Coventry

Citivision

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Multi-million pound plan for City Centre South

INSIDE

Godiva Festival dates
Backing for culture bid
City warms up for
Half Marathon

Street name honour for Jimmy Hill

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





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From the top



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

Getting behind UK City of Culture bid

We are about to set the Council's budget for the next three years and we have to make some difficult decisions as a result of the constraints placed on us by government funding cuts.

I'm pleased that we have been able to keep the Job Shop and Shopmobility open and that we haven't had to make any changes to street cleaning, but we have still had to address some significant reductions in some of our services.

At the same time, we have had some excellent news with the announcement that we can begin the process to create City Centre South. This is a part of the city that is in desperate need of improvement and we explain more about this in this issue of Citivision.

Elsewhere, we are trialling a suspension of some of our bus lanes and we will know more about the effectiveness of this in the next few weeks.

On a personal note, I've been busy preparing for the Coventry Half Marathon which the Council has made sure will go ahead. Also, the dates for the Godiva Festival are now confirmed and colleagues are busy arranging the line-up.

Events like these are important to the economy of our city and for our bid to be UK City of Culture 2021, so I am delighted that we have been able to keep them on the calendar.

I hope that we can all get behind the bid – the city certainly has a great cultural mix. Fingers crossed for a successful outcome.

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

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

Cover story: Artist's impression of City Centre South.

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welcome to the spring 2017 issue of citivision



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Hundreds of people have signed up for the city's Half Marathon.

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is changing, with exciting plans for shops, restaurants and lots, lots more. From a new look city centre to improvements to busy roads, a better rail station and more parking spaces, there's so much going on.

what's on

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

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

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All details are correct at time of going to print (20 February 2017).



Council's budget savings target

The Council is set to announce its budget for the next three years in order to tackle government funding cuts of £25m by 2019/20.

Councillors were set to discuss the final budget report on 21 February – as Citivision went to press, which explains where the Council plans to make savings.

However, the report does include some good news. It explains where the Council has found ways of making some additional savings and reducing costs. By doing this it will not have to make all of the cuts to services that it had originally proposed.

As part of the budget setting process the Council is considering a Council Tax increase of 4.9%. This will mean most households will pay an increase of about £1 per week on their Council Tax bill from April.

The government has changed the rules to allow an extra 3% of Council Tax increase to pay for Adult Social Care services and it has made it clear that it expects many councils to use this new flexibility. Like many councils

Coventry needs extra money to help pay for the increasing number of service users and rising costs in this area and this is the largest part of the 4.9% Council Tax rise in Coventry.

Plans to cut the Job Shop, the Shopmobility scheme and street cleaning have been avoided.

Cllr John Mutton, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources, said that once again local councils were being forced to absorb government

He said:"We have to balance the budget and we have had to make some very difficult decisions.

"Even so, we have listened to the views of local people, looked again at our budgets and been able to avoid making further cuts in some services such as Council Tax Support.

"These are challenging times for the Council. It is frustrating to have to manage local services under government imposed constraints but I'm confident that we have found a way forward that provides effective services with less funding."

Details are available at www.coventry.gov.uk/budget

College merger plan

Henley College and City College (photos below) took another step towards a merger in 2017 with the publication of the Government's Area Review.

The report recommends that the city's two biggest colleges merge to create a larger college, working on both existing sites in central and north east Coventry.

Cllr Kevin Maton, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, said that FE colleges were a vital part of the city. He said: "This is an important merger and the Council will continue to support the colleges as they move forward on this exciting new phase in their development."

The combined college will have

Ray Goy, Principal at Henley College, said: "As it is such a large project we're carrying out extensive research before we commit to the merger."

Dr Elaine McMahon, Principal at City College, added: "We have a wonderful opportunity to create a college that can grow and develop as quickly as Coventry itself."

Key milestones for the colleges include the public consultation which will start in late March.

For more information visit www.henley-cov.ac.uk and www.covcollege.ac.uk



Hundreds hit by Benefit Cap

Coventry agencies are working together in an attempt to reduce the impact of a new Benefit Cap being introduced by the Government.

Around 480 Coventry families will see a reduction in their weekly income.

The Coventry Welfare Reform Working Together Group, which includes Coventry City Council, Coventry Independent Advice Service, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Coventry Law Centre, and Whitefriars Housing and Partnership for Coventry have been working together to raise awareness about the

Benefit Cap changes.

Alan Markey, Chair of the Coventry Welfare Reform Working Together Group, said it was important that anyone affected should understand how much they stand to lose.

He added: "Hundreds of families in Coventry are being affected in the coming weeks. We want to help people understand the facts and let them know what help may be available. We don't want people having to make choices about whether to pay for rent or for food or fuel bills."

For advice visit www.coventry.gov.uk/benefitcap

Help shape local plan

Following a period of public examination, the Planning Inspector has instructed the Council to consult on proposed changes to its Local Plan and City Centre Action Plan. These changes respond to points identified by

the Inspector and consultation will take place between 15 March and 28 April 2017.

So you can find out more, we have arranged some drop-in sessions:

Central Library, city centre Saturday 25 March, I0am - I2.30pm

Eastern Green Social Club, Monday 27 March, 4pm - 7.30pm

Grangehurst Primary School, Anderton Road Thursday 6 April, 4pm - 7.30pm

Whitley Academy, Abbey Road Tuesday II April, 4pm - 7.30pm

Job search success

The Council's
Employer Hub
has successfully
partnered with
leading aerospace
and automotive
cutting tool
manufacturer,
Exactaform, to help
recruit local young
people.

Through the
Ambition Programme,
four young people in
the city were able to
secure jobs as Brazing
Assistants at Exactaform.

Initially, the company was looking to fill a single role, but due to the strength of the candidates

Exactaform returned to the Employer Hub for an additional two employees.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Coventry City Council's Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration, said:



Back L-R: Jamie White, Drew Darcy, Robertas Stonys. Front L-R: Nicole Collins, Nicolae Lordache, Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Damian Sobolewski and Glen Smailes.

"It's a great example of how we can support local businesses to find the right people. It's a win-win situation - with benefits for our economy, our residents and local businesses."

The Employer Hub provides a free service to local employers who can use them to help find the right person for their vacancy.

Jamie White, Director of Exactaform, said: "The employees we've taken on are four of the hardest working people the company has seen in recent years. We're really pleased. I'd encourage employers who are having difficulty recruiting to give the Employer Hub a go."

Grant boost for Irish Society

Coventry Irish Society has received a £60,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an oral history project documenting the contribution of the Irish community to the city.

The project, which will run for 18 months, focuses on Irish migrants who arrived in the city after the Second World War, through to the 1960s.

One of the highlights will be a high-profile exhibition at the Herbert Art Gallery during the St Patrick's Day Festival in March 2018.

A website will enable the whole community to explore the memories and legacy of the Irish community. It is also a prominent piece of work in the context of the city bidding to become UK City of Culture 2021.

The Society is also delighted to have received partnership funding for the project from Cork City Council, 'Deeley Construction' and the Arts Council.

Award for apprentices

Ten young people were all smiles after attending an awards ceremony to mark the completion of their apprenticeships.

The Council employs around 90 apprentices in a range of posts and every six months the Adult Education Service organise the ceremony to recognise their achievements.

The apprentices also completed their qualification with Coventry City Council Adult Education Service.

A range of different apprenticeships were recognised

at the Awards Ceremony.

Cllr Kevin Maton, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, said it was important to mark the achievement of the apprentices. He said: "Apprenticeships are more popular than ever and it is important that we recognise their achievements. It's an excellent career choice."

The Council is keen to hear from people who are interested in apprenticeships.

For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/apprenticeships



■ Cllr Kevin Maton with the successful apprentices.



Braving the cyber bullies



Sian Healy is helping to highlight the dangers of cyber bullying after having personal experience of the issue.

For two years, Sian found it hard to speak out after she suffered bullying as a result of social media abuse. She says it was debilitating and left her facing months of anxiety and fear.

Sian said: "I've come a long way and have found it helpful to talk about my experiences. I just want people to be aware that this is an issue for children and young people."

A budding Miss Coventry (and Warwickshire) finalist, Sian, who is 17, turned her life around after becoming involved with Miss England. It's helped her to become a far more confident person and now she is speaking out against internet bullying and hopes that if she becomes an ambassador for her city she will continue to make a difference.

