prefer to move, you can register for a transfer on www.coventryhomefinder.com or register to exchange with another tenant on www.homeswapper.co.uk

When do the changes happen?
The changes take effect from April 2013.

Where can I get more information?
For more details about the above and other Welfare Reform changes, including Council Tax Support and Changes to the Social Fund, check out the Council's website at www.coventry.gov.uk and follow the 'housing latest news' links.



Financial tips for those most in need

Coventry and Warwickshire Coventry Development Agency is a not-for-profit organisation providing a range of services to help people to have a more secure financial future, rather than a desperate struggle for survival.

People facing social or financial exclusion, can gain help to learn to manage their finances. Budgeting advisers assist clients with: money advice, easier access to basic bank accounts and access to bill budgeting services and access to reasonably priced credit. Coventry and Warwickshire CDA can help people to access a credit union and it also trains advisors and front-line staff that come into contact with adults who would benefit from money management skills.

Did you know?

A credit union is a not-for-profit financial institution dedicated to serving the needs of its members. Credit unions are made up of people with a common bond, something that draws them together, for example, where they live or where they work. They are governed by a Board of Directors, elected by and from its membership. Credit unions are able to offer reasonable

interest rates on loans as much of the work is done by volunteers, keeping running costs to a minimum.

The credit unions in Coventry and Warwickshire have formed a partnership with the Coventry and Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust to offer Heart of England Loans which can be accessed by people on very low incomes.

To find out more phone 024 7663 3911 or email info@cwcdca.co.uk, or visit Coventry and Warwickshire CDA at The Scala in Far Gosford Street.

** Please note: The availability of services is subject to funding and eligibility.*



Larger Job Shop promises more support in 2013

A job shop that is playing a central role in the Council's Jobs Strategy is moving to a larger site in Bull Yard.

The Job Shop, which will remain in Hertford Street until its move in the new year, has been a great success, with over 8,000 visitors and 1,800 Shop 'members' regularly using the Work Club environment to apply for jobs.

Nearly 500 of these have been supported into work between April and August this year.

The new premises are not only larger, but will offer a far greater range of job opportunities and career support than the present facilities.

It will also be a national first in terms of the range of agencies all located in one place providing a complete service for every person who is unemployed, or employed and who wants to improve their job prospects.

Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for City Development, said: "We're relocating the shop and creating a new, enhanced service so that more people can get jobs, address skills shortages, create a Youth Zone and tackle youth unemployment in the city."

The new Job Shop will offer real job opportunities with local employers who will also use the facility to recruit. This gives local people an advantage in trying to secure work as they can meet employers and gain skills for specific jobs or sectors.

Staff also want to encourage employers to contact them about working together to recruit, and to use the space.

The new Bull Yard Job Shop will support an additional 200 vulnerable people to secure work, many of whom would not be eligible for employment support through Jobcentre Plus. This enhancement in outcomes represents significant savings to the economy of approximately £1.6million.

A youth zone will also be created, supporting an additional 250 NEETS – those not in education, employment, or training. There are approximately 680 NEETS in Coventry, which equates to a cost of £20million (£30,000 per NEET pa), which could be reduced by up to £7.5m through this enhanced service.

The new facility will also allow a wider range of partners to offer services, such as on-site pre-employment training, literacy and numeracy support. Employers can interview and meet customers there.

Getting started on the net

With around 8.5million people in the UK not using the internet yet, there are schemes available to help people get started.

Being online can make a huge difference to your life and Whitefriars has linked up with Henley College to offer a 'getting started' course aimed especially at the needs of social housing customers.

If you are in receipt of benefits or tax credits, then you could get on the course for free.

For details call 024 7662 6444.

Saying thanks to those who care

■ The Cohesion Award winners are congratulated by Lord Mayor Cllr Tim Sawdon and (right) Saleem Sheikh of joint organisers CEMAP.



People, businesses and organisations have been honoured for the role they play in improving community life and cohesion in Coventry at the city's Community Cohesion Awards.

The awards are designed to celebrate the work being done to make Coventry a cohesive city.

They recognise practical activities which demonstrate how people have helped cohesion by working with different communities, groups, faiths, age groups, and with people from different backgrounds, ethnicity and disabilities.

The awards are run by the Equalities and Community Cohesion Theme Group of the Coventry Partnership, together with Coventry Ethnic Minorities Action Partnership (CEMAP).

The winners were:

- **Public sector:** Coventry Ambassadors, by Coventry University, Coventry City Council and Partners;
- **Voluntary and Community small:** The Coventry Language Café;
- **Voluntary and Community Large:** Bridging Cultures Project, by Coventry

University Students' Union Volunteering and Employability Department;

■ **Private Sector:** The Warwick Arts Centre Design and Paint project.

Sue Bent, Director of Coventry Law Centre and Chair of the Equalities and Communities Theme Group, said: "The activities that the organisations and groups have been involved in demonstrate how Coventry people are proud of their heritage as a city of peace and reconciliation and the good community relations that exist in our city."

ADOPT FOR COVENTRY

We have children in Coventry waiting for families who can give them a home for life.

If you haven't thought about adoption, could you?

We are looking for people who have:

- the time, space and patience for children
- the energy to give children a really positive experience of life
- commitment to provide a family home for life

We will offer you support and guidance throughout each step of the process.

Contact us now and we'll help you think about what's involved in adopting a Coventry child who needs you.

024 7683 2828



www.coventry.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering

Helen makes her mark

A support service that works with employers across the city to identify suitable employment training and job opportunities for disabled people is making a difference to lives in Coventry.

Part of the Council's employment team, the employment support service (TESS) provides specialist customised support for both disabled people who want to work and employers willing to provide opportunities.

