

citivision

INSIDE

● How glad-iator we are to see you!

● All aboard for station development

● Festival fever draws top names



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





Are you ready for... Universal Credit?

From October 2013 the Government is starting to roll out its new Universal Credit system.

This single payment replaces a number of existing benefits, including:

- Working Tax Credits
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Child Tax Credits

Even though it may not affect you straight away, if you receive any of these benefits there are things you can do now to be ready for when it does.



- 1. Get a benefits check**
Make sure that you are getting all the benefits that you are entitled to
- 2. Look at your monthly budgeting**
Because it's paid once a month you may need to change the way you organise your money
- 3. Get a bank account**
Having a bank account is important so that you can have your benefits and wages paid in and use it to pay your bills
- 4. Set up direct debits**
Direct debits are one of the best ways to make sure that your bills are paid on time
- 5. Paying off any debts, especially rent and other priorities**
It's important to get your finances in order and get any debts under control
- 6. Get online**
Being on line and being able to use the internet has never been more important. All Universal Credit claims will need to be made online
- 7. Getting into employment**
Universal Credit aims to make sure that moving into work or extending your working hours will leave you with more money.

A booklet will soon be available with lots more information and advice on this subject and other aspects of Welfare Reform. For your free copy just contact any of the organisations below.





● A personal message from Cllr Ann Lucas, Leader, Coventry City Council.

Harnessing the pride and passion

I'm delighted to be writing my first column for *Citivism* as Leader of Coventry City Council; it's an enormous honour to be trusted with this role and I'm looking forward to sharing lots of good news about the city I love over the coming months.

There's a lot to be done as we work together to make Coventry great again and, of course, there's plenty that's already great about this city - although sometimes we're not very good at telling people about it.

But if we really want to make a difference in the areas we all know are vital - creating jobs, transforming the city centre, supporting the local economy - then we have to do things differently, take risks and be bold.

Against a backdrop of really tough government spending cuts and a bleak economic climate, that's quite a tall order.

As a Council we can't do this on our own. But look at what we have right here on our doorstep - two world-class universities, global manufacturers, great connections to the rest of the country, a fantastic history and heritage... the list is a long one.

Above all, Coventry is full of people with pride and passion in their city who want to see it become great again. So let's do it!

*You can write to Ann at The Council House, Earl Street, Coventry CV1 5RR, or e-mail her at ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk

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

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Cover story: Romans march on the city centre to promote summer events.
Full story - Page 20

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

'There are so many partners sharing resources and working together in Coventry, and this is highlighted in this summer edition of *Citivism*. For instance burglary warnings issued by the Police that are shared across organisations can help with communicating important advice. Similarly,

the Citizens' Advice Bureau has benefited from running joint schemes, including campaigning on welfare reform that can help residents find their way to getting help to alleviate the pressures caused by reforms. There are lots more examples throughout the magazine, and I hope you enjoy the read.'



* 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 **The Council** is hoping that a new policy providing a living wage will win the backing of others in the fight to tackle in-work poverty.
- 4 **A consultation** asking residents about proposals to change some community services is to be launched.
- 6 **Police** are asking residents to make sure their doors and windows are securely locked to help prevent burglary.

community focus

- 8 **Coventry City's Sky Blues** in the Community will be offering a huge range of sporting activities during the school summer holidays.
- 9 **Families** in Henley and Manor Farm are today thanking 30 chickens (*below*) for improving their community and helping scoop a national award.



festival focus

- 10 **Former X-Factor winner Amelia Lily** (*below*) is one of the stars at this year's Godiva Festival.



welfare focus

- 12 **A booklet** is being produced for local people affected by welfare reform which outlines practical steps that people can take to help them to cope with the government welfare reforms in the months ahead.
- 13 **Disability Living Allowance** for working age adults has now been replaced by Personal Independence Payments.



culture focus

- 14 **Designers** working on the refurbishment of Coventry's Old Grammar School (*above*) want to hear from you about your memories of the Grade I listed building.

health focus

- 16 **Regular eye checks** can save sight and should be part of everyone's healthy living routine.

what's on

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

councillors

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

contact us

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

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

Living wage aims to tackle low pay

The Council is hoping that a new policy it is proposing to provide a living wage to tackle in-work poverty will be supported by other organisations and businesses in the city.

The Council's new cabinet member for strategic finance and resources is likely to recommend the scheme, which will benefit up to 800 non-school based council employees.

If agreed, the implementation of the living wage in the Council will take effect from August 1. The hourly rate of £7.45 which will be awarded is based on research by the Living Wage Foundation.

The foundation calculates a 'poverty threshold wage' and adds a 15 per cent margin to ensure that the person does not fall to the levels of poverty wages. Dozens of public and private sector organisations have joined the Living Wage Employer Group and the Council hopes that other businesses in the city will commit to introducing a

'It is only right that we do what we can to ensure that all our employees receive a wage they can live on. It's vital that we do what we can to achieve a more prosperous city and greater equality...'

Living Wage.

The Living Wage initiative was first introduced after the East London Communities Organisation raised the problem of people on low pay in Canary Wharf who were finding it difficult to cope with the costs of living, especially when having to support a family.

Cllr Damian Gannon, the Council's Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, said it was the right time to introduce the policy. "During these difficult economic times, where the cost of living is rising and we are asking more and more of all our employees, it is only right that we

do what we can to ensure that all our employees receive a wage they can live on. It's vital that we do what we can as a council to achieve a more prosperous city and greater equality. A living wage will help improve the quality of life of many individuals, and I'd urge other businesses and organisations to consider supporting the scheme."

The Living Wage will benefit Council employees including cleaners, library and information assistants, escorts, playgroup assistants and postal assistants. The scheme will have an impact on staff on Grade 1 and some on Grade 2.

Council Leader Ann Lucas added: "Providing a living wage is fundamental to the wellbeing of people who are working hard on a low salary. As the city's biggest employer it is vital that we take a lead."

The estimated full-year cost of the Living Wage is anticipated to be £0.7m per year.

It's your chance to help shape future services

A citywide consultation asking Coventry's residents what they think about new proposals to change some community services is to be launched by the Council's Community Services Directorate.

The directorate has to save £22.5 million over the next three years as part of the Council's overall requirement to save £63 million.

The first year's savings have been met with a number of efficiencies and negotiations regarding funding arrangements. However, a number of proposals have been developed to meet future savings targets and the Council would like to know residents' views and opinions on these.

They include the provision of Adult Social Care Information and Advice, the availability of Housing Related Support, our internal Home Support Service, Day Opportunities and transport, and Housing with Care schemes.

It is anticipated the consultation will commence in the summer. Further information on what is included in the consultation and the start dates are available on the Council's website at www.coventry.gov.uk/abcs.

People will be able to reply to the consultation survey online at home, or alternatively by visiting a local library where you can access the consultation electronically on one of their many computers, or by picking up a paper copy.

To view all of Coventry City Council's consultations, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/consultations

Move to Friargate business quarter heralds springboard to city growth



■ A computer generated impression of how the new Friargate will look.

The Council has announced plans to move to a new purpose-built headquarters in the Friargate development at the city's railway station.

The move is part of a radical plan that will see the total transformation of the city centre, kick-start Coventry's economic growth and support the creation of more than 13,000 jobs in the city over the next 10-15 years.

Around 7,800 construction jobs will be created to build Friargate – 1,000 construction jobs will be needed for the new Council office alone.

The proposals will see Council staff move into the new building at Friargate, reducing the number of Council offices across the city from 27 separate buildings to just nine.

The Council House would remain as a base for councillors and council meetings, while a new one-stop shop for

residents would be opened in Broadgate. A new bridge built across the Ring Road will create an attractive public boulevard to link into the city centre and extend the Greyfriars Green parkland setting to Friargate, bringing the development and the railway station much closer to the city.

It will cost £40million to build the new office. A further £19million will be needed to make other building changes across the city, including the new centre in Broadgate – less than the £63 million needed to repair and refurbish the Council's current buildings. The backlog for repairs alone is estimated at £23million.

Council Leader Ann Lucas, said: "This plan is value for money for Coventry taxpayers and will send the clearest message to developers for decades that the city is open for business."

Residents set for a real say on local planning issues

A newly-formed group has taken up the opportunity to deliver Willenhall's first Neighbourhood Plan, as part of a national drive to empower communities,

Willenhall's planning group has now submitted its neighbourhood area application to the Council which is the first step before starting work on the neighbourhood plan.

A consultation on this area is underway and all details about how to respond can be found at www.coventry.gov.uk/cldp

Kate Lee, who manages the Willenhall Neighbourhood Forum, was born in the area and has worked for the community for 18 years. She said that it was an innovative approach that will give residents a real influence on planning schemes in the neighbourhood.

She explained: "Rather than have things done to them this will help local people to be involved in planning at all levels in the area. It could be about whether a house is built or changes made to a building."

"Enabling people to have a greater stake in the place where they live can only have a positive impact on that place's quality of life."

All consultation responses will be reported to the Council's planning committee before the Council formally designate the Neighbourhood Area later this summer.

Signal for a better city centre



Cabinet Members Cllr Lynnette Kelly and Cllr Rachel Lancaster check out the completion of work to remove the traffic lights at the Little Park Street junction by the police station, which takes the development of Coventry city centre. The area has been transformed and now has narrower roads and wider pavements. Four new zebra crossings have been installed - two on New Union Street and two on Little Park Street and a number of new street trees have been planted.

The work completes the driving and walking route from the police station to the railway station junction. The whole section now works better - at Bull Yard, the road has been narrowed from four lanes to two, a new grassed area has been planted, new on-street parking has been added and two more sets of traffic lights have been removed.

The improvements to the pedestrian route to the station

includes two filled-in subways and a new toucan crossing which now connects Greyfriars Green to the station.

Cllr Lancaster, Cabinet Member for Public Services, said: "While our work on road junctions doesn't have quite the same wow factor as Broadgate and Bull Yard, it is no less impressive. All of this work complements the new city-centre wide 20mph zone and our aim to create a more civilised environment. The next stage is the transformation of High Street - where we will be taking up the stamped pavement and replacing it with sandstone. We will also be reintroducing the kerb to enable us to remove the dozens of bollards that line both sides of the street."



Students turn the focus on winning training scheme

Local students have been helping promote an apprenticeship scheme run by the Council which has just landed a top award.