"It's important that people can spot the signs," she said. "I hope to talk to children in schools across Coventry and Warwickshire in the coming months about the dangers of social media."

For more on internet safety/ bullying awareness visit www. nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/ child-abuse-and-neglect/bullyingand-cyberbullying

Sian, from Coventry, is staging a charity event on 19 March in aid of local charity Coventry and Warwickshire MIND and will be championing her campaign.

The event is at The Village Hotel, Coventry 6-10pm and includes magic, shopping, live singers, dancers and a catwalk including previous Miss England finalists.



Gym trail at city park

There's no time for hanging around at a city park after an outdoor fitness trail was installed for visitors.

The trail is made up of nine pieces of equipment to help with balance, coordination and strength.

Located between the Park and Ride car park and the Visitor Centre, the trail has received support from Coventry's David Moorcroft OBE. He said he hoped it would encourage people to become more active.

He added: "It really is a wonderful idea and something very simple that will help to make a difference to people's fitness."

The Friends of the War Memorial Park, who initiated the project, said: "We hope this facility is going to make a real difference and we are delighted that the equipment is being well-used."

David Moorcroft OBE, with the Lord Mayor, local councillors and the Friends of the War Memorial Park.

Award for tackling exploitation

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner has praised the work of a Coventry team dedicated to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

The Horizon Team is a special multi-agency team set up to discover, disrupt and tackle Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Coventry.

The team consists of social workers, specialist police officers and health partners, and also works closely with support groups and charities.

The work of the team was recently highly praised at the prestigious national Social Worker of the Year awards where it received a Silver Award in the team category.

David Jamieson, Crime Commissioner, said: "The way to fight child sexual exploitation is to bring it out into the open.

"We should not be afraid to talk about difficult issues like this and working together is crucial in the fight against this most heinous of crimes.

"I commend the work of the Horizon Team in Coventry in working to raise awareness and tackling the issue of Child Sexual Exploitation."

Cllr Ed Ruane, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for Coventry City Council, said: "CSE is not a subject everyone wants to hear about, but it is something everyone has a role to play in in order to protect our children. The partnership work the Horizon Team does, both with other professionals, and in raising public awareness, ensures that CSE remains at the forefront of people's consciousness."

Bus lane suspension

Yellow and black signs are being put up to confirm the suspension of eight bus lanes in Coventry.

Bus lanes that do not have a black and yellow sign near them have not been suspended and are still being used as bus lanes.

Leader of the Council and bus user, Cllr George Duggins, said: "We want to make it really clear for motorists which bus lanes they can use. Signs will be up at those bus lanes that have been suspended so that motorists know that they can drive down them.

"I'd also like to thank the bus companies for agreeing to give this trial a go."

Councillor Jayne Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, said: "We know motorists are frustrated when they sit in a queue with an empty lane next to them so we are hoping this trial will show improvements to traffic flow." The bus lanes that will be suspended, are:

- Ansty Road outbound at Clifford Bridge Road junction
- Ansty Road inbound between

- Dane Road and Burns Road
 Binley Road outbound full length
- Foleshill Road at Old Church Road in both directions
- Holbrook Lane outbound between Burnaby Road and Holbrook Lane
- London Road outbound at St James Lane
- Tile Hill gyratory on Tile Hill Lane inbound between Beech Tree Ave and the rugby club entrance. After the rugby club entrance there is a bus gate and no access for cars.
- Tile Hill gyratory outbound between Renown Ave and Vanguard Ave and on going between Vangaurd and the left turn toward London on the A45. Note the right turn bus lane towards Birmingham remains in operation.

The bus lanes will be suspended for nine months under an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order. After six months, Council officers will report their findings back to Council so further decisions can be made.



Darkness to light up festival

Coventry City Council has confirmed that the UK's biggest free family music festival will go ahead this year at the War Memorial Park on 7-9 July.

The Darkness, most wellknown for their hit song,"I Believe in a Thing Called Love", which peaked at number 2 in the UK Singles Chart will be taking the Sunday headline slot on 9 July at the Godiva Festival.

The Stranglers have also been confirmed as the headline act for the opening night on Friday

The Council is also making it clear that the ongoing support of partners, organisers and

sponsors, is essential to maintain and develop the festival for future

The event will enter its 19th year and it's hoped that 2017 will beat records set last year for attendance.

Councillor Abdul Khan, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Events, said:"We've always been proud of Godiva Festival. It brings a massive profile to Coventry as a city, especially in our bid to be named UK City of Culture 2021, not to mention the massive economic impact and all the other benefits it brings."

Keep up to date with Coventry Godiva Festival 2017 at www.godivafestival.com

You can also follow @godivafestival on Twitter, or see the event's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ godivafestival to get the latest news first.

Any businesses or potential sponsors looking to be part of the the Council's Marketing Team on 024 7683 2466.



DIY scheme aid

Tools for Self Reliance, formed in 1980, run Educational and Training Centres in six African countries - Ghana, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia, from its base in the UK.

The charity operates in rural regions, where jobs and access to education and training are scarce.

TSFR provide one year courses in vocations, including: carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing, welding, tailoring, mechanics and blacksmithing. As locally purchased

tools are expensive, trainees are also equipped with a complete kit of tools from the UK.

The Coventry branch, based at Grace Academy, Potters Green, urgently requires workshop volunteers for their weekly sessions on Tuesdays from

3.30pm - 6.30pm. Part time administrative and organisational support and ongoing tool donations are also welcomed.

For details, contact John Wetherby 024 7633 6866, j.wetherby@live.co.uk or visit www.tfsr.org

First Aid for mental health

A project training students in Mental Health First Aid is to be rolled out across all healthcare courses at Coventry University.

The scheme provides people with the ability to spot the vital warning signs of mental health issues and steer the person towards the right support.

About 300 nursing students have been given the training as part of a pilot programme.

Now Coventry University is leading the way in Mental Health First Aid training by offering the course to students on all healthcare disciplines, such as occupational therapy, paramedic science, and dietetics, with between 400 and 500 to participate in sessions next month.



(L-R) Professional Services Support Staff taking the MHFA course: Michelle Hughes, Rebekah Harris, Natalie Lynn.



details of all the treatments we offer.

Fargo Village boost

A trio of new creative businesses have taken up residence at Fargo Village.

Spray Station, Choc "n" Roll and The Green Unicorn are the three newest start-ups to move into premises at the creative village, following free advice from Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce.

Choc "n" Roll, owned by former Stratford-upon-Avon

lecturer Tony Davies, specialises in producing hand-made chocolates and macaroons. He has recently started holding workshops to teach his art.

Chamber business advisor, Wendy Brown was able to help the start-ups. For information or to book on to the Business Support programme, call the Chamber on 024 7665 4321 or log onto



Coventry SEND

The Coventry Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Offer brings together information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

It outlines all the provision expected to be available to families across education, health and social care and should be accessible, comprehensive (in the information provided), up-to-date, and transparent. This will include:

 Education: such as nurseries, playgroups, schools and colleges and support services like educational psychologists, sensory support and the Local



Authority SEN team (including statutory assessment processes)

- Health: children's and adult services including GPs, therapists and hospital services
- Social care: such as short break services, community/support groups and children's and adult disability services

It also offers the chance to feedback and make suggestions about what is (or isn't!) available across Coventry, helping to shape the provision in the future.

For more information, go to www.coventry.gov.uk/localoffer

Volunteers to offer emotional support

A voluntary organisation which supports bereaved families, witnesses and others when they attend an inquest at Coventry Coroners' Courts is looking for more volunteers.

The Coroners' Courts Support Service (CCSS) includes professionally trained volunteers who offer emotional support and practical help and guide people through the inquest, giving them information about the process and procedures.

If you would like to speak to someone from the CCSS about becoming a volunteer, you can contact them on info@ccsupport. org.uk or call 07496 613623.