The team works closely with the client and employer to ensure the right levels of support are in place – including support from a specialist job coach who works one to one with the client.

Helen Newman was among those people referred to the service and was eager to look for paid employment following many years at colleges obtaining a range of qualifications.

Helen has spina bifida and hydrocephalus and was finding it really difficult getting an opportunity to show what she was able to offer.

The TESS service worked closely with Helen to identify her aspirations, skills and abilities which then helped her to gain an admin work experience placement within the Council.

Once Helen had gained this valuable insight she ultimately



■ A happy Helen at work in the office.

progressed into paid employment with TESS and has been the team's Clerical Assistant since 2007.

Karen Bentley, who was Helen's employment advisor at the time, said: "Helen has proved to be an excellent addition to our team and is a valued and conscientious worker. She is also an inspiration to other disabled people."

Dean Atkinson, manager of TESS, said disabled people faced major challenges when seeking paid employment.

"Helen is a real asset to our team. She is enthusiastic, motivated and has an exemplary attendance record."

Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for City Development, said: "We want Coventry to lead the way and we are working hard

with disabled people, employers and other partners to increase the number of disabled people in work."

Helen said: "I have been earning my own money for several years and three years ago I moved to my own flat. Work means I can pay my own bills and go on holiday."

There are many disabled people of working age in Coventry who would like to work, but have yet to be given the opportunity. Coventry employers can change that.

If you are an employer who could support a work experience placement or have a job vacancy, contact TESS.

To find out more, contact TESS on 024 7678 5600 or by e-mail to TESS@coventry.gov.uk

Have you got what it takes to be a carer?

Have you ever thought about being trained to offer extended, short-term, short-stay or daytime support to someone with a disability or the elderly?

The Shared Lives Scheme, registered with the Care Quality Commission, offers people with either a learning disability, mental health support needs, a physical disability or an older adult to maintain their independence at their home. Shared Lives Carer applicants are expected to have experience of caring, although it is more important they have a genuine wish to help others. Carers have assessments as part of the application process and references and checks are also made.

To find out how you could be paid a generous weekly allowance and gain satisfaction from knowing you have changed someone's life for the better, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/sharedlives or call a Shared Lives officer on 024 7678 5339.

Care home checks

The Care Quality Commission has launched a new device that allows care services and directory sites to display information from the commission's latest inspections on their websites.

The health and social care regulator is trying to make it easier for people to find and use this independent information to inform decisions they make about which care service to use.

Websites www.comparecarehomes.com and www.findmegoodcare.co.uk are among some of the sites already featuring the device on their websites. Any website can use the device and it is free of charge to access.

New centre with a wide range of facilities puts city users at the very Hub

A new centre for adults with learning disabilities has officially opened its doors after a major refurbishment.

The Gosford Community Hub, Ribble Road, will offer a range of activities for people across the city.

The service has moved from older premises in Ernesford Grange and the move allowed the centre to be remodelled and refurbished to best meet the needs of users.

New facilities include specially adapted meeting rooms, a sensory room and a café and dining area.

A Changing Places facility – a large toilet that includes a changing bench, hoist and other specialist equipment for people and their carers – has also been

■ Cllr Ann Lucas cuts the ribbon to formally open the new Gosford Community Hub building, watched by centre manager Carole Shiner.



created. It is the third facility following others in the Central Library in the city centre and Wilfred Spencer Centre in Allesley.

Cllr Ann Lucas, Coventry City Council's Cabinet Member for Health and Community Services, believes the new centre is far better situated.

"The Gosford Community Hub is closer to the city centre making it far more central and accessible than the previous building," she said. "Despite the exceptionally tough economic circumstances we find ourselves in, it is wonderful that we have been able to improve the facilities of this service and make a positive difference to the people using and working at this centre."

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

Take control and Feel Well this winter

During the winter months more people suffer illness or are injured than at any other time of the year. It may be cold outside but winter needn't be the unhealthiest time of year for you and your family. No matter how old you are, or where you live, there are lots of ways you can make simple changes to your lifestyle which will keep you healthy.

• Anyone under 65 with a long-term condition – which can include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, mental health problems, and patients with a high risk of stroke.

Falls

Icy pavements and roads can be very slippery. Take extra care if you go out and wear boots or shoes with good grip on the soles. Put grit on paths and driveways to lessen the risk of slipping and wait until the roads have been gritted if you're travelling by car. Making small changes in your home, such as using non-slip rugs and mats and ensuring that rooms are well lit can make a big difference in helping to prevent accidents.

Keep active

Keeping active not only improves

your health but also lifts your mood. Move around at least once an hour and don't sit down for long periods of time, as even light exercise will help keep you warm and improve circulation.

Warm and Well

Keeping warm helps keep you healthy. Top tips: keeping doors closed, eating hot meals and drinks, wearing layers, insulating your home, closing curtains at dusk. Call 0800 316 2805 (Coventry) or 0800 988 2881 (Warwickshire) for schemes available to help keep your home warm and make it energy efficient.

Well-stocked medicine cabinet
Keep your medicines cabinet well-stocked so you are able to care for yourself at the early stages of illness. A well-stocked medicines cabinet might include: painkillers, first aid kit, cough and cold remedies, enough of your regular medication if you have a long-term condition.

Fill the freezer

Stock up on frozen food - especially vegetables - in case it is too cold outside to go shopping. Keep a week's worth of food and safety supplies, including bread in the freezer, longlife milk and non-cook foods.

Eat well

Eating well is a really important way of keeping healthy. Make sure you have regular hot meals and drinks throughout the day as eating often during the winter months helps keep energy levels up. Set yourself a challenge and aim to eat 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day and see how less likely you are to binge on fast-foods.