The innovative Construction Shared Apprenticeship Scheme, delivered in partnership with Bam Construct UK, City College Coventry, Whitefriars Housing Group (part of WM Housing Group) and local construction employers, was recently named Apprenticeship Scheme of the Year award in a competition run by the National Federation of Builders (NFB).

The NFB award honoured the Council for its commitment to apprentices through the Construction Shared Apprenticeship Scheme.

And now students studying a BTEC in Creative Media Production (Film and

The programme supports young people to develop careers in construction and has already supported dozens on their journey into the industry

Television) at City College Coventry have undertaken a commercial commission to produce a professional promotional DVD for the Council's scheme.

The programme supports local young people to develop careers in construction and has already supported dozens on their journey into the industry, helping them gain experience of real site work and equipping them with the skills to help them flourish in the sector.



■ Camera, action! Media students look to promote the Council's award-winning apprenticeships scheme.

Course offers support for foster parents



Tutors and foster carers gather for a course in Coventry which offered extra support as part of a parenting programme in the city.

Carers already with many years experience attended and completed the national course called KEEP, which helps foster carers who look after five to 12 year olds to manage challenging behaviour and avoid disruption or breakdown of a placement. For details on fostering, call 024 7683 2828 or visit www.coventry.gov.uk/fostering



Samaritans – a listening ear at any time of day or night

The Director of Coventry Samaritans is reminding local people in need to call on the charity whatever trouble they may be facing.

Roger Hughes, Samaritans director, said: "However bad you feel or whatever life has

done to you, you can ring and talk to us at any time of the day or night".

About 90 people contact the service every day – by phone, email, SMS or by calling in at its office in Moor Street, Earlsdon. All its services are

run entirely by volunteers and are free of charge. "Our vision is that fewer people die by suicide," Roger added. "About one in five of the people we speak to is contemplating taking their life. But we are here for anyone who is

troubled or going through a difficult time, no matter what they feel".

If you want to talk to someone, you can call Samaritans on 02476 678 678 any time or visit

www.coventrysamaritans.co.uk

+CRIME UPDATE+

Don't let the burglars catch you out

Coventry Police are asking residents to make sure their doors and windows are securely locked to help prevent burglary.

During warmer weather reports of burglary traditionally rise as people leave windows and doors open or unlocked. Officers are asking residents to be extra vigilant this summer and improve their home security.



Officers are regularly patrolling across the city as part of Operation Intrusive offering advice to communities and also targeting offenders. Plain-clothed police operations are in place across Coventry to catch burglary offenders in the act – and the message to offenders is clear: "Burglars we are watching you."

Residents may find themselves unable to claim off their insurance because leaving windows and doors open

makes their insurance policy invalid.

Please always report any suspicious people or activity to police and follow the below advice:

- Keep doors and windows locked if you are out of a room for any length of time;
- When spending time in the back garden lock your front door and close all windows at the front of the house;
- Valuables should not be left on view and keys should be removed from door locks. All other keys, including car keys, should be kept out of sight;
- Lock away all garden equipment, especially ladders, in your shed or garage.

For further crime prevention advice visit: www.west-midlands.police.uk, follow Coventry Police on Facebook www.facebook.com/coventrypolice or on Twitter @coventry_police.

Anyone with any information about burglaries in Coventry is asked to call officers on 101. Or contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. In an emergency always dial 999.

'Beat the Cheats' anti-scam campaign



■ Sophie Parkes (left) from the CAB and Cllr Alison Gingell, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services, help get the campaign underway.

A Beat the Cheats campaign launched by Coventry Trading Standards and Coventry Citizens' Advice Bureau is aiming to raise awareness of scams by fraudsters and criminal gangs. Last year Coventry Trading Standards identified nearly 350 separate scams which could have cost local people more than

£150,000. It also revealed that the Microsoft PC Virus Scam was the biggest problem, with fake prize draws coming in second.

Here's some tips to help you beat the cheats and protect your hard-earned cash:

- £ **If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is;**
- £ **Don't send money upfront or hand over cash on the doorstep;**
- £ **Protect your identity – don't give personal details to people you don't know;**
- £ **Don't respond to emails or letters you suspect are scams;**
- £ **If in doubt seek advice from the Citizens' Advice Consumer Helpline on 08454 040506.**

In addition, scam emails can be forwarded to trading.standards@coventry.gov.uk with Beat the Cheat in the subject line. You can also send your scam letters free to Scampaign - Trading Standards, Freepost (CV681), Coventry CV1 1BR, or report any scams to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040, www.actionfraud.police.uk To find out more about how to protect yourself, visit www.adviceguide.org.uk or www.coventry.gov.uk and search for Trading Standards.

May the Force be with you – via Twitter and Facebook!

West Midlands Police now have a number of social media accounts providing regular updates about policing across Coventry.

The social media accounts have been a tremendous success story over the past three years, providing useful information around road closures, critical incidents, positive arrests and sentences, community work and crime prevention information.

The use of social media by Coventry Police continues to grow, including university officers and neighbourhood policing teams!

Keep in touch where you live:

- Coventry Police (for citywide updates) - @coventry_police
- Chief Superintendent Andy Nicholson - @CovPolCommander
- North East Coventry – @NE_CovPolice

- Coventry University Cop - @CovUniCop
- Warwick University Cop - @WarwickUniCop
- Bablake and Sherbourne - @BablakeSherborn
- Cheylesmore - @cheylesmore_wmp
- Earlsdon - @earlsdon_police
- Foleshill - @FoleshillPolice
- Henley - @HenleyPolice
- Holbrooks - @HolbrooksNPT

- City Centre (St Michael's) - @St_Michaels_NPT
- Upper Stoke - @UppStoke_Police
- Westwood - @westwood_police
- Woodlands and Whoberley - @WoodlandsNHT

You can also visit www.facebook.com and search for Coventry Police for regular local news stories.

Library works usher in exciting chapter

A makeover is having a major an impact on visitors at Coventry Centre Library. The popular children's library has been updated with a separate, colourful carpet – popular for story and rhyme times. A Health and Wellbeing Zone has been created by enlarging the current Books on Prescription area and offering a range of other books on health. A range of additional furnishings has been provided such as tables and chairs and the CD, DVD and audio area has also been revamped. A new World Zone that provides information on different languages and culture has also been created while wi-fi coverage throughout the library has been boosted and will be free for two hours. With almost 1,500 daily visitors the whole library has been re-carpeted and re-painted for the first time since the library opened in 1986. For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries.



■ Cllr David Kershaw (centre), Cabinet Member for Education, joins other visitors to the library.



Work kicks off on major plans to revive popular leisure centre

Council leader Ann Lucas leads the ground-breaking work to herald the start of an £8 million extension at a popular city leisure centre. Joining her are (from left) Cllr Ed Ruane, Cabinet Member for sports, Malcolm Whitehall, director of Coventry and Warwickshire Award Trust and Peter Owen, managing director of contractor Willmott Dixon. Construction work has started on the redevelopment to extend the Centre AT7 in Bell Green Road, Courthouse Green. The exciting plans involve creating a new 25m swimming pool, a splash leisure pool and racing slides along with a health suite featuring a jacuzzi, sauna and steam room.



There will also be new-look changing rooms and a revamped reception area.

No waste goes to waste

A major new scheme is underway to save thousands of pounds in heating public buildings and to help those in fuel poverty by harnessing energy from waste. The scheme will see the Council House, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum and Coventry Cathedral being supplied heat and hot water from the Waste to Energy plant in Whitley. The plan is then to extend the scheme to be able to benefit tenants in social housing. The work includes some disruption on city roads.

Go further with Henley College

Henley College Coventry is one of the top two colleges for student success rates in the West Midlands

Just one good reason to study with us!

www.henley-cov.ac.uk
024 7662 6306

HENLEY
COLLEGE COVENTRY
Student First

Keep active with Sky Blues

Coventry City's Sky Blues in the Community will be offering a huge range of sporting activity during the school summer holidays across Coventry. Sky Blues in the Community is working alongside Coventry City Council in supporting the Passport to Leisure and Learning scheme - offering a 20 per cent reduction to passport holders.



■ Fitness fun with Sky Blues in the community.

Passport to Leisure and Learning helps to remove some of the cost barriers many people may face in taking part in high quality sports activities – we really hope to see people with a Passport to Leisure joining us over the summer holidays and beyond. To find out the times, dates and locations of the various holiday activities you can visit www.cccf.co.uk or contact the Sky Blues in the Community office (Monday to Friday 9-5pm) on 024 7678 6349 with questions or to book your place.

Pop-up park joy



Cllr Lynnette Kelly, Cabinet Member for Business, Enterprise and Employment, admires the temporary new pocket park which has just been completed in Bishop Street. The park was created to improve the derelict land on the corner of Bishop Street and Well Street. The area is now fully landscaped with ornamental shrubbery, a footpath and a grassed area. A seating area is also included.

Landscape garden volunteers enjoy reward of beetroot

A gardening event at Canley Community Centre was also an opportunity for people to try sweet treats made from unexpected ingredients, such as courgette cake and beetroot buns, courtesy of volunteers from Canley Food Project.

It's the latest step in a makeover for the land behind the Prior Deram Walk centre, which had been overgrown and unappealing.

Whitefriars Housing is supporting the work as part of its Pride in Our

Streets initiative, which funds small community projects.

The social landlord donated £1,200 to landscape the garden and buy materials including bamboo screens, plants, seating and compost bins.

Improvement work has been carried out by Canley Futures Ltd, the not-for-profit organisation which runs Canley Community Centre and Coventry City Council's local Neighbourhood Action team.

Local groups including the Canley

Food Project – which is made up of volunteers who like to grow and cook their own produce – will help tend the revamped garden.

Cllr Richard Sandy, Westwood Ward Councillor, said: "The land behind the community centre has gone from being unused and unsightly to a place where people can relax, enjoy nature and get involved."

"Local people should feel very proud of what they have achieved."

The project is the latest in a series

100 trees a breath of fresh air for the future



■ Whitefriars residents Sheila Bates and Diane Tolley get planting.

A selection of 100 British trees will be planted at locations across Coventry to enhance the landscape, provide shade, support local wildlife and enhance air quality.

The project is being delivered by Whitefriars Housing's estate services team and is backed by its Estate Improvement Group, made up of customers of the not-for-profit housing and regeneration organisation.