Sky Blue legend honoured

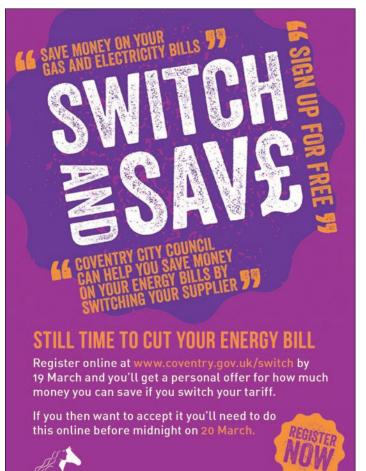


■ Back L-R: Cllr Abdul Khan, Dietmar Bruck, Ken Brown, Joe Elliot, Ron Farmer, Cllr George Duggins, Kirk Stephens, Cllr Jayne Innes. Front L- R: Dave Long, Mark Hornby, Terry Angus (PFA), David Busst

New road signs have been unveiled on Jimmy Hill Way honouring the footballing legend and former Coventry City Manager, Managing Director and Chairman. The A444, formally known as Phoenix Way, has been renamed in honour of the man who changed football and who has a special place in Coventry's heart.

A small group of ex-players, members of the Jimmy Hill Legacy Fund board, Councillor George Duggins (Leader of Coventry City Council) and Councillor Jayne Innes (Coventry City Council Cabinet Member for City Services) unveiled the road signs near to the Ricoh Arena where a statue to the great man stands. Ex-player Dietmar Bruck, said: "Jimmy was like a Godfather to me, I owe him a lot. This is the least we can do for his memory."

The renaming of the road follows the public campaign led by the Coventry Telegraph, which the Council supported.





(L-R): Tayyibah Mota, Nazareth Yacob, Laura McMillan, Cllr Linda Bigham, Cllr George Duggins, David Burbidge, Rashid Bhayat

Culture bid will transform city

A successful bid to be UK City of Culture would transform the city, according to Coventry's team after the bid process was officially launched in Hull - this year's **UK City of Culture.**

The Coventry City of Culture Trust has been working on a bid for more than a year and the announcement means it knows key dates and the full bid process.

David Burbidge, Chair of the City of Culture Trust, said the support from the city had been incredible so far.

He said: "We have been doing a huge amount of work in the run up to this announcement. A massive amount of research into the city has been undertaken from a cultural, economic and social point of view so we know exactly what we want City of Culture status to achieve for Coventry.

"Coventry's population is on average seven years younger than the rest of the country. We are a diverse city too.

"We have ambitious and exciting plans and we are fully backing Coventry's bid for UK City of Culture 2021, which I believe would deliver a huge boost economically, socially and culturally for our wonderful city."

"This opportunity could help to tackle some of the inequalities that remain and to turn round the city's visitor economy."

Cllr George Duggins, Leader of Coventry City Council, said: "We have ambitious and exciting plans and we are fully

backing Coventry's bid for UK City of Culture 2021, which I believe would deliver a huge boost economically, socially and culturally for our wonderful city."

Coventry City Council, The University of Warwick, and Coventry University are Principal Partners of the bid and are providing significant support. The Ricoh Arena is Bid Sponsor while laguar Land Rover, Friargate, Coventry Building Society, the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Birmingham Airport, Pertemps and CEF (City Electrical Factors) are all Bid Development Sponsors.

Live and Die, a celebration of The Enemy



Photo by John Coles.

Coventry band The Enemy (pictured) took their rightful place on the Coventry Music Wall of Fame at Coventry Music Museum.

The band, who split up towards the end of last year, were clearly delighted to be on the wall, and unveiled their plaque that was sponsored by The Coventry Empire, with the help of BBC Coventry & Warwickshire presenter Brody Swain.

"It makes me feel very proud to be amongst some of the amazing names in the Music Museum."

An exhibition tracing the history of the bands 10 year reign, with their stage set including amps and instruments is on show at the Ball Hill museum.

Visitors can play their favourite song on The Enemy Juke box, or be part of the exhibition themselves on the "This Wall is About You".

Tom Clarke said:"It makes me feel very proud to be amongst some of the amazing names in the Music Museum."

The exhibition runs until November, admission is £3 Adults, £2 for Passport To Leisure card holders, NUS and Senior Citizens and £1 Children.

Flags flying for Culture bid

Ten flags have been erected in Broadgate, city centre to highlight city, will be viewed by thousands the push to win the crown of UK City of Culture 2021.

The flags, showing a crosssection of artists and cultural

organisations from across the of visitors to the city centre as Coventry seeks to build on the support the bid has already received.

heatre's expansion plans

The Council is supporting a thriving city theatre's expansion plans as work on the City of Culture bid ramps up.

The Albany Theatre, based on the site of the old City College at The Butts, wants to extend into a neighbouring building to create new facilities including dance studios, a rehearsal space and a bar.

To make sure the work in the theatre's East Wing can go ahead and the theatre

can take on a 25-year lease, the said: "The Council has been asked to act as guarantor for the lease. At present the theatre receives success story an annual Council grant, but the expansion would allow it to try and generate extra income.

The theatre reopened in 2013 after a lot of work by volunteers, the Albany Theatre Trust and the support of the Council and has since gone from strength to strength. Councillor Linda Bigham, **Cabinet Member for Community Development,**

Albany Theatre is a wonderful and a much loved part of the city's cultural life."

Taking over the empty ground floor wing of the building would create an extra 10,000 square feet of space for the theatre and the proposals also include a new entrance and foyer for the theatre off Albany Road.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Coventry joined communities around the UK to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day.

This year's theme was 'How can life go on?', which encouraged people to think about 'what happens after genocide?'

Holocaust survivor, Dr Martin Stern, was a guest speaker at the event in Broadgate. He told how as a five-year-old child in Nazioccupied Holland, he was sent to the Theresienstadt 'ghetto' near Prague with his one-year-old sister because his father was a lew

Before he was sent away he lived with a couple in Amsterdam, close to where Anne Frank was hidden, who pretended he was their son. His father and people who had helped them died in concentration camps.

Martin now studies why genocides happen and works with the Holocaust Centre.



■ Dr Martin Stern and Lord Mayor Cllr Lindsley Harvard with local school children.

Register for Ring and Ride

Ring and Ride is a door-to-door service for anyone who lives in the West Midlands and finds it difficult or impossible to use normal public transport.

Passengers can use the service for catching up with friends, popping out for a bit of shopping, a night at the theatre or for healthcare appointments (although not hospital appointments).

The service is ideal for:

- anyone suffering from a temporary injury (such as a broken leg, a sprain, a sports injury or recovering from an operation);
- elderly people who find it difficult to use public transport;
- Disabled people who want the

convenience of a door-to-door service.

It's free to register, then journeys cost £1 single trip Monday to Saturday (before 7pm) and £2 single after 7pm and all day Sunday.

Passengers are welcome to take a non-registered friend or relative with them. Non-registered users pay £2 single Monday to Saturday (before 7pm) and £2 single after 7pm and all day Sunday. Children under 5 travel free.

The Coventry depot also operates special day trips and other events to parts of the West Midlands and surrounding areas.

For details visit www.ringandride.org/whatson/ coventry/index.html



Coventry remembers the fallen of Lidice



 Guests join the Lord Mayor, Cllr Lindsley Harvard at the Lidice Place memorial.

The people of Coventry paid tribute to a village destroyed in a terrible act of revenge in the Second World War – in the part of the city centre that bears its name.

Lord Mayor, Cllr Lindsley
Harvard, joined the rededication
service of Lidice Place, where
white roses were laid in memory
of all those who lost their lives.
In June 1942 the village of Lidice
and its people suffered a terrible
act of revenge for the murder
of senior Nazi official Reynhard
Heydrich.

Party leaders ordered all men over the age of 15 to be rounded up and shot and the women and children sent to concentration camps, where many were gassed to death. The village was set on fire and the buildings destroyed with explosives. All animals were slaughtered and the bodies in the churchyard were dug up and destroyed. The stream and roads running through the village were diverted and the village disappeared.

In total, 192 men, 60 women and 88 children lost their lives. After the war, some of the children and women returned

to a new village of Lidice that was built overlooking their old homes and they made sure their story was never forgotten.

Coventry and Lidice have been linked since those first days - two communities that suffered so badly through the terrors of war.

In 1944 Coventry held a memorial service for the people of the village and our city was there in 1947 when work on the new village started. In 1954 we sent 1,000 white roses to be planted in the newly-built memorial garden and we have named a part of our city in honour of the village.