Be a good neighbour

Look after the vulnerable by getting in touch with people who are ill, older or on their own and may need a helping hand. Keep drives and footpaths clear by shoveling snow for friends and neighbours if they struggle to do it themselves and need to go out.



It's Captain 'Smile Bright' to rescue in dental campaign

Young children across Coventry and Warwickshire will be targeted by Captain Smile Bright in a new dental campaign to make sure they have good oral health and a healthy smile throughout their life.

The Arden Cluster (NHS Coventry and NHS Warwickshire) has launched the Smile Bright campaign to improve oral health and dental access across the city and around the county.

The campaign will include a range of targeted activities – including community outreach and road show events at children centres, shopping centres, community locations and targeted advertising on posters, leaflets, website, social media and an advertising van which will roam around the area.

The posters and leaflets will feature the campaign mascot - Captain Smile Bright!

Jonathan Iloya, a Consultant in Dental Public Health at the Arden Cluster, said: "The Smile Bright campaign will focus on encouraging parents and carers to take their children to the dentist for a check-up during our Smile Bright Week and to make these visits a regular practice.

"There is evidence to show that interventions that target the child's oral health through the parents such as the Smile Bright campaign do help to improve oral health."

For more information, visit www.captainsmilebright.co.uk for tips and information about looking after your children's teeth.



■ Hospital bosses thank Cardinal Newman pupils.



Hospital bosses have thanked Cardinal Newman pupils for producing a stylish video aimed at reducing infections. The group of seven 14 and 15 year olds make up the Cardinal Newman media club and they were keen to use their learning to produce a film which would have a real affect. Former Cardinal Newman pupil Kate Prevc, Modern Matron for Infection Prevention and Control at University Hospital in Coventry, suggested that the

School film stars spread the word on infections

media club put its skills into writing, filming and editing a short film on hand hygiene. The result is a striking two-minute video which has been uploaded to the Trust's website and some of the plasma screens in public areas. Arts technician Stacey Allen leads the club, which is made up of Ellie

Boiling, Ellen Ronan, Colleen Hedley, Olivia Zacharias, Olivia Walsh, Alisha Hall and Madison Feeny. Miss Allen said: "This was the first year we'd run the CN Media Club and I'm thrilled with the effort. They wanted to keep it simple and very visual and I think they've definitely achieved that. They made all the creative decisions themselves and I'm very proud of them." The school is now looking to produce posters to run alongside the film.

Minister learns about communities working together for better health

Local communities and staff at Bell Green library showcased their work in developing their community and close partnership working with agencies during a visit by Public Health Minister Anna Soubry.

The Minister recently visited Coventry and met community members, the Silver Surfers from Bell Green, health professionals, local authority staff and Coventry Councillors at Bell Green Library.

The focus of the visit was for the Minister to get an insight into the community work in Foleshill and Bell Green together with '10 Ways of Feeling Good and Doing Well' initiative.

The community work demonstrates a practical example



■ Health Minister Anna Soubry (third from right) with councillors David Kershaw (back, left) and Ann Lucas (front, right), Silver Surfers club members (front, from left) Gordon Jones, Nancy McVey, Jill Covington and John Sullivan, tutor Anne Drysdale (back, centre), and Silver Surfers Delores O'Donoghue (back, right) and Albert Hall (far right).

of Public Health benefiting from moving into the Local Authority, as it focuses on community development and giving residents

the lead in making decisions about what matters to them. The wellbeing initiative is focused on a strong relationship between mental

health and wellbeing and how people can improve their lives.

Dr Jane Moore, Director of Public Health at NHS Coventry and Coventry City Council, said: "I was pleased that we had the opportunity to meet the Minister and share some real examples of the work that public health and local agencies have been doing with the community in Coventry.

"It's positive to see that giving residents support and the necessary tools for them to take ownership and control, has helped to bring them together.

"They have identified real opportunities to make a difference based upon their experience of working within the community."

Outstanding Health Visiting celebration

On 23 October 2012, guest speakers from the Department of Health, Local Authority and NHS Partners joined Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust's staff in celebrating the outstanding work of Health Visiting teams in Coventry at the Hilton Hotel, Coventry.

For 150 years, Health Visitors have worked with communities to ensure that children have a positive start in life and families and new babies receive the support that they need.

The conference aimed to provide local and national partners with the opportunity to share information, ideas, experience and good practice with colleagues and to celebrate the achievements of Health Visiting services in Coventry.

More than 100 delegates listened to inspiring presentations from a range of guest speakers including Viv Bennett, Director of Nursing, Department of Health; Councillor Jim O'Boyle; John Forde, Consultant in Public Health NHS Coventry and Coventry City Council and Obi Amadi, Professional Lead Officer at Unite.

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust team of speakers embraced the whole spectrum of Health Visiting services in Coventry, which involved contributions from directors, general managers, nursery nurses, health visitors, clinic assistants and community staff nurses.

Further information on Health Visiting services in Coventry can be found at the Trust's website, www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk

Senior health team takes lead in Coventry and Rugby

Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has appointed two new members to join the senior executive team.

Juliet Hancox has been appointed as the substantive Senior Manager for Coventry and Rugby CCG, she said: "I am delighted to be appointed to this role. I am looking forward to working with colleagues and local clinical leaders to build a new high-performing commissioning organisation for Coventry & Rugby as we head towards becoming an authorised statutory body."

Clare Hollingworth as the CCG Chief Finance Officer, said: "I'm pleased to be joining the executive team for Coventry and Rugby CCG. As we already know the government is looking at NHS services to make significant efficiencies in order to absorb the cost of increasing demand and technological advances. We hope to achieve the best outcomes for patient care by making the most of our allotted resource, and will strive to ensure that our financial decisions are taken in an open and transparent manner."