One hundred rowan, birch, maple and wild cherry trees will be planted on land owned by Whitefriars Housing in Ernesford Grange, Stoke Heath,

'Trees have real benefits for communities, they will support local biodiversity, provide shade and look attractive...'

Willenhall wood carving story

Cllr Abdul Khan and local residents admire the dragon's head now guarding the entrance to Willenhall Woods. The image was created by sculptor Graham Jones after tree trunks were felled from a highway verge in Middle Ride following subsidence. Officers from the Council's Trees and Woodlands team at first used the trees at the entrance of the woods to discourage the access of bikes and vehicles into the woods behind the children's play area. The design for the sculpture came from local children, including the Willenhall Junior Rangers. Cllr Khan, who has environmental responsibilities at the Council, said: "Recycling trees that would otherwise have been destroyed is a great practical idea by the local community."



Stoke Alder Moor, Wyken, Radford, Canley and Tile Hill.

Ken Lindsay, Whitefriars Housing's Estate Contract Officer, said: "Trees have real benefits for communities, they will support local biodiversity, provide shade and look attractive. We've chosen species that are native to Britain to attract wildlife and stay in keeping with other planting."

Members of Whitefriars Housing's Estate Improvement Group took part in the first round of planting in Tile Hill. Sheila Bates, aged 72, who lives in Tile Hill and is chairman of the Estate Improvement Group, said: "It's fantastic to see more trees being put back into this area. Tile Hill was once forest so it reflects that history."

Diane Tolley, 61, from Canley, is vice-chair of the Estate Improvement Group. She said: "Everyone likes to see some greenery, especially when the weather is as grey as it has been."

buns and courgette cake

of activities for Canley aimed at reducing litter, -discouraging anti-social behaviour and working with local people to enjoy the green spaces around them.

Earlier this month Whitefriars Housing arranged for a skip to be stationed for a day in Prior Deram Walk and funded bulb planting across Canley.

Local shopkeepers had complained about fly-tipping and Whitefriars' staff and community volunteers helped to clear away rubbish.

■ Garden has roots in community, (from left) Junita Tan-Hamblin, Sheila Mantin and Anamika Jain with Emilee Briggs and Jessica Briggs, both aged 11.



Angling for visitors

Fisheries officer Jake Davoile and environment champion Cllr Abdul Khan meet up to proclaim the merits of one of the UK's most prolific fishing spots, Coombe Pool. While its glamorous neighbour, Coombe Country Park, gets all the attention from visitors, Coombe Pool Fishery has been acclaimed as one of the country's leading big bream match waters. The pool now concentrates on providing pleasure and specimen angling for visitors throughout the summer from June 16. Day tickets can be obtained from the Fishery car park machine, or a season ticket from the visitor centre. For the prospect of a great day's angling, visit www.fisheries.co.uk/coombe, www.facebook.com/CoombePoolFishery or contact Jake at the Streetscene and Greenspace Division, Coombe Pool Fishery, Coventry.



It's the good life and good living at Henley



Resident helpers (from left) Nikyla King, Caitlin Richards, aged 21, and Lorna Round have a cracking time with the Henley Green chickens. Local families in Henley and Manor Farm are today thanking 30 chickens for improving their community and helping scoop a national award.

Rescued from battery farms, the feathered-friends have turned around the fortunes of Henley Green Community Centre, reduced anti-social behaviour and given local people a passion for eggs and animal husbandry. The project backed by Whitefriars Housing scooped best community-led initiative in the Chartered Institute of Housing's UK Housing Awards 2013. Comedian Sue Perkins presented the award.

Motivated by reports of the ill treatment of battery chickens, members of resident group Craven Connection approached Whitefriars Housing for assistance to build a chicken coop. Through its Pride In Our Streets funding, the housing association awarded the group more than £1,300 for materials for the coop as well as money for two residents to attend a chicken husbandry course. As a result of their efforts, 30 chickens, four ducks and a turkey now live in comfort at the back of Henley Green Community Centre. Up to 45 boxes of eggs are sold to local people each week, an estimated 500 people visit weekly and the community has pulled together to care for them. John Marriott, aged 74, who volunteers at community centre, said: "The project has really turned our community around. Before we didn't have much to be proud about, and now our chickens are a local talking point."

It's party time for the Sowe Valley volunteers

It's a very happy birthday to the Sowe Valley volunteers.

This committed team of Coventry residents has been quietly improving the River Sowe for three years in the summer of 2013 and has made some wonderful changes to its appearance and quality in that time.

Hundreds of bags of rubbish have been removed, new bankside plants have gone in and the river is swimming with life.

Otters, bats, kingfishers and many fish species including sticklebacks use the river, all helped by these dedicated volunteers.

Over 3,000 volunteer hours have been spent on the Sowe and it is hoped this will long continue thanks to the new Friends of Sowe Valley who will be



■ Sowe Valley Volunteers celebrate with a birthday cake.

running the volunteer days from 2014.

* Like tea, coffee, biscuits and banter? Then why not join the growing Sowe Valley Volunteers too?

You can find out more at www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk or contact Lucy Hawker at lucy.hawker@wkw.org.uk or call 02476 302912. Alternatively, visit Facebook, search 'Sowe Valley Project' and 'Like' us today.

Godiva showcases the very best

Coventry stars join big names of pop and rock for this year's festival

The Godiva Festival is set to offer a feast of entertainment when it returns to the War Memorial Park from Friday-Sunday, 5-7 July.

And local talent is very much to the fore at this year's mammoth event, including a host of top local bands, comedians, and Coventry star Ghostpoet (*inset, below*), making a triumphant return to Godiva.

Organisers have put together a fab line up of acts for the three-day festival, and have also been sifting through applications from traders and charitable organisations interested in having stalls at this year's event.

Hopes are high of avoiding last year's cancellation, when the festival was one of dozens of major events across the country hit by unprecedented rainfall.

The headline acts and many of the artists performing this year have now been announced and details are being updated as the start of the festival draws closer.

Festival goers can check the latest details on www.godivafestival.com or on Twitter, or visit our Facebook page.

Clr Lynnette Kelly, who is responsible for the Godiva Festival, said: "I hope that this year's festival attracts a real family-friendly audience. We've got our fingers crossed for a fine weekend and even if we do face inclement weather we will be better prepared."



Let us entertain you...

The Friday headline act is the legendary Echo and The Bunnymen, booked once again by popular demand after missing out on playing at the festival last year. On Saturday, British rock band Maximo Park headline the main stage, and Godiva 2013 winds down on Sunday evening with a performance by former X-Factor star Amelia Lily. Further performances across the three days come from Urban artists Devlin, Sway and Charlie Brown, while local artists include Coventry legend Neville Staple. There is also a chance to see local boy Charlie Healy with his fellow band members The Risk.

Friday: Echo and the Bunnymen

The opening night of Godiva 2013 promises to be one to remember as we welcome one of the most iconic British bands ever to headline the main stage. Echo & The Bunnymen make their way to Coventry once more after missing out last year.

Saturday: Maximo Park

Saturday night features Newcastle-based alternative rock band Maximo Park on the main stage for a headline set that is guaranteed to get the crowds rocking.

Sunday: Amelia Lily

Amelia Lily burst on to the scene when she finished third in the X Factor in 2011. Since then she has been busy taking the charts by storm, twice reaching the top 3 in the singles charts. Amelia is now hitting the summer festival scenes promoting her debut album *Be a fighter*.



Why not walk it?

A feature of the Godiva Festival is the number of visitors who travel by public transport, on foot or who cycle to the festival. Park-and-ride south will be closed from 6pm on Thursday, July 4, and throughout the festival. So why not leave the car at home and enjoy a healthier journey to Godiva Festival 2013?



Fun for all the family at Coventry's Godiva Festival in the War Memorial Park.

* Godiva Festival is brought to you by Coventry City Council and supported by Jaguar Land Rover, Network Coventry and Fargo Village.

of the city's home grown talent



■ What a line-up! Ian McCulloch (left), frontman with Echo and the Bunnymen, will be joined by Maximo Park (above) and former X-Factor winner Amelia Lily (right) at this year's Godiva Festival.

It's a chance for Unsigned stars to make bid for glory

Dozens of local acts have been featuring in heats for Godiva Unsigned 2013.

Live music venues across the city have been hosting the battle of the bands, giving local unsigned artists the chance to have their sounds heard by a brand new audience.

Year on year, Godiva Unsigned has attracted a growing number of participants, with the promise of the finalists having a chance to perform in the Rhythm Tent on the opening Friday of the festival – and the overall winners getting the distinction of being the opening act on the Godiva Main Stage on Saturday.

Godiva Unsigned has been one of the biggest and best outlets for Coventry bands and artists.

Previous winners include Dark Actors, Shock Parade, Idle Playthings and Just Morale, all of whom have gathered huge followings after performing at Godiva.

Litter pickers out in force

Street wardens will be helping to keep on top of litter throughout the festival as part of a concerted effort to keep the Memorial Park and surrounding streets litter free. Visitors are also being warned that there are penalty fines which can be issued for people who fail to dispose of rubbish properly.

The Family Field of dreams, for youngsters of every age

A firm favourite for the younger visitors to the festival, the Family Field, will be home to a whole host of family entertainment guaranteed to keep both adults and children of all ages enthralled, entertained and amused.

On offer will be the kids tent, a Community Circus, and an inflatables area.

The vintage market and the Lives and Times and Greenspace tents will offer something for a wide range of festival visitors.

A micro acoustic stage with laid back acoustic music from local musicians will also feature. On the

opening night of the festival, the Paradise Tent will host the traditional comedy night, with some of the best up-and-coming comedians on the circuit guaranteed to raise a laugh.

Live falconry shows and the chance for the kids to learn circus skills with the Coventry Community Circus performers as well as an Art Tent are all featuring in the family festival.

The Family Field, brought to you by Network Coventry, will also be home to the Charity Village, with local, regional and national charities all raising much needed funds for their various deserving causes.