The Lord Mayor said: "Lidice Place is a name so well known to shoppers in our city. But we must never let it become just a name. "It is here to help us remember — and to make us think. To think about man's inhumanity to man and how we must work every day to make sure no-one else suffers as the people of Lidice suffered. And it is a reminder that we can emerge from those terrible days and live in friendship."

So next time you are in Lidice Place take a moment to remember the village and its sacrifice.

University is UK's third largest for student intake

Record numbers of students accepted places at Coventry University last year placing it in the top three largest and fastest growing institutions in the UK, UCAS figures reveal.

People choosing to study with Coventry rose by eight per cent in 2016, meaning that 8,130 people accepted places on full-time undergraduate degrees across the University Group.

Finding help with online services

Last year, Council online services were used more than 180,000 times, with more Council services now available at www.coventry. gov.uk/doitonline

People can get things done whenever or wherever suits them best by using online Council services.

You can avoid the queues and go online to the Council to:

- tell us about a change of address
- tell us if someone has moved in with you for Council Tax Support and Housing Benefit
- pay Council Tax, fines or Council Bills
- set up a Direct Debit payment for Council Tax
- tell us if we've not collected your bin
- order and pay for a bulky waste collection
- book a visit to the tip if you have a van or large vehicle
- book a visit from the Pest Control Team
- order and pay for copies of birth, death or marriage certificates

• plus lots more

Cllr John Mutton, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, said it was a great option to avoid any delays on the phone.

He said: "Smartphones and computers mean that people can access our services at any time of the day.

"I've not got the best technical knowledge but even I can go online and do a lot of transactions.

"Our phones can be busy at times, so why wait when you can go online instead?"

Adult social care advice

A new online advice form to help customers understand whether they are likely to have to pay for some or all of their adult social care is now available. Customers don't need to sign in to use the form and it only takes a few minutes. For more details visit. www.coventry.gov. uk/payingforcare

What people say

Book a pest control appointment: "It seems to be quicker than trying to find the phone number and ringing."

Council Tax: "It is very easy to access bills and change information or make claims for things which is much better than sitting on hold on the phone for ages."

Request a bulky waste collection: "It's very concise, easy to understand."

Need help to get online?

Don't worry if you feel unsure about going online.

You can get help at your local library as well as booking a free computer session.
You can sign up for an adult education course at www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted and update your skills.

Register with learnmyway. com for free courses on using a computer, browsing the web, sending an email and using online services.

Police offer updates for the community

West Midlands Police has launched a free new community messaging service as part of the force's ongoing commitment to keeping in touch with local communities.

Called 'WMNow' the service is free to sign up to and members of the public can register according to where they live and work.

It provides updates about what's happening in all areas across in Coventry and the West Midlands - whether it's details of incidents, timely crime prevention advice, community events or appeals for information.

To sign up visit www.wmnow.co.uk

Save time, go online

It's quick and easy to use our online services





www.coventry.gov.uk/doitonline

Coventry's

Coventry is a city that is changing, with exciting plans for shops, restaurants and lots, lots more.

From a new look city centre to improvements to busy roads, a better rail station and more parking spaces, there's so much going on.

Here we take a look at some of the latest plans that have been announced to take Coventry into the future.

Photos: left, Cllr Jim O'Boyle and Cllr George Duggins next to part of the city centre to be transformed. Main photo, artist's impression of City Centre South. Far right, Las Iguanas.



A new-look city centre

The City Centre South project will transform the heart of Coventry.

The multi-million pound plan will bring in major retailers, new leisure opportunities and city centre housing and put Coventry on the map as a visitor destination.

It will transform some of the most out-dated areas of the city centre, including Bull Yard, Shelton Square, City Arcade and Hertford Street. And it will make the city the second biggest shopping destination in the West Midlands.

Shearer Property Group, which created the Grand Arcade in Cambridge, has been named as the firm that will take on the huge project. It will include:

- a major department store
- flagship stores
- up to 50 new retail units
- a multi-storey car park
- a cinema and other leisure uses
- restaurants
- private and rented residential and student accommodation

a hotel

"It finally provides the оррогtunity to deliver a transformational scheme that will put Coventry back on the map as a retail and leisure destination."

The whole scheme (photo right) will connect the city's much loved, circular market with the rest of the centre and is set to open for business by 2022.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration, said: "City Centre South will transform what is now a tired and dated part of Coventry and bring people back into the city centre for shopping and leisure - in the day time and

at night."

The whole scheme will be anchored by a new department store which will be built at the end of Market Way, making it a real city landmark and the hotel and leisure part of the development will be based around Hertford Street - linking to Cathedral Lanes, which

is also being developed by the Shearer Group.

Leader of the Council, Cllr George Duggins said, "There's loads going on in Coventry at the moment - and about time too. People have had to wait too long for this - but I believe we have a great plan and it's one that will be delivered."

The scheme is set to create around 1,500 permanent jobs, with over 2,000 more during the building work, and once open it is expected to generate an extra £20m a year of income to the city.

Guy Shearer, from Shearer Property Group, said: "This site lies in the very heart of the city centre and is huge by any standards - about the size of 10 football pitches.

"It finally provides the opportunity to deliver a transformational scheme that will put Coventry back on the map as a retail and leisure destination."

Most of the costs will be met by the Shearer Group, with almost £100m to support the project from the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The public will be asked for their views as part of the planning application process.

Making it easier

Two new multi-storey car parks could be built in the city centre.

One would be built on the current Salt Lane car park, with a second replacing the **New Union Street Multi**storey and the neighbouring Cheylesmore surface carpark.

The sites have been chosen as they are at key entry points to the centre, or near to attractions such as Broadgate and the planned Friargate, Waterpark and City Centre South.

Cllr Jayne Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, said:"We need new, high



"A car park can often be the first impression a visitor has of a city – you can have the best centre in the world, but it is useless if people cannot park easily and safely."

to park

quality, sustainable car parks that will sit alongside the new developments to make our city a true visitor destination and help to bring the centre alive at night as well as during the day.

"A car park can often be the first impression a visitor has of a city – you can have the best centre in the world, but it is useless if people cannot park easily and safely." There will be full consultation and plans will make sure the buildings fit in with near neighbours, such as Ford's Hospital.

The Salt Lane multistorey would be built first, costing around £10.7m and providing 600 spaces over four storeys.

A second one could then follow at New Union Street, creating another 900 spaces.

The car parks will help cope with an increase in visitors to the new Waterpark and city centre developments and will replace sites that have been lost to development, such as Cox Street, which is being used for student housing.

More restaurants planned for Cathedral Lanes

Several new eateries could be set to join the new restaurant quarter at Cathedral Lanes.

Shearer Property Group, which started the transformation of the site back in 2015, has submitted a planning application for further changes that will pave the way for new big names to move on to the ground and first floors.

They would join Las Iguanas, Wagamama and The Cosy Club that have been a huge success.

The plan also allows Wilko to stay where it is, but creates space for several new units on the two floors.

Wilko's main entrance will be from the new access opposite Primark. New glazing will enhance the look of the building and, as with Cosy Club, more outdoor seating will be created at first floor level.

Work could start as soon as June, and is being supported by improvement works in Greyfriars Lane to create a new, vibrant walkway to the centre.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet
Member for Jobs and
Regeneration, said:"The three
restaurants that opened as part
of the first phase of the Cathedral
Lanes development are doing
really well and I hope we will soon
be welcoming more well-known
names.

"Broadgate has been transformed in the evening – there is a real buzz in the area and new restaurants will only add to this."

city centre focus

On the right track

Coventry Railway Station is to be transformed through a range of major improvements.

The station is the fastest growing outside London, but has barely been changed since it opened in 1962.

Now work is needed to create a station fit for the changing city and new employment opportunities such as Friargate and the coming of HS2, as well as supporting thriving centres such as the universities and JLR. Improvements costing around £82m will increase capacity and give a better first impression of the city. They include:



- a second, fully glazed footbridge connecting all four platforms
- · extended platform canopies
- · a second station entrance building
- a 644 space multi-storey car park
- a bus interchange connected via a new tunnel under Warwick Road
- road improvements
- a new platform to improve services to Nuneaton

The work would complement recent improvements in the surrounding area such as the Bridgedeck and walkway to the city centre, which will link with improvements such as City Centre South and the new Waterpark.