Steve Allen, a GP in Coventry and Accountable Officer of

Coventry and Rugby CCG, said: "I'm glad that we have appointed two very experienced and knowledgeable colleagues who will bring their specialist expertise and leadership talent to the Executive team, I wish them both well in their new roles."

Dr Adrian Canale-Parola, GP in Rugby and Chair of Coventry and Rugby CCG, said: "Both appointments have been governed by the Primary Care Trust's employment policies, which has ensured a fair process across all relevant parties. I wish them both the very best in their roles and responsibilities and look forward to working with them."



■ (L-R) Dr Steve Allen, a GP in Coventry and Accountable Officer, Juliet Hancox, Senior Manager, Clare Hollingworth, Chief Finance Officer, and Dr Adrian Canale-Parola, GP in Rugby and Chair of Coventry and Rugby CCG.

Making Every Contact Count is key to good healthcare

Health and social care staff across Coventry and Warwickshire are being trained to help improve the health of their local communities by using the 'Making Every Contact Count' approach.

Making Every Contact Count is a government led initiative that is being

delivered by the NHS and Local Authority services. Staff who work in the NHS and local authorities come into contact with patients and members of the public in every day situations. Bernie Lee, Consultant in Public Health at NHS Coventry and Coventry City Council, said:

"Every contact with a patient is an opportunity to encourage healthier lifestyle choices. But tackling sensitive issues such as weight loss, smoking cessation or alcohol abuse requires expertise, confidence and knowledge, in order to deliver the message effectively."

If you drink, keep within sensible limits

If you drink alcohol, have no more than 2-3 units a day (women) or 3-4 units a day (men), with at least 2 alcohol free days per week. Use this site to calculate your units and keep track of your drinking.

www.nhs.uk/thiswasthechoice/Pages/AlcoholAndRecovery.aspx

For help and support in Coventry and Warwickshire call The Recovery Partnership on 024 7663 6135

Under 18s or 19s who drink call 24hr Coaches of Hope line 0800 88 72 40

Manage your stress levels

Talking things through, relaxation and physical activity can help in Coventry and Warwickshire. For local help and support with anxiety and depression call 02477 616669. Access to Psychotherapy. Telephone: 02475 5238 100. You can also contact your GP for advice or visit www.nhs.uk/thiswasthechoice/mentalwellbeing

For more advice on self help tools for dealing with stress, depression or anxiety it is available from Mind in Warwickshire. Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/thiswasthechoice

Look after your sexual health

Sexual health is not just about avoiding unwanted pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections - using a condom will help with both.

In Coventry, there are also private STI and STI testing centres, pregnancy advice, for men and Chlamydia screening for women aged 25 or over visit www.coventry.nhs.uk

In Warwickshire visit www.warwick.gov.uk/thiswasthechoice or www.warwickshire.gov.uk/thiswasthechoice

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/thiswasthechoice

Work starts on £1m project to improve hospital environment for cancer patients



■ Outside the refurbished Arden Cancer Centre are (from left) UHCW Trust staff Ruth Manton, Rebecca Bourton, Nikita Freeman, Rebecca Guslov and Gill Elkins, Angela Patrick and her mum, patient Anne Patrick, and fellow patient Peggy Frost.

Cancer patients in Coventry, Warwickshire and beyond are set to benefit from a warmer and more comfortable centre after a £1m refurbishment. The reception area at the Arden Cancer Centre, based at University Hospital in Coventry, is being refurbished in a three month project kindly

funded through charitable funds from the Coventry Hospitals Charity and supported by UHCW Charity and UHCW NHS Trust. It follows feedback from patients that the current reception was in need of several improvements. The centre treats and cares for up to 300 patients a day, Monday to

Friday, providing potentially life-saving chemotherapy and radiotherapy. The main part of the project is due to be finished by the end of December and will create a lighter reception and improve the entrance to make the whole area warmer, more comfortable and efficient.

Moderate your alcohol intake to stay in shape

Experts have been talking to thousands of local people as part of alcohol awareness week about the number of calories in alcoholic drinks.

Around one in four adults drinks more than the NHS recommended limits for alcohol, with alcohol a major factor affecting people's health.

Four pints of an average lager can contain nearly 1,000 calories – around 40 per cent of the average male's daily intake necessary to maintain weight. An average 750ml bottle of wine contains around 550 calories.

The NHS recommends that men shouldn't regularly consume more than three or four units per day and that women shouldn't regularly consume more than two to three units per day.

A half pint of average strength beer is around one unit and a small 125ml glass of average strength wine is around one-and-half units.

Children get jabs boost to beat infection

Coventry schoolchildren are safe from infection thanks to a ground-breaking NHS immunisation programme in the city's schools.

Partnership working between Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, Coventry City Council and Coventry GPs has led to a significant increase in the number of children who receive their school leavers' booster.

Karen Marley, Lead Nurse for Vaccines and Immunisations at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, said: "The school leavers' booster provides vital protection against tetanus,



diphtheria and polio to children aged between 14 and 18 years.

"This is the last course of immunisation that children need to take them safely into adult life and it is important that as many children as possible are provided with the opportunity to receive it."

Mum bids to raise awareness of childhood cancers

Ten children and teenagers a day in the UK find out that they have cancer.

Cancer in children is more common than people think, with childhood cancer killing more children in the UK than any other disease.