2013

Bands in the Park

1.30 - 3.00pm

<p>Sunday 14 July Allesley Hall Phoenix Rock 'N' Roll</p> <p>Sunday 21 July Spencer Park Dayspring Steel Band</p> <p>Sunday 28 July War Memorial Park New Washboard Syncopators</p> <p>Sunday 4 August Stoke Green Park Bedworth Brass</p> <p>Sunday 11 August Allesley Hall Dene River Jazzmen</p>	<p>Sunday 18 August War Memorial Park Shirley Pipe Band</p> <p>Sunday 25 August Spencer Park Jazz Unlimited</p> <p>Sunday 1 September War Memorial Park City of Coventry Brass</p> <p>Sunday 8 September Allesley Hall Millennium Eagle Jazz Band</p> <p>Sunday 15 September Caludon Park Jaguar Landrover Band <small>as part of the Heritage Open Days event</small></p>
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For more details 024 7683 2479

How to keep abreast of reforms

A booklet is being produced for local people affected by welfare reform which outlines practical steps that people can take to help them to cope with the government welfare reforms in the months ahead.

These steps include:

- **Getting a benefits check;**
- **Looking at your monthly budgeting;**
- **Making sure you have an account that your wages and benefits can be paid into;**
- **Paying off any arrears especially rent and other priority debts;**
- **Setting up direct debits;**
- **Getting online; and**
- **Getting employment if you are out of work.**

The booklet provides an at-a-glance guide to the changes and a whole range of useful contact numbers for help and advice.

Taking the right steps

- **Get a benefits check:** Make sure that you are getting all the benefits that you are entitled to now.
- **Budgeting** (*monthly financial planning*): How well are you managing your money – you may be budgeting

weekly and will need to think about how you will manage with monthly payments when you move to Universal Credit or start to earn a monthly wage.

If you do owe money to other people get some advice on how you can budget to get these debts paid as soon as possible particularly priority debts such as rent, Council Tax and gas and electricity. If you are repaying debts out of your benefits you may be able to agree smaller payments

■ **Setting up a bank account:** Having a bank account is important so that you can have your benefits and wages paid in and use it to pay your bills. There are different types of account that are available such as credit union accounts and basic bank accounts and there are advisors available who can help you set up an account.

■ **Setting up direct debits:** Once you have an account, setting up direct debits to pay your bills can be one of the best ways to make sure that your



bills are paid on time. This is really important for priority bills such as rent and Council Tax.

Once a direct debit has been set up, you can be confident that your bills will be paid every month.

■ **Getting online:** Being online and being able to use the internet has never been more important. All Universal

Credit claims will need to be made online.

There are lots of free courses, where you can learn how to use the internet, even if you are a complete beginner. Your local library is a great starting point, as all libraries now offer up to two hours free internet access and should be able to signpost you to what courses are available in your area.

Whitefriars and Henley College have developed a course which is delivered in six locations across the city. It provides straightforward, practical help in getting online, is open to everyone (not just social housing customers) and is free if you claim tax credits or benefits. To find

out more call 024 7662 6444 for details or visit www.whitefriarshousing.co.uk.

Where can I find out more?

To get more information or help with any of the above, here are some useful contact numbers and details:

- **Advice Services Coventry**
www.adviceservicescoventry.org.uk
 - **Coventry City Council Benefit Service**
benefits@coventry.gov.uk
024 7683 1800
 - **Coventry Benefits Advice Line**
welfare.benefits@coventry.gov.uk 024 7683 2000
 - **Coventry Citizens' Advice Bureau**
www.coventrycab.org.uk
024 7622 3284
 - **Coventry Law Centre**
www.covlaw.org.uk
024 7622 3053
 - **Whitefriars Housing**
www.whitefriarshousing.co.uk
024 7676 7000
www.adviceguide.org.uk
- You can also contact your local community advice centres where you live.



Landlords

Are you looking for a tenant?

Make your life easier and let us take the risk out of letting your property with our FREE service

- ✓ Deposit guaranteed by Coventry City Council
- ✓ A ready supply of tenants to minimise voids
- ✓ No fees or commission
- ✓ No administration charges
- ✓ Properties inspected to HHSRS standard with no charge to yourselves
- ✓ Support from the specialist team for the length of the tenancy

Call us on 024 7683 1919 or email:
APRP@coventry.gov.uk



www.coventry.gov.uk/housing

Help is on hand at the city's pop-up shops

A pop-up welfare reform advice shop has been touring neighbourhoods throughout the city. City agencies including the Council, Coventry Law Centre, Citizens' Advice Bureau and many others have been joining together to host a pop-up shop in Cathedral Lanes, Riley

Square, Bell Green and the Hagard Centre in Willenhall. Experts have been offering advice about changes to Benefits and Tax Credits.

The key question visitors are being asked is...Are you ready for the national welfare reform changes? The pop-up shop will also be appearing in

Tile Hill, and back in the city during the next few months

CAB manager Charley Gibbons said: "We have a number of experts available offering advice on reducing fuel bills, helping people get online, on effective ways for managing tight budgets and lots more."



Making a BIG difference

Coventry Citizens' Advice Bureau is working in partnership with Severn Trent Water to find and help people who struggle the most with their water bills. The groundbreaking project – **The Big Difference Fund** – aims to provide targeted but substantial financial assistance to Severn Trent Water customers who have long standing water debts. Other financial help may also be available in exceptional circumstances, such as help with fuel bills, insolvency fees and the purchase of energy efficient washing machines, fridges and cookers. The Big Difference Fund began in May last year and gives people support in applying for a Big Difference Fund grant, specialist advice on debt, benefits and any other issue and support with managing money. The project has increased annual income for clients to the tune of £10,920 from benefit checks including Working Tax Credits, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit, and Disability Living Allowance for Care and Mobility. Eighty-four per cent of BDF clients stated that they were either extremely or very satisfied with the service they received. To contact The Big Difference Fund, call 02476252041, email bdf@coventrycab.org.uk text 07903115444 or call into Kirby House on Little Park Street. If you are having problems paying your water bill, contact Severn Trent Water on 0845 604 3772 or visit www.stwater.co.uk



It's all change for those on Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for working age adults has now been replaced by Personal Independence Payments (PIP).

The good news is that you are not affected by this change if you were 65 before 8 April 2013, in which case you will continue to get DLA. Similarly children will stay on DLA until they are 16, and will then be assessed for PIP. From October 17, 2013, people

whose DLA is due to run out after 24 February 2014 will start to be re-assessed for PIP. Also from October 2013 anyone who reports a change of circumstances, or reached 16, will also be reassessed for PIP.

Anyone who already gets DLA now, will not be automatically entitled to PIP – as they will be reassessed under the new tougher rules. Over half of people who get

DLA now will lose all or some of their benefit. If you are affected or you know someone who will be, please contact your local advice agencies. There is also information available online on their websites.

For more details visit www.adviceguide.org.uk or call Citizens Advice on 024 7625 3190.



City centre stage again

Whatever you think of ITV's latest comedy series *Love and Marriage*, you can't help but notice the familiar landmarks of Coventry. The Tiger Aspect production series starring Alison Steadman was filmed in part in Coventry and involves Coventry writer, Stewart Harcourt. The director is Coventry film maker and writer Debbie Sitt (*Nativity*). The cast also includes Coventry actor Graeme Hawley (*Coronation Street's* serial killer *John Stape*).

Museum looks for memories of Old Grammar School

Designers working on the refurbishment of Coventry's Old Grammar School want to hear from you about your memories of the Grade I listed building.

The aim is to preserve your stories as part of the redevelopment work on the school, with the refurbished building containing a number of displays about its history when it re-opens to the public in 2015.

Since it was built in the 12th century as part of a monastery, the Old Grammar School building (**below**) has survived destruction by Henry VIII, been used as a school for boys, and during the 20th century was an integral part of community life in Coventry, being home to numerous clubs and societies, before eventually falling into disuse in the 1980s.

Designers are now working with Grammar School Trustees and Coventry Transport Museum staff to piece together this history and make it available for visitors –

and personal stories from local people are set to form a key part of these displays.

Gary Hall, chief executive of Coventry Transport Museum, said: "We know that this building holds a very special place in the hearts of many Coventrians, and as such we are keen to preserve and recount

'We are keen to preserve and recount the stories of real people who have enjoyed memorable times within its walls...'

the stories of real people who have enjoyed memorable times within its walls. The intention is to collect as many stories as possible on our Coventry Memories website, and then to use a number of those to form part of displays within the building itself."

To share your memories, visit www.coventrymemories.co.uk. Anyone without internet access can share their story by writing to Gary Hall, Coventry Transport Museum, Millennium Place, Hales Street, Coventry CV1 1JD.



■ Actress Holly Earl in her stage debut at Coventry's Belgrade Theatre.

Actress Holly Earl has landed a special commendation after being nominated for the prestigious Ian Charleson Award for her performance in the Coventry Belgrade Theatre's production of *The Father*.

Holly Earl was nominated for her portrayal of Bertha in the August Strindberg play, which was produced by the Belgrade and played on the theatre's Main Stage in April 2012. Established in 1991 by the *Sunday Times* and the National Theatre, the Ian Charleson Awards recognise the best classical stage performances in Britain by actors aged under 30.

Prior to appearing in *The Father*, Holly played Lily Arwell alongside current Time Lord Matt Smith in *Doctor Who*, and the role of Poppy Champion in Channel 4 drama *Skins*.

Holly said: "*The Father* was my stage debut and I am blessed to have started my career at the wonderful Belgrade."

Holly received her award at a

National Theatre ceremony earlier this year.

■ Coventry's Belgrade Theatre is looking for 20 aspiring writers to take part in its free Critical Mass playwriting programme specifically for writers from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities. Now in its fourth year, Critical Mass is an 11-week playwriting programme that will be running at the Belgrade from



■ Black writers at a recent Critical Mass readthrough.

September to December for writers aged 18 and above from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities.

The programme will give participants the opportunity to write an entire play and also learn

more about plot development and characterisation. People wishing to apply for this year's Critical Mass programme may submit up to 10 pages of writing intended for performance on stage. The deadline for Critical Mass submissions is Friday, July 19. For more information, go to www.belgrade.co.uk/take-part/black-and-minority-ethnic/

Cutting-edge technology centre gets major boost

A new manufacturing institute to be created by Coventry University in partnership with Unipart Group is to receive part of a £50million fund from the government to help drive growth and to cement the West Midlands' image as a world-leading area for engineering.

The initiative, which is being awarded the money from the Higher Education

'Close-knit collaboration between universities and businesses is critical in promoting innovation and supporting economic recovery'

Funding Council for England's Catalyst Fund, is part of the government's investment in innovation projects designed to boost the economy.