Cllr David Welsh, Deputy

Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration and Transport Lead, said: "The station is vitally important to our city and will help us generate jobs and investment to help all those who live, work and study here."

Work should be completed by 2021.



Below L-R: more artist's impressions of how City Centre South may look.



Keeping the city moving

The Council has drawn up plans for a series of major road improvements that will keep the city moving as it gears up for a busy future.

Coventry is growing rapidly, with a population set to rise to 415,000 people in the next 20 years, and with an extra 42,000 houses and almost 50,000 jobs forecast by 2031.

To cope with that demand, major investment is needed in the roads network around the city and the region.

The schemes would

"This improvements package puts us in a really strong position to create new and exciting times for the city and better jobs and opportunities for those who live here."

be funded through the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Work in the south would see major improvements at the junctions of the A46 and Stoneleigh, Binley and Walsgrave; a new road giving better access to the University of Warwick; and a new railway station with park and ride facilities.

To the north of the city, there would be improvements at Junction 3 of the M6 with the A444 and a new link road between Holyhead Road and Phoenix Way, supported by improvements to the smaller roads.

City centre schemes would include work at the railway station to improve public transport links and improvements to junctions around the Ring Road.

And the city would also work to develop a new light rail project to link key areas such as the city centre, Jaguar Land Rover and the two universities.

Cllr David Welsh Deputy Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration said: "This improvements package puts us in a really strong position to create new and exciting times for the city and better jobs and opportunities for those who live here."

Hi-tech lab is absolutely fab

The City Arcade in Coventry might seem like an unlikely setting for a hi-tech laboratory but that's exactly what's there, tucked in amongst the shops, salons and cafes on the site of what was once a computer store.



Fab Lab Coventry - a joint venture between the city council, Coventry University, the University of Warwick and others - is a community space offering access to state-of-the-art computer-controlled tools like 3D printers and laser cutters as well as more traditional metal and wood working tools

"We're always on the lookout for volunteers and want the Lab to be a diverse and vibrant creative space."

The Fab Lab - short for fabrication laboratory - is open to anyone, from budding entrepreneurs to school pupils, sculptors and scientists. But it's also available to people who are simply looking to gain new skills - or share theirs. While the digital devices and machinery are on the ground floor of the Lab, upstairs there's a computer room that can be hired for training sessions.

Technicians are also on hand to run classes for those looking to learn how to use the equipment and to offer guidance to anyone looking to test out ideas and develop products.

Fab Lab Coventry is part of a worldwide network of over 700 labs. The first was developed in the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T) in the USA and was based on the simple idea of making modern tools and techniques readily available for people to make new things.

It's this notion of a shared creative space that the people behind the Coventry Fab Lab are keen to promote. Lab co-ordinator Helen Lewis said:



"The Fab Lab is a community resource - it's open to anyone but it's not just about providing access to specialist equipment that many people wouldn't normally have. That's part of the offer of course but we also want the Fab Lab to be a place where people can come in to share their knowledge and skills with others.

"We're always on the lookout for volunteers and want the Lab to be a diverse and vibrant creative space - that's why we're especially keen to get retired residents to come in. They've got some great experience that we'd love to see them pass on and you're never too old to learn new skills!"

Fab Lab Coventry is located in Unit 27 of the City Arcade in Coventry. Further information, including facilities and forthcoming events is available on the website www.covfablab. org.uk or by emailing fablabcov@gmail.com or phoning 024 7622 0296.

Lending a helping hand

Retired joiner Tony McCourt (pictured) is one of the Fab Lab's most experienced recruits. The 67-year-old - Coventry born and raised - spent over 50 years in the trade, including a long stint running his own building company refurbishing pubs, offices, hotels and schools.

Having done a fair bit of work renovating buildings at Coventry University, Tony got to know some of the people there. Impressed with the quality of his work, his University contacts asked him to help fit out the Fab Lab.

He was more than happy to oversee the necessary refurbishment of the premises and also lent a helping hand plastering and painting, building furniture and doing other essential jobs on site.

Now Tony has set up a DIY workshop within the Fab Lab where he shares his tricks of the trade. Affectionately known as "Tony's shed", his workshop is equipped with various hand tools as well as more heavy duty

machinery like a band saw and pillar drill.

Tony has worked on some innovative projects during his time at the Lab, including custom designed cardboard tube chairs as part of a reuse and recycling project. He also runs an introductory DIY class for anyone looking to brush up on their skills. Tony's DIY class takes place at the Fab Lab from 10am to 2pm every Sunday.

Coming up...

In April, Fab Lab Coventry will run a week-long series of free, fun workshops and events in public spaces in the city centre to showcase all the creative things you can do in the Lab. Keep an eye out for further details but if you can't wait until then feel free to pop in to see what's going on!

A new campaign has been launched in Coventry to promote breastfeeding. Featuring real Coventry mums, the campaign is called 'Stars of Coventry'.

Carmen Baskerville, Specialist Infant Feeding Health Visitor and Tongue Tie Practitioner, at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, said:"We wanted to use real Coventry women who breastfeed or breastfed their babies to promote it to other Coventry women.

"We are always here to support mums, whichever way they choose to feed their baby and I would encourage anyone who is struggling to either talk to their Health Visitor or contact the Infant Feeding Support team. We're always here to help."

Visit www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk and search 'Health Visiting'. You can also call the Coventry Infant Feeding Team on 07904 984620 or visit www. coventry.gov.uk and search 'Breastfeeding Support'.



Never too late to quit smok



Stopping smoking has huge benefits and it's never too late to give up and feel those benefits.

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust provides a free and confidential stop smoking service to help you quit. If you live, work or are registered with a GP in Coventry their dedicated professionals are waiting to hear from you.

Find out more at www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/ CoventryStopSmoking or call 0300 200 00 l I to make an appointment.

For more information about the impact smoking can have on your heart, visit www.bhf.org.uk.

They also have a specialist Stop Smoking in Pregnancy service, made up of midwives and trained advisors. Call them today on 024 7696 1391.

Hopes high for top award

NHS staff caring for people with Parkinson's across Coventry and Warwickshire (pictured below) have been shortlisted for a top national award.

Parkinson's UK has shortlisted the Coventry and Warwickshire Parkinson's service for the inaugural Excellence Network Awards.

The local network was initially set up by specialist Parkinson's doctors from University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust.

It also includes colleagues from George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust, South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust and local GP practices.

As well as receiving their specialised treatments in University Hospital in Coventry, patients are able to see Parkinson's nurses and physiotherapists closer to their homes in between their consultant appointments.

Forty two networks applied for

the awards, but the Coventry and Warwickshire service was one of only seven to be shortlisted.

Dr Lucy Strens, Neurology Consultant at UHCW NHS Trust, who co-leads the Parkinson's service, said:"We provide support not only for the physical movement but also for the non-motor and psychological symptoms people with Parkinson's commonly get."





Eating disorders advice

It is estimated that at least 725,000 people in the UK may be suffering from an eating disorder which can affect all ages, genders and backgrounds. Eating disorders are serious mental illnesses and need specialist treatment. Your GP can refer you for specialist

For details, contact Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust at www.covwarkpt. nhs.uk and search Eating Disorder Service in the 'Our Services' section.

Details are also available at www.b-eat.co.uk

Be clear on cancer

Coventry is to form part of a pilot Be Clear on Cancer campaign to raise awareness of abdominal symptoms that could be a sign of cancer.

The campaign aims to improve early diagnosis of cancer by raising public awareness of signs and/or symptoms of cancer, and to encourage people to see their GP without delay.

Around 288,000 people are diagnosed with cancer in England each year. It mainly affects older people, with around 9 in 10 cases diagnosed in the over-50s.

But the good news is you're much more likely to survive cancer if it's found at an early stage.

Its main message will be that if you have had tummy troubles for three weeks or more, such as diarrhoea, bloating, discomfort or anything else that just doesn't feel right, then go and see your GP.

Some long-term symptoms may be caused by other conditions, such as irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or coeliac disease, which will still need treatment. But try to diagnose yourself and to visit your doctor now to find out for sure.

The Be Clear on Cancer roadshow will be at Lower Precinct Shopping Centre for two days on Friday 17 March and Saturday 18 March.