Raising awareness of the common signs and symptoms can lead to earlier diagnosis and improve the child's chances of recovery and cure. Mandy Coombes, whose 11-year-old son Matthew died of cancer in July 2011, will be selling gold ribbons for childhood cancer awareness month during December to raise funds to fight child cancer. Mandy and her family and friends will also be taking part in the big bucket collection for the Clic Sargent charity on Saturday December 8 in Sainsbury's store in the city centre. Mandy explained: "Losing a child is every parent's worst nightmare, it is something from which you never recover. Maddy will always be a part of our lives."

Information about the signs and symptoms can be found at www.bechildcanceraware.org

Making merry in goodwill season

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

DECEMBER

1 – Christmas Fair, Allesley Primary School (1.30-4pm). Entrance to the school site is from Antrim Close and Cameron Close in Allesley Village. Entrance to the hall is 50p per person. Variety of stalls and Santa's grotto (extra fee payable). Call 07958 468 979

8 – Making Merry, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (10am-4pm, free). Unique handmade gifts, decorations and food, with a vintage grotto in the atmospheric medieval Undercroft. Hands-on mini workshops in wreath making (£15, to include all materials). Session 1: 11am-1pm; Session 2: 2-4pm). Booking essential for workshop, call 024 7629 4774 or ask at Herbert reception.

11 – Coventry Family History Society Help Desk, Central Library (2-3pm, free). Diving into your family history can be an amazing adventure. The help desk is open on Tuesdays monthly.

12 – Volunteer Day, location to be confirmed (10am-3pm). Join the Park Rangers laying hedges, learning or refreshing an existing skill. If you haven't been before, register in advance on 024 7683 3633 and asking for a Ranger. Suitable for adults.

15 – Santa's toy workshop, War Memorial Park (11am-1pm). Join Santa's helpers in making some toys to take home. Cost £2.60, and booking essential. Call the Visitors Centre on 024 7678 6280.

15 – A Dinosaur Adventure, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (1pm, 2pm & 3pm, free). Join Professor Predicament on her journey back to Jurassic England where she faces danger as she searches for a rare and mysterious dinosaur. Storytelling by Annamation Storytelling Company. Suitable for ages 2-12. Booking not required.

15 – Fantastic Fossil Casts, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (10.30-11.15am & 11.30am-12.30pm, cost £2). A unique opportunity to cast an amazing

Olympic archers' clash at the Ricoh is no everyday story

Team GB archers from the London 2012 Olympic Games are now aiming for success at a major competition at Coventry's Ricoh Arena.

Leamington's Naomi Folkard and fellow Olympians Larry Godfrey, Alan Wills and Simon Terry will all be competing in the National Combined Indoor Championships on Saturday-Sunday, December 1-2

And Rugby's Chris White – a double Commonwealth Games medallist two years ago – will also be among the competitors appearing in the Jaguar Hall.

The Junior and Senior Indoor Championships and back-to-back events are expected to attract hundreds of archers from across the UK, which is open to spectators free of charge from 10am until 6pm on both days.

Geoff Malyon, the chairman of the National Tournaments Committee for 2012, said this was a



fantastic opportunity to watch the country's top archers in action.

"The Olympic and Paralympic Games have seen the sport's popularity increase dramatically," he said. "We had tremendous feedback and everybody loved the Olympic archery at the Lords' cricket ground."

Chris Owen, event manager at the Ricoh Arena, said: "We are pleased to be hosting archery for the first time at the Ricoh Arena.

"This will be a fantastic opportunity to see the archers who were part of Team GB and the fantastic summer of sport that we have all enjoyed."

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

ammonite or dino tooth from moulds created from real fossils. Suitable for age 6+. Booking is required. Entry fees payable at reception on the day. To book, call 024 7629 4774 or ask at Herbert reception.

16 – Friends of the War Memorial Park Carol Service, War Memorial Park (2pm). Family friendly carol service by the Visitors Centre in the War Memorial Park. All children receive a gift from Santa.

21-23 – Countdown to Christmas, Coombe Country Park (11am-noon, 1-2pm, 2.15-3.15pm, 3.30-4.30pm). Join the team as they prepare for Christmas and visit Santa in his grotto. Cost £5 per child (under 3s free if accompanied by paying sibling). Suitable for aged 3-11, and booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

21 – Farmers' Market, Broadgate (9am-3pm).

JANUARY

4 – Eating with Dinosaurs, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum (noon-2pm, free). Family picnic with a difference! Bring a blanket and eat your lunch in the shadow of a dinosaur with an arty activity to do as you eat. Suitable for all ages. Booking required on 024 7629 4774 or ask at Herbert reception.

16 – Volunteer Day, Brinklow Road open space (10am-3pm). Join the Park Rangers laying hedges, and learning or refreshing an existing skill. If you haven't been before, register in advance on 024 7683 3633 and ask for a Ranger. Suitable for adults. Meet at Hepworth Road near the play area.

18 – Farmers' Market, Broadgate (9am-3pm).

25 (until July 7) – Caught in the Crossfire. Artists' responses to conflict, peace and reconciliation, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum. Free.

25 – Holocaust Memorial Day, Lower Precinct. The theme this year is Communities Together: Build a Bridge. Remembering the past and looking to eradicate tragedies in the future. Contact Lee House on 024 7683 2351,

www.coventry.gov.uk/hmd
27 – Big Garden Bird Watch, Longford Park by Windmill Road car park (1.30-3pm). Join the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch with the Park Rangers. Make a bird feeder or do your own bird watch. Free, and no booking required.

29-31 – Tiny Tot Explorers: Art Play. Early Years Event, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum

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

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

DINOSAURS UNCOVERED

21 JULY 2012 – 6 JANUARY 2013

VISIT WWW.THEHERBERT.ORG
FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**OVER 35,000 PEOPLE HAVE VISITED SO FAR ...
HAVE YOU BEEN YET?****TO CELEBRATE WE ARE OFFERING 25% OFF ALL TICKETS ON PRODUCTION
OF THIS ADVERT BETWEEN 1 DECEMBER AND 6 JANUARY!**

(10.30-11.30am & 1-2pm, £1). Creativity and learning through the use of sensory art materials and techniques. For children aged 1-3. Booking essential on 024 7629 4774 or ask at Herbert reception.