The institute aims to create over 600 jobs in the region's high-value, low-carbon manufacturing sector

by developing a unique engineering education and research environment which will stimulate Unipart's supply chain and train a skilled new manufacturing workforce. Unipart's manufacturing site in Coventry will form the base for the institute, where new undergraduate, postgraduate and low carbon R&D

programmes will create a 'faculty on the factory floor'.

Coventry University's recently-opened Engineering and Computing Building (pictured below) is also set to provide a home to many of the teaching and research activities of the new institute.

Vice-chancellor Professor Madeleine Atkins of Coventry University said: "Close-knit collaboration between universities and businesses is critical in promoting innovation and supporting the UK's

economic recovery, so we're delighted to be forging this partnership with Unipart."

Andy Davis, MD of Unipart Eberspächer, added: "This exciting project gives us the opportunity to support Coventry University in the development of new and innovative ways to train the engineers of the future."



Sky's the limit as college backs Sky Blue youngsters

Sky Blues' U16 team members line up outside City College Coventry, the side's new-season sponsors, with Principal Paul Taylor meeting the lads. The college has signed up to sponsor the academy team for the 2013/14 season, prompting a tie-in that will see the players using the fully-equipped teaching rooms at City College to deliver educational programmes to its youngsters. As well as the City College logo being emblazoned on the front of the U16 playing kits, the partnership is also presenting an ideal opportunity for City College to engage further with the wider Coventry community. First team members will attend key events at the College throughout the year and the College's activities will be promoted during home games.

Academy all set for the engineers of tomorrow

Kate Tague is to be the first Principal of Coventry's new WMG Academy for Young Engineers for students aged 14-19, which is set to open in September next year.

The Principal, who takes up leadership of the innovative new school this September, said: "The academy is an exciting and unique opportunity for 14-19 year olds to study technical and vocational

WMG
Academy for Young
engineers

qualifications, and develop employment skills and knowledge for the future. Students at the academy will gain experience of working with the UK's leading employers such as Jaguar Land Rover, National Grid and SCC, and will be able to progress along into work, apprenticeships or university."

If your child has a passion for engineering, is going into Year 10 or 12 in September 2014 and lives in Coventry, Warwickshire or Solihull, then you can attend the academy's first 'taster' event on Saturday, June 29, at the University of Warwick. For more information, visit www.wmgacademy.org.uk

Disabled access update

A website launched last year to highlight accessible venues for shoppers and visitors is being updated. DisabledGo Coventry lists where the most accessible venues can be found in the city centre and beyond. The Council and DisabledGo invited local people to tell them how it could be improved and new venues will be added to the guide. The site, www.disabledgo.com, enables disabled people to make informed choices based on their requirements.

Partners look to tackle energy issues

More than 70 businesses attended the Renewable Energy Technology Alliance event at Coventry University's Engineering and Computing building. RETA brings together a range of businesses from the green technology, low-carbon and renewable sectors. The event highlighted the importance of public and private sector collaborative

working in addressing both fuel poverty and ever-increasing energy prices. The group aims to maximise business opportunities. For further information, contact Rachael Delich from Business Investment Team, Coventry City Council on 024 7683 1208 or email her at rachael.delich@coventry.gov.uk

■ Pictured (from left) are Keith Budden, E-ON, David Cockroft, Coventry City Council, Andy McDarmid, Warwickshire County Council, Jim Allen, (RETA Chair) and Green Energy Networks, David Faulkner, Homeworks Ennergy Ltd, Andrew Tonks, Sustainable Building Futures-Coventry University, and Scott Murray, Kier Services.



Your two-page guide to what's new on the healthcare scene around Coventry

Health is the key to wellbeing and reducing city inequalities

Coventry's public health team returned to the City Council from its former Primary Care Trust home.

The aim of the public health team is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Coventry and the move is part

of a national drive to place public health at the heart of the work that councils do in the community.

Coventry is one of just seven councils across the country that's part of the UK Marmot Network – a new project that is aimed at

tackling health inequalities. The project was named after a review that was carried out by Professor Sir Michael Marmot and his team at University College London (UCL).

Becoming a Marmot city means Coventry will have access

to the international expertise of the Marmot team who will be working with the Council to increase life expectancy in the city by 2015.

The team will continue to work closely with other partners such as the NHS.

Focus on your eye checks to avoid sight loss

Almost two million people in the UK live with sight loss and this number is predicted to double by 2050.

Sight loss is an increasing problem. In Coventry the number of people estimated to be living with sight loss is expected have risen by as much as 18 per cent from 2011 to 2020. Half of sight loss is preventable.

Regular eye checks by your local optician (optometrist) can save sight and should be part of everyone's routine as an eye test isn't just about glasses!

Many of the causes of sight loss are preventable if they are caught early enough which is why regular eye health checks are so important.

The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) recommends having an eye test at least once every two years and for some people opticians may recommend more frequent eye checks. You may not even have to pay depending on your circumstances.

Other ways we can look after our eyes include stopping smoking and watching our weight. Evidence shows that smoking doubles your chance of

losing your sight and obesity may put someone more at risk of developing certain eye conditions.

Cllr Faye Abbott, Coventry City Council's Chair of the Cabinet member (Community Safety and Equalities) Disabilities and Equalities Advisory Panel, said: "In Coventry, we are committed to reducing the number of people with eye diseases which could have been prevented, and we aim to make Coventry an example to other cities of how to tackle preventable sight loss"

The Coventry Visual and Hearing Impairment Team is able to provide rehabilitation, equipment, information, advice and carer education to enable people living in Coventry with significant visual and or hearing loss to live independently. People don't have to be registered to receive a service and are able to self refer by calling 024 7678 5250. The RNIB also offers practical support, advice and information for anyone with sight difficulties. If you, or someone you know, has a sight problem you can call the RNIB Helpline on 0303 123 9999 or visit www.rnib.org.uk



Did you know...?

You may qualify for a free NHS-funded sight test if:

- You've been diagnosed with diabetes or glaucoma;
- You're aged 16, 17 or 18 and are in full-time education;
- You're aged below 16;
- You're aged 60 or over;
- You're registered as partially sighted (sight impaired) or blind (severely sight impaired);
- Your mother, father, brother, sister, daughter or son has been diagnosed with glaucoma and you are aged 40 or over;
- You've been advised by an ophthalmologist (eye doctor) that you're at risk of glaucoma;
- You're eligible for an NHS complex lens voucher - your optometrist (optician) can advise you about your entitlement;
- You a prisoner on leave from prison;
- You receive Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (not Contribution-based), Pension Credit, Income support or Income-based Employment and Support Allowance;
- You're entitled to, or named on, a valid NHS tax credit exemption certificate;
- You're on a low income and named on a valid HC2 (full help) or HC3 (partial help) certificate.

Children at risk from the second-hand smoke peril

Coventry's Smokefree Alliance is backing a national drive to raise awareness of the dangers from smoking in the home and car.

The Smokefree Homes and Cars campaign is a partnership approach to raise awareness of what is proven to be a

silent killer.

It is estimated that millions of children in the UK are exposed to second-hand smoke that puts them at increased risk of lung disease, meningitis and cot death.

Second-hand smoke contains harmful cancer causing toxins and poisons that

are unknowingly damaging children across the country every day.

More than 80 per cent of second-hand smoke is invisible and odourless so no matter how careful you are children still breathe in the harmful poisons

The NHS estimates that up to 5 million



Miles of perfect smiles

Staff at the Oral Health Promotion Team, part of the Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust, have been highlighting the importance of visiting your local dentist and other aspect of oral health. Key messages for good oral health are brushing for two minutes twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste, cutting down on how often you have sugary foods and drinks, and visiting the dentist regularly – as often as they recommend..

Support for healthier pregnancies in Coventry

Women in Coventry are being offered free weight management and stop smoking support to help improve their child's future health and well-being.

A new report by the British Nutrition Foundation, highlights the importance of healthy lifestyles in pregnancy.

The report claims that the risk of developing obesity, asthma, allergies and heart disease in later life can be determined by a mother's diet and health before and during pregnancy.

Maintaining a healthy weight, balanced diet and quitting smoking during pregnancy play a key part in securing a healthy long-term future for mothers...and their babies.

Women in Coventry are able to access free NHS support and advice during their pregnancy, and before they conceive, through Coventry's Healthy Lifestyles team.

Natalie Hutton, Coventry's Healthy Lifestyles Manager, said: "We understand the long-term benefits associated with maintaining a healthy weight and healthy lifestyle for women and their babies. Our team of professionals offer a range of

City and Macmillan join forces to offer new help to cancer families

Macmillan Cancer Support and the Council have teamed up for a new way to support people affected by cancer in the city.

Becky Nelson is the new Macmillan Project Manager for the Macmillan/Coventry Partnership. Although employed by Macmillan, she is hosted by the Council and is part of a new way of looking at tackling the effects of cancer and helping those living with cancer in the community. It is the first time that Macmillan has linked up with a local authority in such a way and the work may be replicated across the country.

The work could also pave the way for similar work with

other illnesses and long-term conditions – helping more and more people across the city to access services and get the best help possible.

Becky said: "I have had a fantastic welcome from people at the Council and we have already developed a number of projects that we're sure will make a significant difference to improve the lives of people affected by cancer. A lot more people are surviving cancer nowadays and when people are going through their treatment, or after they've finished and been given the all-clear, they still need help and advice, so we have to make sure that this is there for them."

free NHS services that can support people, including expectant mothers, to live healthily through diet choices, taking regular exercise, giving up smoking and losing weight.

"We also have a dedicated team of trained midwives and advisors, who provide a free confidential stop smoking in

pregnancy service."

Healthy Lifestyle Services, provided by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, are free and delivered in complete confidence. To find out more, visit www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk, email the team at healthylifestyles@covwarkpt.nhs.uk or call 0300 200 0011.

Choosing contraception that's just right for you

A new resource on the different forms of contraception, including long-acting reversible contraception, is now available for women in Coventry. The resource – *Your Perfect Match... Choosing Contraception That's Right for You* – was designed with the help of local women and professionals. Women told researchers that there were lots of myths and misinformation about the different forms of contraception – especially around the Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) methods, including reliability and side effects. LARC includes the coil, implant and depo contraceptive injection. One recommendation from the research was the development of materials which spell out all the contraceptive options which fit best for each individual. Ram Sidhu, Nurse Manager at Quinton Park Medical Centre in Cheylesmore, set up the LARC service within her surgery to fit the contraceptive implant, which provides three years' protection. She along with her colleagues also offers the administration of the contraceptive injection and advice on Coils. Ram said: "There are a number of safe and effective methods of contraception which are long-lasting, easy to fit/administer and convenient for the user. Things like the contraceptive injection, the implant and coils can be fitted in your local GP surgeries."