Help ease A&E pressure

Accident and Emergency departments across Coventry and Warwickshire have experienced a huge surge in demand for services this winter, and people are being reminded that other NHS services can help with urgent care.

Dr Steve Allen, a Coventry GP and Clinical Director at NHS Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "Many people think they need to visit a GP or hospital with minor illnesses and injuries but they are often better treated more quickly elsewhere, or at home using simple remedies."

Other services include:

Pharmacy

Your pharmacy can provide confidential, expert advice and treatment for a range of common illnesses and complaints without having to wait for a GP appointment. Find your nearest at www.nhs.uk

NHS-000

This service is for when it's urgent but not an emergency. By dialling 111 the caller will be given advice on where they can get the quickest help depending on the symptoms. NHS111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free.

Your GP

For an injury or illness that won't go away, your GP practice has trained professionals who can advise you. This is particularly important if you suffer from an underlying health condition. Dealing with illness early can prevent any trips to hospital.

Walk in/urgent care centres

Are for conditions such as sprains, suspected breaks and fractures, allergies and wounds that require stitches. Find your nearest at www.nhs.uk

Cervical cancer almost halved

Women across Coventry are being urged to take advantage of cervical screening tests which could save their lives. Since the introduction of cervical screening in the 1980s, rates of cervical cancer have almost halved.

Thanks to cervical screening and the HPV vaccination programme, cervical cancer is now largely preventable.

In Coventry, screening coverage currently stands just below the national average at 70.5 per cent with a low take-up from women from some ethnic communities.

Women aged 25 to 49 are invited for cervical screening, also known as a smear test, every three years. After that, women are

invited every five years until the age of 64.

For younger women, HPV vaccinations can help prevent seven out of 10 cervical cancers, and these are routinely given to girls across the country aged 12 and 13. This is a vaccination against the persistent human papillomavirus (HPV) infection that causes changes to the cervical cells and is responsible for nearly all cervical cancers.

Dr Adrian Canale-Parola, Chair of NHS Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) said: "Cervical smears are designed to pick up changes in the cervix which can become cancer in future years if not treated. Reversing these changes once

identified is straightforward and very effective at preventing cancer from developing.

"Once cancer is established however, the treatments are very invasive, unpleasant and often not effective in preventing the disease spreading.

"It is particularly important to get that message to the hard-toreach communities in the city – where take-up is traditionally low.

"Having a cervical smear is a simple, painless procedure, usually carried out by a practice nurse, and for all women the message is clear – screening is free and can save your life so please pick up the phone as soon as that letter drops through the letterbox."

Baby Sienna defies the odds

Baby Sienna is one of over 200 babies conceived last year as a result of successful treatment at University Hospital's Centre for Reproductive Medicine (CRM).

Her proud new parents Lara and Matt had been trying to conceive for three years before they were referred to University Hospital's specialist fertility centre.

Doctors were able to diagnose Lara with Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome and Matt with a low sperm count. When her eggs were retrieved, there was only one embryo that was suitable to be transferred into her womb.

However, despite the low odds, two weeks later the couple had a positive pregnancy test they could have only have dreamt of.

Sienna was born weighing 8lb 6ozs at University Hospital, Coventry.

Lara said:"Without Mr Keay and the team we wouldn't have our little girl and for that we are eternally grateful." Head of Embryology, Ben Lavender, said: "We have recently been achieving excellent pregnancy rates in the CRM. For our patients under 37 who had embryo transfer in 2016

we have seen a 56% pregnancy rate. Most of these patients have a single embryo transferred as Lara and Matt did; this cuts down the chances of a twin pregnancy



but still results in almost half of couples achieving the pregnancy they so desperately want."

Baby Sienna.

Orchestra tunes up for centenary year



Coventry City Council is sponsoring the first of a series of concerts this year to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first public performance of the Heart of England Co-operative Concert Orchestra (HOECCO) (pictured above).

The orchestra began its life as the Centaur Road Boys' School Orchestra in 1917 and soon after, it came under the auspices of the local Co-operative's education committee.

The support of the Heart of England Co-operative continues today and allows the orchestra to raise money for many different causes.

The orchestra plays a range of light and light classical music: music from shows, music from films, ballet selections, pop medleys, short classical pieces and marches.

For more details visit www. coventrycooporchestra.org.uk

Cycle events

Breeze Rides for women

Join a free guided Breeze Ride for women, led by volunteer champions:

www.letsride.co.uk/breeze

- Sunday 19 March, 10:30am: Corley Circular, 10 miles from Keresley
- Sunday 26 March, 10:30am:
 Kenilworth Greenway Circuit,
 7 miles from Burton Green

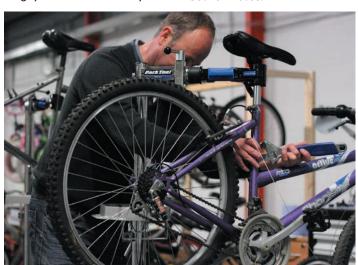
Bike recycling open day

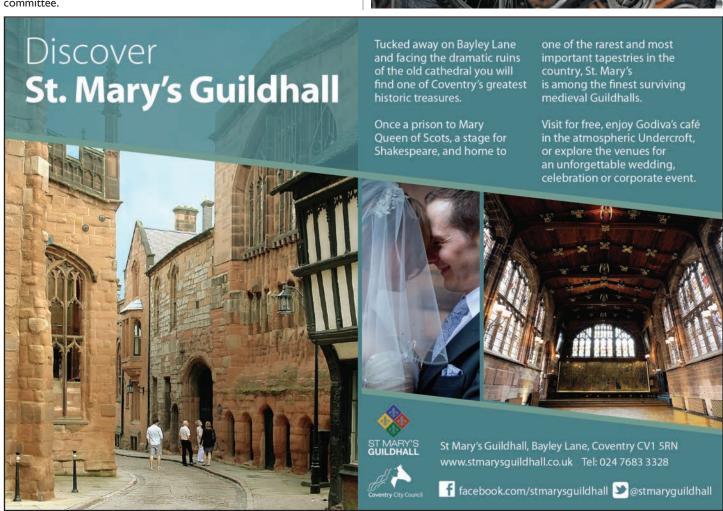
Langley House Trust invites you

to a bike recycling workshop at the Food Bank Warehouse, Binley CV3 2NT on Saturday 25 March 10am - 3pm for a free bike check, security marking and the chance to buy a recycled bike.

City centre Dr Bike check and security marking

Get your bike ready for spring with a free check from Dr Bike and security marking by the Safer Travel Police, on Thursday 30 March 12noon - 2pm outside the Council House.







Come along and cheer on the hundreds of runners who will be taking part in this year's Coventry Half Marathon.

The Race Village is situated in Millennium Place, while the route will start and finish alongside Coventry Transport Museum.

Runners will take a loop of the city centre on closed roads before a gradual climb out of the city towards Radford and through Allesley. The final section of the route takes runners downhill into the city centre and back to where they started at Millennium Place.

More details are available at www.coventryhalf.com

Timetable for the day: 19 March 2017

- 7.30am Race Village Open
- 8.45am Race warm-up (in Millennium Place)
- 8.55am Runners move to the start line
- 9am Race start
- 9.10am Dol-Y-Moch Mile start
- 10.10am First half marathon finisher
- 10.45am Prize-giving on stage
- Ipm Race closed
 all road re-opened
- all road re-opened*

*except Hales Street, Trinity Street and The Burges, which remain closed until 2pm.

The timetable is subject to change.



Live results

Before the race, competitors will be directed to a secure bag drop area, where refreshments will be available.

Each participant will receive a medal and a goody bag and runners will receive live results and a text message with their official time using the latest chip timing.

Once people have completed the route they will be able to get a wellearned post-race massage.

Dol-y-Moch support

The half marathon will also play host to 1,000 local schoolchildren taking a one

mile route of the city centre to raise money for the 50th anniversary appeal for Doly-Moch.

> ☐ Cllr David Kershaw CBE JP, centre with colleagues from Dol-y-Moch, Coventry Sports Foundation and local children.



Fun with a spring in your step

Here are some of the activities you can enjoy in and around Coventry

War Memorial Park

Meet at Education Room, Visitor Centre, booking not essential. Please allow 45 minutes to complete all activities. For more information call reception 024 7678 6280.