FEBRUARY

9 – Stories in the Park, War Memorial Park (11am-1pm). Celebrate National Storytelling Week. Listen to your favourite children's stories and make some book-themed crafts to take home. Cost £1.55 per child.

15 – Farmers' Market, Broadgate (9am-3pm).

16-17 – The Big Birdcake Bake, Coombe Country Park (10-11.30am, noon-1.30pm, 2-3.30pm). Make a birdcake for your bird table to help sustain wild birds through the winter. Discover the new Top Pool Lodge, then return to make a heron's mask in the warmth of the classroom. Cost £5pp (under 5s free), and booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

18 – National Bird Box

Week, Allesley Park, by play area (1.30-3pm). Make a home or a feeder for your feathered friends. Cost £4.50 to make a nest box. Feeders £1. Suitable for over 8s with an adult, and no booking required. Also on Feb 19 at Caludon Park, and Feb 21 at Longford Park.

18-22 – Coombe Club, Coombe Country Park (8am-6pm, length of session can be adjusted to your needs). Children can stay for half a day, full day or for the whole week. Cost £3.15 per hour, minimum 5-hour stay. Suitable for children aged 8-14 years. Booking essential on 024 7645 3720.

20 – Volunteer Day, Braemar Close, tbc (10am-3pm). Join the Park Rangers building steps and constructing a path. If you haven't been before, register in advance on 024 7683 3633 and ask for a Ranger. Free and suitable for adults

21 – Magical Mosaics, War Memorial Park (11am-1pm). Have a magical time designing and making mosaics. Cost £2.60 per child, suitable for children over 5.

Thank-you deal from the Herbert

Residents are being offered a 25 per cent discount on a range of exciting exhibitions at the Herbert from December 1 until January 5 as a thank you for helping to make the recent Dinosaurs Uncovered show a monstrous success.

Around 30,000 citizens have so far enjoyed the Jurassic thriller, and over the next six months the Herbert will be hosting the following range of inspiring contemporary art exhibitions:

His Dark Materials, New Art by Adie Blundell A series of compelling yet disturbing mask-like sculptures alongside large scale detailed drawings. Inspired by alchemy, folklore, poetry and obsessive Victorian collecting, Blundell's work is composed of new and found objects and incorporates keys, locks, light switches and medical equipment. The exhibition raises questions about the very nature of human existence and our precarious position within the natural world. Exhibition runs until March 17 2013.

Caught in the Crossfire

Artistic responses to conflict, peace and reconciliation explores how artists grapple with both the brutality of war and the desire for peace. The exhibition takes us on a challenging journey from the home front to the frontline and back, as seen through the eyes of artists, soldiers and people affected by conflict. Exhibition opens January 25 and runs until July 7, 2013.

Wasted

An exhibition of work by Gina Czarnecki, exploring the life-giving potential of 'discarded' body parts and their relationship to myths, history, cutting edge stem cell research and notions of what constitutes informed consent. The art works are sculptural, incorporating milk teeth donated by children and bones and fat from living, consenting donors. The end products are stunning and together they will take on a vast wealth of associated meanings for diverse audiences. Exhibition opens March 30 and runs until June 9, 2013.

WIN Tickets for the Belgrade panto Sleeping Beauty

Sleeping Beauty tells the tale of a beautiful Princess who is cursed at her Christening by the wicked Fairy Carabosse, so on her 18th birthday she will prick her finger on a spinning wheel and die. The good Fairy Azuriel offers some hope by changing the spell to ensure that the Princess won't die but will fall into an enchanted sleep for 100 years from which she will only wake if kissed by the one she loves.

Iain Lauchlan, who will play Nurse Nanny Nora, holds legendary status in Coventry following 12 unforgettable years as Dame in Belgrade pantomimes between 1988 and 1999. He was last seen on the Belgrade stage in 2007 when he made a spectacular, one-off return to play the Dame in *Aladdin* to celebrate the reopening of the theatre after its £14 million redevelopment.

Iain said: "The Coventry audiences have supported me over many years and don't seem to forget me when I am not there."

Sleeping Beauty runs from



November 28 to January 5 2013 on the Main Stage, and you could be in with a chance of winning two tickets to see the Belgrade Theatre's show. Simply e-mail us the title of last year's Belgrade Theatre panto to communications@coventry.gov.uk, and the first one out of the draw on December 17 will be the winner.

■ Tickets for *Sleeping Beauty* are available now from the box office on 024 7655 3055 priced from £13.25 to £21.75 or via www.belgrade.co.uk where cheaper tickets are available. Concessions and family tickets are also available.

I BABLAKE

Cllrs Galliers and Kershaw hold regular surgeries: Coronation Club, Keresley Rd 12 noon - 1.00pm on the first Saturday of the month. Allesley Parish Church Hall, 5-6pm on the second Monday of the month or contact them directly as below:
Cllr David Galliers: 07973 780871 or e-mail david.galliers@coventry.gov.uk
 twitter @davidgalliers
 www.facebook.com/AllesleyCoundonAndKeresley
 www.bablakelabour.com
Cllr David Kershaw CBE: 024 7671 1107 or 07850 664576 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 or home visit call 024 7667 2619 or 07759 062733 or e-mail dave.chater@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE: For a home visit or appointment call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail ram.lakha@btinternet.com or ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr John Mutton: Call 024 7683 2672 for an appointment or advice.