Dr Jane Moore, Director of Public Health, Coventry City Council, said: "It's really important that people make the right choice for themselves. Health professionals can discuss the options so that patients can make a considered decision." To find out more, speak to your GP or practice nurse or visit the Integrated Sexual Health Service at the City of Coventry Health Centre. Call 0300 020 0027 or visit www.nhs.uk or www.besavvy.org for more information on local services.



■ Getting the message across are (from left) Public Health Programme Manager Samantha Hewitt with Ram Sidhu, Nurse Manager, and Sian Blakemore, Receptionist, both Quinton Medical Centre.

children across the UK are regularly exposed to second-hand smoke in the home. They also estimate the cost to the NHS of treating second-hand smoke-related illness in children alone is £26 million each year.

Not only does smoking in front of

children directly impact their health through second-hand smoke, but children of smokers are 90 per cent more likely to become smokers themselves.

Councillor Joe Clifford, Chair of Coventry's Smokefree Alliance,

welcomed the new national campaign.

He said: "The best of way of protecting yourself and the people you love from toxic tobacco smoke is to quit cigarettes for good.

"However, if you can't give up, then

choose to make your home and car completely smokefree."

To get in touch with your nearest Stop Smoking Service call Coventry City Council on 024 7683 3333 or the NHS smokefree helpline - 0800 022 4332.



Gary dons civic chain as Coventry's new first citizen

The Council has elected its new civic leaders for 2013/14. Cllr Gary Crookes is the city's new Lord Mayor of Coventry while Cllr Hazel Noonan is the Deputy Lord Mayor.

Cllr Crookes has served on

the Council since 1995 and represents Wainbody Ward. Born in Warrington, he is married to Shirley, who became Lady Mayoress. He said that after living in the city for 40 years it was a great honour to become the

Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor's Charity for 2013 will be the Heart of England Community Foundation to support local, grass root community projects in Coventry for the benefit of Coventry Citizens.



New Cabinet takes shape

The City Council has set up its new Cabinet – each post with an area of responsibility for Council services.

The Cabinet meets every month whilst Cabinet Members hold individual meetings throughout the year. Both types of meeting are held in public and people are welcome to attend.

Pictured left to right clockwise are Cabinet Members: Cllr Dan Howells, Deputy (Education) Cllr David Kershaw (Education), Cllr Alison Gingell (Health and Adult Services), Cllr Ed Ruane (Housing and Heritage), Cllr Jayne Innes, Deputy (Children and Young People), Cllr Damian Gannon (Strategic Finance and Resources), Cllr Rachel Lancaster (Public Services), Cllr Abdul Khan



(Energy and Environment), Cllr Kamran Caan, Deputy (Health and Adult Services), Cllr Lynnette Kelly (Business, Enterprise and Employment),

Cllr George Duggins (Children and Young People), Council Leader Cllr Ann Lucas (Policy and Leadership) and The Deputy Leader, Cllr Phil

Townshend (Community Safety and Equalities).

To get in touch with any of your local councillors, see the details on page 22.

A whole summer to be enjoyed by everyone at Coventry Cathedral

Families will be able to enjoy a whole host of family activities this summer with trails and 'make and take' activities taking place in the school holidays.

The trails will have a weekly theme allowing families to learn everything there is to know about the Cathedral, from the medieval glass to discovering what animals are in and around the Cathedral.

Trails will be available from 10am-4pm and the 'make and take' activity will take place every Wednesday between 11am-3pm.

■ Every Monday: People can enjoy something different

during their lunch hour by attending one of the many Organ Concerts every Monday from 1pm.

With award-winning and international organists playing a wide variety of awe-inspiring music, the organ recitals showcase a wonderful variety of music in the stunning Nave of Coventry Cathedral.

Admission is free, so the Cathedral relies heavily on gifts from sponsors and supporters. A suggested gift of £3 is requested for each concert you attend and this can be placed in the retiring collection.

For more information

regarding dates, concert artist and recital details, visit www.coventrycathedral.org.uk or drop into the Cathedral for a copy of the recital brochure.

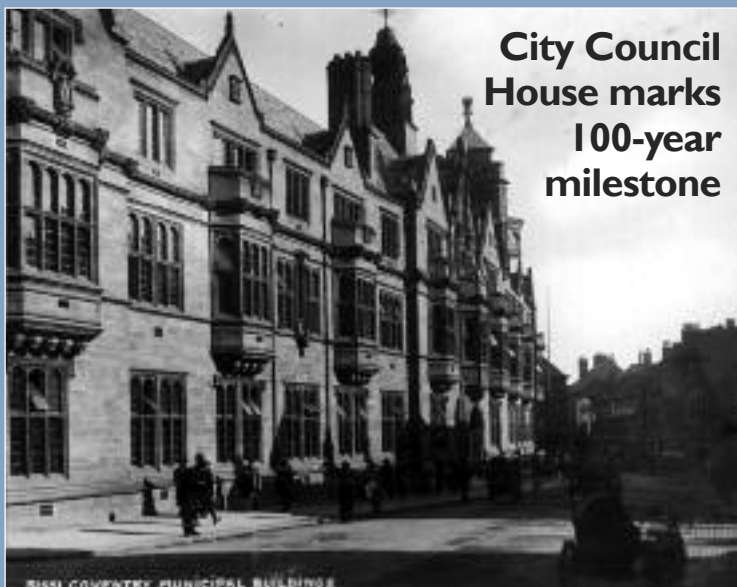
Dates for your diary

■ July 6 – Saint Michael's Singers Summer Gala Concert (7.30pm). Programme: Puccini: Messa di Gloria; Bruch: Violin Concerto No. 1 and Paul Leddington Wright: Te Deum Laudamus (world premiere). Tickets available online via the Cathedral website, or from Coventry Cathedral Box Office on 024 7652 1210 or from Saint

Michael's Singers by email at tickets@saintmichaelsingers.org, or from Jill Pacey on 01676 532436.

■ July 13 – Mad Hatter's Tea Party (7.30pm). Mad Hatters Tea Party Children's Charity concert, featuring The Band of the West Midlands Fire Service and the Emmanuel Gospel Choir from Paris. Tickets available from Coventry Cathedral Box Office on 024 7652 1210

*For a full list of what's on across Coventry and Warwickshire this summer, check out pages 22-23



City Council House marks 100-year milestone

Our landmark home which survived the blitz

It's 100 years since the first stone was laid to create Coventry's Council House, one of the most striking buildings in the city.

Work on the building only began a century ago, with a ceremony on June 12, 1913, for the laying of the foundation stone.

Work was not completed until 1917 and the building was officially opened on 11 June 1920 by HRH the Duke of York – later to become King George VI.

The idea for the new Council House had first been proposed in 1891 by Alderman James Marriott who said a new building was needed to house Coventry's increasing Council departments.

Original plans were for the entire frontage on Earl Street to include shops, with the Council buildings behind. Amended plans then proposed shops on the ground floor with Council offices above.

Eventually in 1908, the Council gave new instructions to the General Works Committee to plan a new building without shops and in 1910 a competition was launched for designs, with the winners being Edward Garrett and HW Simister of Birmingham. They wanted to reflect the grandeur of the city's medieval past. The building was designed to complement the neighbouring St Mary's Guildhall and St Michael's Church.

Unfortunately, the stained glass windows were destroyed during the Second World War bombing raids and replaced with plain glass windows – although the building escaped relatively unscathed.

Step through the looking glass for an Alice in Wonderland adventure

Sir John Tenniel's illustrations in the *Alice in Wonderland* books are the subject of the Herbert Museum and Art Gallery's latest FREE exhibition, which opened on June 22.

Looking in Wonderland showcases a selection of illustrations by Tenniel for Lewis Carroll's childhood masterpiece.

The illustrations are taken from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), and *Through the Looking-Glass* (1872), and are part of a season of illustration and fun at the city venue.

Other activities for children this season include *Through the Rabbit*

Hole: Creative Family Play Space in the Studio, inspired by the *Alice in Wonderland* stories.

The Herbert is also playing host to an exhibition of the works of one of Britain's top illustrators, Quentin Blake. *Quentin Blake: As Large as Life* opens on July 27 and runs until November 3.

Blake is best known for his illustrations for Roald Dahl's books. And from August 24 until November 17, you can unravel the secrets of the Sikh turban at the Herbert's *Sikh Fortress Turban: A British Museum Tour* exhibition.

For more details, go to www.herbert.org.

Sporting staff fly the flag for their UK companies

Thousands of athletes from local and national businesses will be descending on Coventry next month as part of a national sporting event.

The UK Corporate Games will be coming to Coventry from 4-7 July and the festival of sport is expected to bring between £23 million pounds of revenue to Coventry's economy.

University of Warwick Campus will host the sporting event which will be staged for the 19th time. Companies will be taking part in up to 22 different sports, ranging from tennis to dragon-boating.

The competition is open to all ages and abilities, ranging from absolute beginner to expert.

A range of UK companies have already signed up, including household

names such as Asda, Jaguar Land Rover and IBM.

The games is also supporting Macmillan Cancer Support, which has promised to invest or redistribute the money donated into local works and schemes in and around the Coventry area.

A grand parade of athletes will be staged in the city centre on Saturday, July 6, at 6.30pm, travelling from the new cathedral to Broadgate. For more details, visit www.corporate-games.com.

Did you know?

- The UK Corporate Games is Europe's largest multisport festival for businesses.

- The games was founded in 1988.

- Over the years, more than 20,000 organisations have taken part.



Earn £115 per week

Henley College Coventry needs homes for international students

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

Call: **Shella Brawn on 024 7662 6373**

Text: home to 88020* Email: sbrawn@henley-cov.ac.uk

*For the cost of your provider's call.

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



Godiva Festival heralds fun for all

Here are some of the things you can enjoy this summer in and around Coventry

JULY

5-7 – Godiva Festival, War Memorial Park (Friday 6-10.30pm, Saturday noon-10.30pm, Sunday noon-7pm). Celebrate the talent of the city and enjoy music from some of the UK's best bands at this free three-day festival. Go to www.godivafestival.com for latest information.