Coombe Country Park

Meeting point for all events at the Information Desk/Shop in the Visitor Centre 5 minutes before session begins. Advance booking and payment essential for all events unless otherwise stated. Please contact the Visitor Centre on 024 7645 3720. Credit/debit card payments accepted over the phone. Car parking charges apply coombe.countrypark@ coventry.gov.uk - bookings by credit/debit cards accepted. Online booking will be available, contact the visitor centre for more information.

Tot waddles - Every Friday

War Memorial Park (10.30am -12noon, £3.50 per child). Go on a little adventure before coming inside for some arts and crafts. Dress appropriately for the weather. Suitable for two to four-year-olds but younger accompanying siblings welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ranger Volunteer Day Every third Wednesday in the calendar month

Various locations — Good fresh air and healthy exercise! Join the Park Service Rangers and help look after and develop Coventry's green spaces. Drinks and biscuits supplied, but bring your own lunch if staying all day. All volunteers must register in advance. Come once, come every time or just come when it suits you. For further information tel: 0783 I 582854. Suitable for adults.

APRIL

8 – Easter EggTrail
Coombe Country Park (10am
– 3pm, £2 per trail sheet,
booking not essential). The
Easter Bunny has lost the code
to the Easter egg safe, can you
help him solve the code to
get them out. This is a family
friendly self-led trail around the
park. Pick up your trail leaflet
from the information centre to
solve the puzzle. A small prize
for all those who manage to

crack the code. Suitable for

families.

11 – Dip into Spring

Coombe Country Park (10am
– 11.30am, £3.50 per child,
booking essential). Dip into
the pond and see who has
woken up after the cold winter
months asleep. Have they
had any babies yet? Join the
education rangers on a pond
dipping exploration. Suitable for
three-year-olds or older.

11 – Chick, Chick, Chicken Coombe Country Park (1pm – 1.45pm or 2pm – 2.45pm, £3.50 per child, booking essential). Come along and create some Easter egg hunt arts and crafts. Suitable for three-year-olds or older.

II – Fresh Air and Fun
Rangers activities (1.30pm
– 3pm, Free, no booking
required). Longford Park,
meet by the play area. Join the
rangers for eggciting Easter
activities in your local park,
including games and an Easter
treasure hunt. These events are
open access, all under eights
must be supervised. Rangers
are not responsible for young
people leaving the event.

12 – Springing Lambs
Coombe Country Park
(10am – 10.45am or 11am
– 11.45am, £3.50 per child,
booking essential). Celebrate
spring with some lamb themed
arts and crafts to take home.
Suitable for three-year-olds or
older.

12 – Fresh Air and Fun Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required). Allesley Hall Park,



meet by the play area. See 11 April.

13 – Iris May Falcons
Coombe Country Park (Ham
– Ipm, free, booking not
required). Get up close and
personal with these amazing
birds of prey brought to you by
Iris May Falcons. Suitable for all.
13 – Fresh Air and Fun

Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required. Caludon Castle Park, meet by the play area. See 11 April.

13 – Springtime Madness

War Memorial Park (1.30pm)

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50 per child). Meet at the Visitor Centre. Join the Education Team to make some

Easter and spring themed arts and crafts, including decorating your very own porcelain egg cup to take home with you. Suitable for families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

18 – Teddies Easter Party
Coombe Country Park (10am
– 11.30am, £3.50 per child,
booking essential) Come along
and Join Coombe Ted for his
Easter party with a story time
and some Teddy bear themed
arts and crafts to take home.
Suitable for three-year-olds and
over.

18 - Springing Lambs
Coombe Country Park (Ipm



- 1.45pm or 2pm - 2.45pm, £3.50 per child, booking essential). Celebrate spring with some lamb themed arts and crafts for you to take home. Afterwards why not take a walk around the Deer Park to see the real baby lambs and their mums. Suitable for three-year-olds and over.

18 – Fresh Air and Fun
Rangers activities (1.30pm
– 3pm, free, no booking
required). Edgwick Park, meet
by the play area. See 11 April.

19 – Nature Crowns
Coombe Country Park
(10am – 11am or 11am
-11.45am or 1pm – 2pm or
2.15pm – 3.15pm, £5 per child,
booking essential). Make your
own willow nature crown
and adorn with flowers and
greenery. Suitable for threeyear-olds and over.

19 – Fresh Air and Fun
Rangers activities (1.30pm
– 3pm, free, no booking
required). Coundon Hall Park,
meet by the play area. See 11
April.

20 - Iris May Falcons Coombe Country Park (11am – 1pm, free, booking not required). Get up close and personal with these amazing birds of prey brought to you by Iris May Falcons. Suitable for all. **20 – Fresh Air and Fun**Rangers activities (1.30pm – 3pm, free, no booking required) Stoke Green, meet by the play area. See 11 April.

20 – Blooming Marvellous
War Memorial Park (1.30pm –
3pm, £3.50 per child). Meet at
the visitors centre. Get growing!
Come along and decorate
plant pots before potting them
up. Take them home and see
what you can grow. Decorate
your own gnome wind chime
friend who can help you look
after them. Suitable for families.
Children must be accompanied
by an adult.

21 - Cold as Ice

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50 per child). Meet at the Visitors Centre. Join the Education Team to paint your very own penguin, and make some other penguin friends to take home with you. Suitable for families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

MAY

13 - Dawn Chorus

Coombe Country Park (5.30am – 8am, free, booking essential). Come and join the estate officers on a dawn walk around the park to enjoy the sights and sounds of wildlife at Coombe early in the morning. Suitable for families.

30 – Berty the Bushcrafter: Shelterbuilding

Coombe Country Park (Ipm – 2.30pm, £4 per child, booking essential). Find out how to make a shelter in the woods using only natural materials from the park. Suitable for families.

30 – Berty the Bushcrafter: Firelighting

Coombe Country Park (10am – 11.30am, £4 per child, booking essential). Learn how to make a real fire from scratch in the woodland with the help of the team at Coombe. Includes marshmallow toasting. Suitable for families.

31 - Fairies, Pixies and Gnomes

Coombe Country Park (10am

- 10.45am or 11am - 11.45am or 1pm - 1.45pm or 2pm - 2.45pm, £3.50 per child, booking essential). Come along and make some fun magical arts and crafts for your home and garden. Suitable for three-year-olds and older.

JUNE

I - Monster Mash

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50 per child). Meet at the Visitor Centre. Join the Education Team for some mighty monster fun! Create your very own collection of monsters from various materials to take home with you. Suitable for families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

2 - Chirpy Chicks

War Memorial Park (1.30pm – 3pm, £3.50 per child). Meet at the Visitor Centre. Come along and have a chirpy time making your own family of chicks to take home. Suitable for families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.





your councillors

I BABLAKE



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



Cllr David Kershaw CBE JP
Tel: 024 7671 1107 or
07850 664576 or e-mail
david.kershaw@coventry.gov.uk
Last Tuesday of month from 10.30am12noon at The Good Honest Food

Company, Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village. First Saturday of month 12noon-1pm at Coronation Club, Keresley Rd.



Clir Jaswant Birdi
Tel: 07931 364268 or e-mail
jaswant.birdi@coventry.gov.uk
First Monday of month from 5-6pm,
Allesley Village Hall, Birmingham Rd,
Second Tuesday from 10.30-Noon,
Good Honest Food Company,
Gardenia Drive, Allesley Village.

| BINLEY AND WILLENHALL



Cllr Christine Thomas
Tel: 07908 228112 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
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Cllr Ram P Lakha OBE
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ram.lakha@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or home visit
please contact me.