I CHEYLESMORE

Cllrs Foster and Noonan hold regular surgeries: Cheylesmore Community Centre 6.30-8pm on last Wednesday of each month (except December) and at Whitley Community Centre every second Saturday of the month 1-2pm or contact them directly as below:
Cllr Kevin Foster: Call 024 7683 1276 (day) or e-mail kevin.foster@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Noonan: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) 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 07956 491443 or e-mail harjinder.singhsehmi@coventry.gov.uk

I EARLSDON

Cllr Allan Andrews: Surgeries held second Thursday of every month (except August) 6-7pm at West Orchard United Reformed Church, Baginton Rd. For a home visit call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk 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 07415 534267 or e-mail tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Abdul Salam Khan: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 07903 847160 or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Malkiat Auluck: Second Tuesday of the month 6.30-7.30pm at Foleshill Community Centre, Foleshill Rd or call 024 7663 7965 for an appointment.

I HENLEY

Cllr Lynnette Kelly: Call 024 7671 1682 or e-mail lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Kevin Maton: Call 07941 827229 or e-mail kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Ed Ruane: Call 07817 218137 or e-mail ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk. For our assistance call us or visit us at 4pm on the third Thursday of every month at Moat House Leisure Centre, Winston Ave, Henley Green.

I HOLBROOK

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

Cllr Rachel Lancaster: Call 024 7636 0021 or e-mail rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment.
Cllr Ann Lucas: Call 024 7633 2084 or 024 7683 1039 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 Longford Primary Care Centre, Longford Rd, and 5.30-6.30pm at Scout Headquarters, Aldermans Green Rd. Last Friday of every month 6-7pm at St Thomas' Parish Church Hall, Longford Rd. Please call 024 7636 0898 to make a surgery appointment.
Cllr George Duggins: Second Saturday of every month 12-1pm at Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Rd and 1.15-2pm at Royal Hotel, Old Church Rd. Second Sunday of every month 11.30am-1pm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave or call 024 7683 1003 (day) or e-mail george.duggins@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Lindsey Harvard: First Saturday of every month 10.45-11.45am at Scout Hut, Aldermans Green Rd and 12-1pm at Bell Green Community Centre, Old Church Rd. First Sunday of every month 11am-12 noon at the Church Hall, St Thomas' Parish Church, Longford Rd, and 12.15-1.15pm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave. Call 024 7667 5717, or e-mail lindsay.harvard@coventry.gov.uk

I LOWER STOKE

Cllr John McNicholas: If you have a problem, need help or advice, I can visit you in your home and be contacted on 024 7683 1039 (day), 024 7650 4037 (evenings) or e-mail john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Phil Townshend: Call 024 7683 1034 (day) for details of surgeries or e-mail philip.townshend@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Catherine Miks: Call 024 7683 1039 or 07415 534274 or e-mail catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk

I RADFORD

Cllr Mal Mutton: Call 024 7630 4497 or 024 7683 1039 for an appointment or e-mail mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Keiran Mulhall: Every Tuesday at Jaguar Sports and Social Club, Middlemarch Rd, 6.30-7.30pm. Also Radford Social Club on the first Sunday of the month 11.30am-12.30pm. Or call 024 7683 1039 for an appointment.
Cllr Tony Skipper: Available to see Radford residents at Coventry Coachmakers' Club, 72 Radford Rd, CV1 4BY. To make an appointment or to leave a message, call 024 7683 1039.

I ST MICHAEL'S

Joint surgeries every second Friday of the month 5-6pm at St Anne and All Saints Community Hall, Acacia Avenue.
Cllr David Welsh: First Saturday of each month, 12-1pm at the Redeemed Christian Church of God (former Howitzer Club), Albert St. Third Friday of each month, 3-4pm at the Regeneration Office, 121-124 Far Gosford Street. Call 07956 307 437 or e-mail david.welsh@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Naem Akhtar: Surgeries every first Tuesday of the month, 5-6pm at Hillfields Youth Centre, Yardley St. For an appointment call 07747 003141 or e-mail naem.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk.
Cllr Jim O'Boyle: Second Saturday of each month, 12-1pm at Zeenat Restaurant, Cambridge St, Hillfields, fourth Saturday of month, noon at Transport House, Short St. Call 024 7669 4873 or 024 7683 1032, or e-mail jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk

I SHERBOURNE

Cllr Seamus Walsh: Call 07956 546983 or 024 7683 1039 (day), or e-mail seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Alison Gingell: For an appointment call 07541 741617 or e-mail alison.gingell@coventry.gov.uk

Cllr Damian Gannon: For an appointment call 07725 536259 or e-mail damian.gannon@coventry.gov.uk

I UPPER STOKE

Cllr Kamran Caan: For an appointment or home visit call 07730 111101 or e-mail kamran.caan@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Sucha Bains: Barras Green Social Club, Coventry St, between 12 noon-12.45pm every Saturday or call 024 7645 9484.
Cllr Colleen Fletcher: For an appointment text 07939 111992, (will be happy to call you back) or call 024 7683 1039 or e-mail colleen.fletcher@coventry.gov.uk

I WAINBODY

Cllr John Blundell: Call 024 7683 1276 (weekdays) or 024 7641 9794 (evenings and weekends) or e-mail john.blundell@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment; will gladly visit.
Cllr Gary Crookes: (Deputy Lord Mayor) For an appointment call 024 7683 3048 (day) or 024 7646 1777 (after 6pm) or e-mail gary.crookes@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Tim Sawdon: (Lord Mayor) Call 024 7683 3048 (day) or 024 7641 5771 (after 6pm).