6 & 10 – Improving Water Vole Habitat. Volunteer Day, Brookside Avenue Open Space (10.30am-3.30pm, free). Help protect and enhance the habitat of this endangered mammal. Meet at Whitaker Road. Call 024 7683 3633 for more details. (Also on July 11 & 13 at Longford Nature Park, meet at Longford Road car park; 17, 18 & 20 at Lake View Park, meet at Lake View Road).

6 – Teddy Bears' Picnic Painting Session, Coombe Country Park (1am and 1pm, £7 per painter). Paint your own teddy bear with local artist Michelle Stamper. Why not purchase a picnic box from the Heron Café? Meet at Heron's Café. Call 024 7668 930 for more details.

12 (also 26 & August 9, 23) – Tot Waddles, War Memorial Park (10.30am-noon, £3 per tot). Suitable for 2-4 year olds, meet at visitor centre. To book, call 024 7678 6280.

14 – Kabbaddi Tournament, Morris Common. Visit www.kabaddiuk.com/index.php/tournaments for more details.

20 (also August 17) – Allesley Park Walled Garden Market (10.30am-12.30pm, free). Selling produce from the garden with supporting stalls selling cakes/mustard/books.

21 (also August 31) – Open Day at War Memorial Park Tennis Club (10am-noon). To book, call 024 7615 0688.

21 – Rotary Club of Coventry One Mile Sponsored Walk, Coombe Country Park. Visit www.coventryrotary.org for more details.

22-28 – War Memorial Park Tennis Club: Try the court sessions. Coaching sessions for

When in Cov, don't do as the Romans do!

■ The Romans are coming to Lunt Roman Fort for a summer of fun crafts and activities, beginning on July 24-26.



Roman soldiers were recently spotted in the city centre helping to launch a summer of events in Coventry. The Roman re-enactment group put on a convincing performance to bring the sites of

Roman Britain to modern day shoppers. To see more of what the Romans did for us visit the Lunt Roman Fort, Baginton near Coventry - open 11 am to 4pm. For details visit www.luntromanfort.org

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

free. For times, check www.warmemorialparktennis.co.uk or e-mail info@inspire2coach.co.uk. Advance bookings on 024 7615 0688 or info@inspire2coach.co.uk.

24-26 (also August 2, 6-9, 13-16 & 20-27) – A Summer of Fun, Lunt Roman Fort (11am-4pm, £3.75, concess £3, family ticket £11, under 4s free). Family activities with Roman-themed crafts, coin workshops and children's military drills. For details, go to www.luntromanfort.org.

24 – Pond Dip, Allesley Park (1.30-3.30pm, free). Children must be accompanied by an adult. Meet Allesley Park, by pond above play area. Suitable for 8-12 year olds. Book on 024 7645 3720.

25 – Teddy Bears Picnic, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm, £1.60). Meet at tennis pavilion.

Drop-in session – no need to book.

27 – Caribbean Festival, War Memorial Park (free). The annual Caribbean Festival returns for a day filled with music, food, activities and celebration.

27 – Love Parks Week: Rock and Fossil Fun Day, Coombe Country Park (time tbc). Warwickshire Geological Conservation Society family fun day. Check website for details.

29 – Love Parks Week: Garbage Galleons, Allesley Park (1.30-3.30pm, free). Make your own boat using recycled materials. All under 8s must be supervised and all over 8s must have a completed parental permission slip. Meet at Allesley Play Area. (Also at Caludon Castle Park on July 30. Meet play area; Longford Park on August 1. Meet Windmill Road entrance; Primrose Hill Park on August 5;

Lindfield on August 6 & 20. Meet near play area; Radford Common on August 7. Meet near play area).

30 (also August 6, 8, 20) – Fishing for Beginners, Coombe Country Park (10am-12.30pm, £4). Meet at information centre.

Suitable for 8-12 year olds. Call 024 7645 3720 to book.

31 – Love Parks Week: World Ranger Day, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm, free). Find out more about the work of your local rangers. Meet at visitor centre.

AUGUST

1 (also August 15 & 29) – Iris May Falcons, Coombe Country Park (11am-1pm, free). Get up close and personal with these fearsome birds of prey.

1 – Kings and Queens, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm, £1.60). Become a king or queen for the day by making all you need to become royalty. Meet at visitor centre. Drop-in session – no need to book.

2 – Moth Night, Coombe Country Park (7-10pm, £6). Learn all about moths and have a go at trapping them (weather permitting). Wear sturdy footwear and bring a torch. Meet at visitor centre. Suitable for children over five. Call 024 7645 3720 to book.

3 – Donkey Derby and Charities Fair, War Memorial Park (noon-5.30pm, free). Help the local Lions group raise money for charity and enjoy a fun day out.

5-9 – Spark in the Park, War Memorial Park (1.30-4.30pm, free). Christian churches invite you to enjoy family fun-filled week of activities.

8 – Fun with Wood, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm, £2.70). Painting and decorating items out of wood to take home. Meet at visitor centre. Drop-in session – no need to book.

13 (also August 27) – Fresh Air and Fun, Caludon Castle Park (1.30-3.30pm, free). Outdoor fun with the Rangers, including games and craft activities. Under 8s must be supervised and over 8s must have a completed parent

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

permission slip. Meet near play area. Suitable for 8-12 year olds – booking not essential. (Also at *Allesley Park on August 14 & 28. Meet at play area; Longford Park on August 15 & 29. Meet at Windmill Road entrance; Primrose Hill on 21. Meet at Primrose Hill Park; Radford Common on August 22. Meet at play area).*

15 – Perfect Porcelain, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm, £2.70). Decorate some porcelain objects to take home, then have a go at making your own unique piece of pottery out of clay. Meet at visitor centre.

21 – Bats for Beginners, Coombe Country Park (7.30-9.30pm, £4). Hunt for the park's elusive bats, learn all the different species on the site and how to identify them. Meet at visitor centre. To book, call 024 7645 3720.

22 – Get Busy with Bumblebees, Coombe Country Park (11am-1pm, £3pp, under 5s free). Bumblebee day, bumblebee trail, learn about their lifecycle and more. Meet at information centre. To book, call 024 7645 3720.

22 – Woodland Creatures, War Memorial Park (1.30-3.30pm,

£1.60). Learn all about the creatures that live in the woodland copses around the park. Meet at visitor centre. Drop-in session – no need to book.

26 (until September 2) – Global Market, Broadgate. See the return of the wonderfully diverse international market of food, plants, handmade gifts and more. Go to www.coventry.gov.uk/broadgate for latest information.

26 – British Cycle Speedway Finals, Hearsall Common. For details, visit www.britishcycling.org.uk/cyclespeedway.

28 – Rainforest Fun, War Memorial Park (10-11.30am, 1.30-3pm, £5 per child, £2 per accompanying adult). Get up close and personal to a variety of animals such as snakes, lizards and spiders. Meet at visitors centre. Suitable for 6-14 year olds. To book, call 024 7678 6280.

28 – Rainforest arts and crafts, War Memorial Park (10.30am-2.30pm, 1-3.30pm, £1.60). Drop into the marquee and have a go at making rainforest themed arts and crafts to take home. Meet at marquee outside the visitor centre. Drop-in session – no need to book.

Easy access to flagship park, but vehicles need prior permission

Coventry prestigious War memorial Park receives 400,000 visitors from all over the city and further beyond every year.

The park is accessible for wheelchair users and includes a new visitor centre which is open 9am-7pm including an education room now available to hire.

Disabled parking bays are available at Kenilworth Road and Leamington Road car parks.

The public are not routinely permitted to bring a vehicle on to the park but where access to the education room to attend an event or a private booking is necessary, blue badge holders can contact the visitor centre on 024 7678 6280.

Vehicle access on to the War



Memorial park is by prior arrangement only.

The Council cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate your request and need 24 hours' notice.

Literary date for your diary

Vanessa Oakes will be giving a reading of *A Ploughed Heart*, a new play about George Eliot, at the Ellen Terry Studio Theatre, Coventry University, in September. A post-show talk and complimentary drink will also be on offer. The performance starts at 7.30pm on Thursday, September 26, at the Jordan Well venue. The event is free to attend, but tickets must be booked in advance. Call 024 7688 7496 or E: adx939@coventry.ac.uk. For more details, visit www.desperatelyseekinggeorge.wordpress.com.

WING WAH

CHINESE RESTAURANT

LUNCH MON-FRI 12PM-3PM SAT 12PM-3PM £6.99 £7.99 <small>12.99</small>		DINNER MON-FRI 5.30PM-10.30PM SAT 5.30PM-11PM Sun High or below £11.99 £12.99 £5.99	
Sat & Bank Holiday 12 PM-3 PM £8.99 £3.99		TAKEAWAY BOX £6.99	

Prices correct at time of print but are subject to change and prices may differ for special diets. The management reserves the right to amend the prices when necessary without prior notice or obligation. Prices are in pounds and are for full adult portions.

www.wingwah.net

02476 69 1818

583 Fletchamstead Highway (A45), Coventry CV4 9EL

Find us on Get the latest news & offers ([wingwahcoventrybranch](https://www.facebook.com/wingwahcoventrybranch/))

july 2013 | citivision | 21

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/Allesley CoundonAndKeresley 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 1039 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) or contact them directly as below:
Cllr Kevin Foster: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or e-mail kevin.foster@coventry.gov.uk
Cllr Hazel Noonan (Deputy Lord Mayor): Call 024 7683 3048 (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: Happy to help where I can. Will visit at home or the Council House. Please call for an appointment on 024 7683 1276 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. Surgery 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 7683 1103 for an appointment., or e-mail ann.lucas@coventry.gov.uk. 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 Lindsay Harvard: First Saturday of every month 10.45-11.45am at Scout Hut, Aldermans Green Rd and 11.45am-12.45pm 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 noon-1pm 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 Radford Social Club, 226, Radford Rd, CV6 3BQ from 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 1039, 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 or text 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 (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: Call 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk

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 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 Magdeline 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 1276 (day), 07944 458 751 or e-mail julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk

I WYKEN

Cllrs Thay, Abbott and Sweet hold surgeries every third 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 Ann Lucas, Leader
 Policy and Leadership
Cllr Philip Townshend, Deputy Leader,
 Community Safety and Equalities
Cllr Damian Gannon,
 Strategic Finance and Resources
Cllr George Duggins,
 Children and Young People
 * (Cllr Jayne Innes, Deputy)
Cllr David Kershaw CBE,
 Education
 * (Cllr Dan Howells, Deputy)
Cllr Lynnette Kelly,
 Business, Enterprise and Employment
Cllr Rachel Lancaster, Public Services
Cllr Abdul Khan,
 Energy and Environment
Cllr Alison Gingell,
 Health and Adult Services
 * (Cllr Kamran Caan, Deputy)
Cllr Ed Ruane,
 Housing and Heritage

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 C Cllr Patricia Hetherton
 DC Cllr Bally Singh
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 C Cllr Kevin Maton DC David Galliers
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 C Cllr Hazel Sweet DC Cllr Sucha Bains
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 C Cllr Colleen Fletcher
 DC Cllr Joe Clifford
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 C Cllr Richard Sandy
Education and Children's Services (Scrutiny Board 2)
 C Cllr Faye Abbott
Business, Economy and Enterprise (Scrutiny Board 3)
 C Cllr Tony Skipper
Public Services, Energy and Environment (Scrutiny Board 4)
 C Cllr Tariq Khan
Health and Social Care (Scrutiny Board 5)
 C Cllr Steven Thomas

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 Braddown, 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,
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SPECIAL OFFER



Coventry City Council has teamed up with getcomposting.com to provide an exclusive offer of home compost bins and other great green products. Composting at home cuts CO₂ emissions and recycles most kitchen and garden waste into a free supply of compost that will keep your garden blooming.



Available in 2 sizes

FROM ONLY
£16.98

RRP £39.00

Multi-buy:
Buy one get one
HALF PRICE

220 litre Compost Bin

ONLY **£16.98** RRP £39.00

Get second for only **£8.49**

Height 900mm Diameter 740mm

330 litre Compost Bin

ONLY **£19.98** RRP £49.00

Get second for only **£9.99**

Height 1000mm Diameter 800mm

A one off delivery charge of £5.49 per order applies.

Also Available Mini Rainsaver® Kit



ONLY
£29.98
RRP £37.95

Multi-buy:
Buy one get one
HALF PRICE

Kit includes:-

- **100 litre Water butt** with lid and tap
- **Water butt stand**
- **Rain diverter kit**
Fits 68mm round or 65mm square plastic downpipes.

Height with stand 1240mm Diameter 380mm

Made from recycled plastic and guaranteed for 5 years.

To order or to see more of our special offers on compost bins, wormeries and accessories visit www.getcomposting.com or call **0845 130 6090** quoting reference XXXXXX

Buy one get one half price offer applies to 2 of the same size units. Terms and conditions apply, visit our website for details. Promotion ends 31 March 2014.



SUMMER

at Coventry
Transport Museum

www.transport-museum.com



Spend quality family time
at Coventry Transport Museum
this Summer – there's loads to enjoy:

Friday 12th July onwards

War Effort - Discover the amazing story of how the British motor industry turned over production to the 1940s war effort – and how lives were changed forever.

Saturday 13th July to Sunday 1st September

Summer Holiday Activities - It's set to be a wartime summer at the museum, but the fun won't be rationed! There'll be heaps of activity trails and crafts for families to enjoy together throughout the school holidays.

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th August

Coventry Festival of Motoring - Join us at Stoneleigh Park for a spectacular feast of 1000 vehicles, plus family fun, shopping experiences and much more.



Belgrade
Theatre
Coventry

New shows... ...on sale NOW

Save £5
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'A MUSICAL WHOSE TIME HAS COME'
WINNERS OF THE
BEST PRODUCTION
AWARD
AT THE BRITISH THEATRE AWARDS 2011



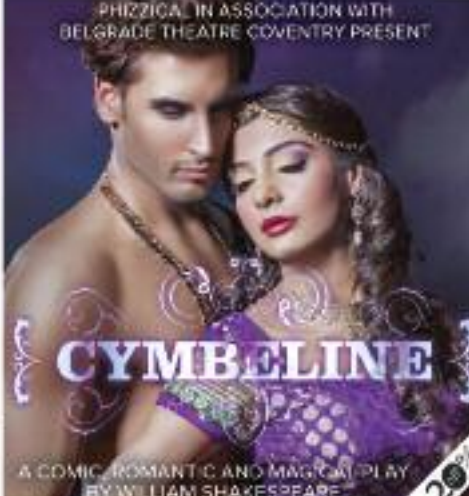
THE PRODIGALS
a man had two sons
"Belting baritone arias."
Libby Purves, The Times

20% OFF

30 Aug - 14 Sept

From £17.75

PHIZZICAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH
BELGRADE THEATRE COVENTRY PRESENT



CYMBELINE
A COMIC, ROMANTIC AND MAGICAL PLAY
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

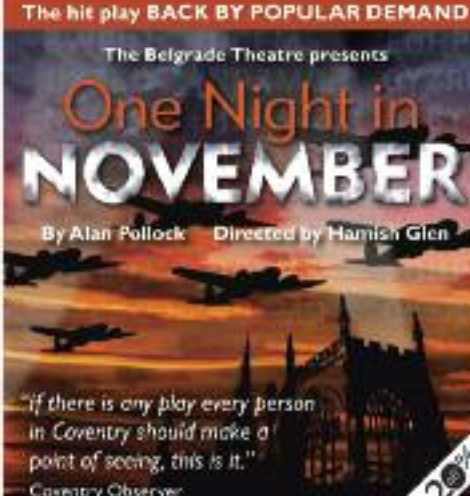
20% OFF

14 - 21 Sept

From £8.75

The hit play **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

The Belgrade Theatre presents



One Night in NOVEMBER
By Alan Pollock Directed by Hamish Glen
"if there is any play every person
in Coventry should make a
point of seeing, this is it."
Coventry Observer

20% OFF

28 Sept - 19 Oct

From £16.25



THREE WITCHES

20% OFF

4 - 12 Oct

Kids £6

The Belgrade Theatre and
Nottingham Playhouse Theatre Company present



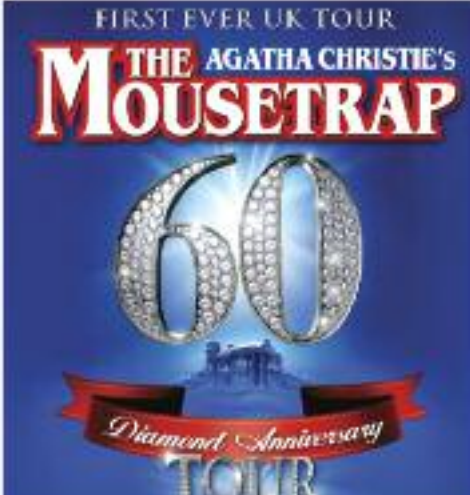
CHARLIE PEACE
His AMAZING LIFE AND Astounding Legend
By Michael Ealen

20% OFF

26 Oct - 16 Nov

From £8.75

FIRST EVER UK TOUR

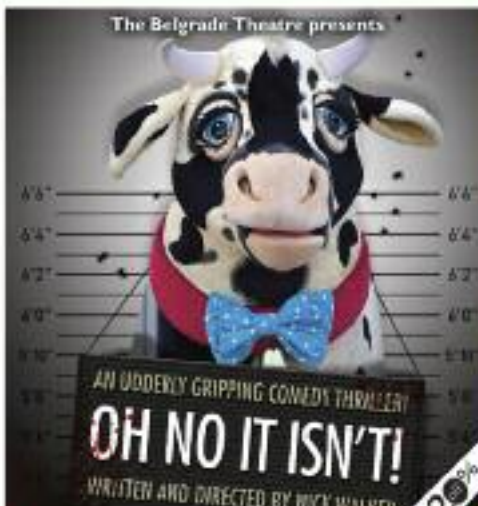


**THE AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
MOUSETRAP**
60
Diamond Anniversary
TOUR

4 - 9 Nov

From £17.25

The Belgrade Theatre presents



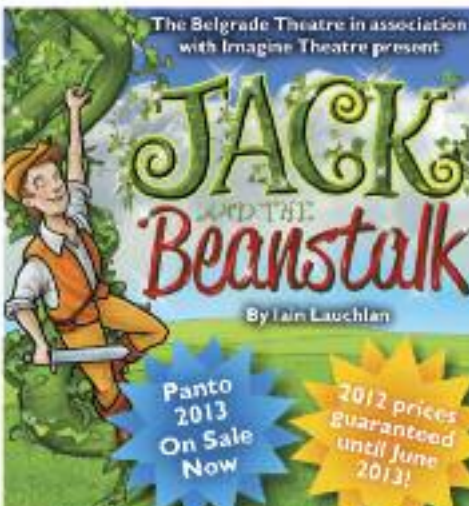
OH NO IT ISN'T!
AN ODDLY GRIPPING COMEDY THRILLER
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WICK WALKER

20% OFF

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From £8.75

The Belgrade Theatre in association
with Imagine Theatre present



**JACK
AND THE
Beanstalk**
By Ian Lauchlan

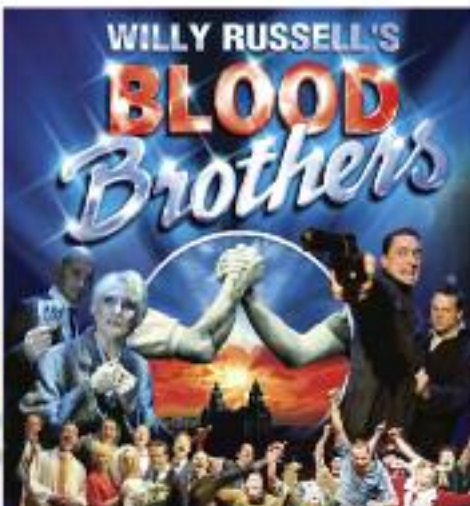
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2013
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Now

2012 prices
guaranteed
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2013!

27 Nov 2013 - 5 Jan 2014

Families From £36

WILLY RUSSELL'S



**BLOOD
Brothers**

27 Jan - 8 Feb 2014

From £22

Save 20% off the cost of your full price tickets when you book equivalent amounts for two or more participating shows at the same time.
See website for further information on ticket prices and other concessions.

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