I WESTWOOD

Cllr Maya Ali: Surgeries every third Thursday of the month, 4.30-5.30pm at the Tanyard Community Centre, Tanyard Close, Coventry, CV4 9TS. For an appointment call 07949 653 656 or e-mail maya.ali@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr David Skinner: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024 7646 8106 (out of hours) or e-mail david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Sandy: Surgeries held at The Lime Tree Club, Templar Ave second Saturday of the month from 12 noon - 1pm and every fourth Saturday of the month from 11.30am-12.30pm at Canley Library, Prior Deram Walk. For an appointment call 07949 900445 or e-mail richard.sandy@coventry.gov.uk

I WHOBERLEY

Cllr Dan Howells: If you require help or advice I can visit you in your home or at a time and place convenient to you. To arrange an appointment call 07540 083974 or e-mail dan.howells@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Jayne Innes: Surgeries every fourth Saturday of the month except December, July and August from 12 noon at Allesley Park Library. Also you can ring 02476 405 132 or email jayne.innes@coventry.gov.uk for an appointment or home visit outside these times.
Cllr Bally Singh: Regular Surgeries are held every third Saturday of the month 10am-noon at St Mary Magdalene Centre, Sir Thomas White Rd. Also morning chat every first Friday of the month 8.30-9am at Stoke Bakery, Allesley Park. Call 07779 256898 for an appointment, or e-mail bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk

I WOODLANDS

Cllrs Hetherton and Thomas hold regular surgeries on the fourth Friday of each month at Tile Hill Library, Jardine Cres from 5-7pm
Cllr Patricia Hetherton: Please call 07985 811881 for an appointment or e-mail patricia.hetherton@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Steven Thomas: For an appointment call my residents' hotline 07535 423796 or email steven.thomas@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Julia Lepoidevin: For an appointment, call 024 7683 1039 (day), 07944 458 751 or e-mail julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk

I WYKEN

Cllrs Thay, Abbott and Sweet hold surgeries every Friday 6.30 - 7.30pm at Wyken Working Men's Club, Ansty Rd, Wyken.
Cllr Robert Thay: For an appointment call 07875 031851 or email robert.thay@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Faye Abbott: For an appointment call 07944 996294 or e-mail faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Sweet: For an appointment or home visit call 024 7661 6273 or e-mail hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk

Cabinet Members

Cllr John Mutton, Leader
 Policy, Leadership and Governance
Cllr George Duggins, Deputy Leader
 Strategic Finance and Resources
Cllr Ann Lucas,
 Health and Community Services
Cllr David Kershaw CBE - Education
Cllr Lynnette Kelly - City Development
Cllr Lindsay Harward - City Services
Cllr Ed Ruane - 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

Licensing and Regulatory
 C Cllr Lancaster DC Cllr Singh Sehmi
Planning C Cllr Maton DC Cllr Mulhall
Audit C Cllr Chater DC Cllr Bains
Scrutiny Co-ordination
 C Cllr Bigham DC Cllr Skipper
Wellness, Liveability and Public Health (Scrutiny Board 1)
 C Cllr Fletcher DC Cllr Innes
Children and Young People (Scrutiny Board 2)
 C Cllr M Mutton DC Cllr Sweet
Jobs, Skills and Growth (Scrutiny Board 3)
 C Cllr Lakha DC Cllr Gannon
Streets and Neighbourhoods (Scrutiny Board 4)
 C Cllr Abbott DC Cllr Clifford
Health, Social Care and Welfare Reform (Scrutiny Board 5)
 C Cllr Welsh DC Cllr Hetherton
Transport and Infrastructure Development (Scrutiny Board 6)
 C Cllr Howells DC Cllr Sandy
 C = Chair DC = Deputy Chair

Coventry MPs

Bob Ainsworth MP
 Coventry North East
 Call 024 7622 6707
 e-mail ainsworth@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, Coventry, CV7 7EL. Call 01676 530621 or 01676 530297
LABOUR - Michael Cashman, Terry Duffy House, Thomas Street, West Bromwich B70 6NT. Call 0121 569 1923
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - Phil Bennion, Haunton Manor Farm, Haunton, Tamworth M79 9HN
UKIP - Mike Natrass, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD. Call 0121 333 7737
WE DEMAND A REFERENDUM - Nikki Sinclair, 123 New John Street, Birmingham, B6 4LD. Call 0121 359 5933

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**

The Belgrade Theatre Coventry in association with Imagine Theatre present

Belgrade
Theatre
Coventry

Sleeping Beauty

By Iain Lauchlan

Christmas
at the Belgrade

Starring
Iain Lauchlan
as the
Dame

"Two hours
plus of
non-stop fun."



Coventry Telegraph
on last year's panto

Full priced
tickets frozen
at 2011
prices

Weds 28 Nov 2012 – Sat 5 Jan 2013

Tickets: From £13.25 – £21.75 Children: From £10.25

Family Tickets: From £35 NEW Group Rates: Up to £3.50 off

LAST YEAR'S HIT B2 XMAS SHOW RETURNS!

The Belgrade Theatre presents

"CRACKERS"

Script, music and lyrics by Forbes Masson

Sat 8 – Sat 22 Dec £8.50 – £15



"A festive treat for
grown-ups who don't want
to grow up too much."

Coventry Telegraph ★★★★★

Looking for the perfect present? We have just the ticket!



ALSO ON SALE: Moscow Ballet – Coppelia, Moscow State Circus, The Osmonds and Gareth Gates in Boogie Nights – The 70's Musical Concert, Irish House Party, 80's Mania, Horrible Histories – Terrible Tudors and Vile Victorians, The 39 Steps and much more!

BOOK NOW 024 7655 3055 www.belgrade.co.uk