Cllr John Mutton
Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
john.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or advice please
contact me.

| CHEYLESMORE



Cllr Roger Bailey
Tel: 024 7683 1101 (day)
or e-mail
roger.bailey@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Rois Ali
Tel: 07908 228109 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
rois.ali@coventry.gov.uk
Follow me on twitter
@RoisCheylesmore and
facebook Rois4Cheylesmore



Cllr Richard Brown
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richard.brown@coventry.gov.uk

EARLSDON



Cilr Ken Taylor OBE
Tel: 024 7667 3717
ken.taylor@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Michael Hammon
Tel: 024 7683 1039 for an
appointment or e-mail
michael.hammon@coventry.gov.uk



Clir Allan Andrews
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
allan.andrews@coventry.gov.uk
Happy to help where I can, will
visit you at home or at the Council
House. Please call for appointment.
Follow me on twitter
@allanandrews

| FOLESHILL



CllrTariq Khan
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07944 440063 or e-mail
tariq.khan@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Clir Abdul Salam Khan Tel: 024 7683 1034 (day) or 07903 847160 or e-mail abdul.khan@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Balvinder Kaur Tel: 07957 539615 balvinder.kaur@coventry.gov.uk

| HENLEY



Cllr Patricia Seaman Tel: 07813 528963 or 024 7683 1030 or e-mail pat.seaman@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Kevin Maton Tel: 07852 450953 or 024 7683 1030 e-mail kevin.maton@coventry.gov.uk



Clir Ed Ruane
Tel: 07817 218137 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
ed.ruane@coventry.gov.uk

HOLBROOK



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



Cllr Rachel Lancaster
Tel: 024 7636 0021 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
rachel.lancaster@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Ann Lucas OBE
Tel: 024 7683 1039 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.

| LONGFORD



Cllr Lindsley Harvard (Lord Mayor)
Tel: 024 7683 3048 (day)
024 7667 5717 (evening) or e-mail
lindsley.harvard@coventry.gov.uk
During the next year I will be undertaking
Civic Duties and will therefore be

suspending my surgeries. If you wish to contact me please call or email using the contact details above.



Cllr Linda Bigham
Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
linda.bigham@coventry.gov.uk
Please book for an appointment. First
Friday of 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 month 6-7pm at St Thomas' Parish Church Hall, Longford Rd.



Cllr George Duggins
Tel: 024 7683 1003 or e-mail
george.duggins@coventry.gov.uk
Second Saturday of month 12-1pm at
Bell Green Community Centre, Old
Church Rd and 1.15-2pm at Royal

Hotel, Old Church Rd. Second Sunday of month 11.30am-Ipm at Bell Green Club, Roseberry Ave.

| LOWER STOKE



Cllr Catherine Miks
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
catherine.miks@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr John McNicholas
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07968 498860 or e-mail
john.mcnicholas@coventry.gov.uk
I can visit you in your home and I am
at the Empress buildings, Binley Rd

on the first and third Saturday of month from 10am. Follow me on twitter @CllrJMcNicholas



Cllr Rupinder Singh
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or
07960 962642 or e-mail
rupinder.singh@coventry.gov.uk

RADFORD



Clir Mal Mutton
Tel: 024 7630 4497 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
mal.mutton@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Keiran Mulhall
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
keiran.mulhall@coventry.gov.uk
Every Tuesday at Radford Social Club,
226, Radford Rd, CV6 3BQ, 6.30-7.30pm
and the first Sunday of month 11.30am12.30pm.



Cllr Tony Skipper
(Deputy Lord Mayor)
Tel: 024 7683 3048 or e-mail
tony.skipper@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

SHERBOURNE



Cllr Seamus Walsh Tel: 07956 546983 or 024 7683 1039 (day) or e-mail seamus.walsh@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Lynnette Kelly
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
lynnette.kelly@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



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

| ST MICHAEL'S



Cllr David Welsh
Tel: 07956 307437 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
david.welsh@coventry.gov.uk
Second and fourth Friday of the
month, I 2noon – I.00pm, Hope

Centre, Sparkbrook Street.



Cllr Jim O'Boyle
Tel: 024 7669 4873 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
jim.o'boyle@coventry.gov.uk
Second Saturday of month 1.151.45pm at Hillfields Library St. Peter's

Community Centre, Charles St.



Cllr Naeem Akhtar
Tel: 07747 003141 or e-mail
naeem.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk
Surgeries first Tuesday of month, 5-6pm
at Hillfields Youth Centre, Yardley St.
For an appointment or home visit
please contact me.

UPPER STOKE



Cllr Sucha Bains
Tel: 024 7645 9484 or e-mail
sucha.bains@coventry.gov.uk
Barras Green Social Club, Coventry
St, between 12noon-12.45pm, first and
third Saturday of the month.



Cllr Kamran Caan
Tel: 024 7683 1030 or e-mail
kamran.caan@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or home visit
please contact me.



Cllr Dr Randhir Auluck
Tel: 07813 527888 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
randhir.auluck@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

WAINBODY



Cilr John Blundell
Tel: 024 7683 1276 (weekdays)
or 024 7641 9794 (evenings/
weekends) or e-mail
john.blundell@coventry.gov.uk
Please contact me to make an
appointment.



Clir Gary Crookes
Tel: 024 7683 1276 (day) or 024
7646 1777 (after 6pm) e-mail
gary.crookes@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Tim Sawdon Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or 024 7641 5771 (after 6pm) or e-mail tim.sawdon@coventry.gov.uk

WESTWOOD



Cllr David Skinner
Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or
024 7646 8106 (out of hours)
or e-mail
david.skinner@coventry.gov.uk



Cllr Marcus Lapsa
Tel: 07813 528946 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
marcus.lapsa@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Tim Mayer Tel: 07852 218093 or e-mail tim.mayer@coventry.gov.uk

| WHOBERLEY

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



Cllr Pervez Akhtar
Tel: 07813 529217 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
pervez.akhtar@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Jayne Innes
Tel: 024 7647 0411 (home) or
024 7683 1030 (office) or e-mail
jayne.innes@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment or home visit
outside these times, please contact me.



Cllr Bally Singh
Tel: 07779 256898 or e-mail bally.singh@coventry.gov.uk
Surgeries are held every third
Saturday 10am-noon at St Mary
Magdalen Centre, Sir Thomas White
Rd. For an appointment please contact me.

WOODLANDS



Cilr Peter Male
Tel: 07813 528960 or
024 7683 1039 or e-mail
peter.male@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Gary Ridley
Tel: 024 7683 1039 or e-mail
gary.ridley@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Julia Lepoidevin
Tel: 024 7683 1039 (day) or
07710 716913 or e-mail
julia.lepoidevin@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

WYKEN

Clirs Thay, Abbott and Sweet hold surgeries every third Friday of month, 6.30-7.30pm at Wyken Working Men's Club, Ansty Rd, Wyken.



Cllr Robert Thay
Tel: 07875 031851 or e-mail
robert.thay@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Faye Abbott
Tel: 07944 996294 or
024 7683 1030 or e-mail
faye.abbott@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.



Cllr Hazel Sweet
Tel: 024 7661 6273 or e-mail
hazel.sweet@coventry.gov.uk
For an appointment please contact me.

CABINET MEMBERS

Cllr George Duggins, Leader, Policy and Leadership

Cllr Abdul Khan, Deputy Leader,

Policing and Equalities

(Deputy, Cllr Pervez Akhtar)

Cllr John Mutton,

Strategic Finance and Resources

Clir Ed Ruane, Children and Young People

(Deputy, Cllr Pat Seaman)

Cllr Kevin Maton, Education and Skills Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Jobs and Regeneration

(Deputy, Cllr David Welsh)

Cllr Jayne Innes, City Services

(Deputy, Cllr Ram Lakha)

Cllr Faye Abbott, Adult Services

Cllr Kamran Caan,

Public Health and Sport (Deputy, Cllr Rois Ali)

Cllr Linda Bigham, Community Development

(Deputy, Cllr Christine Thomas)

COMMITTEES

Audit and Procurement

C Cllr Sucha Bains **DC** Cllr Joe Clifford **Ethics**

C Cllr Seamus Walsh

Licensing and Regulatory Committee
C Cllr Tariq Khan DC Cllr Robert Thay

C Cllr Richard Brown DC Cllr Keiran Mulhall

Scrutiny Co-ordination

C Cllr Rachel Lancaster DC Cllr Rupinder Singh Finance and Corporate Services

(Scrutiny Board I) C Cllr Lynnette Kelly

Education and Children's Services

(Scrutiny Board 2) **C** Cllr Mal Mutton **Business, Economy and Enterprise**

(Scrutiny Board 3) **C** Cllr John McNicholas

Communities and Neighbourhoods

(Scrutiny Board 4) C Cllr Naeem Akhtar Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board

(Scrutiny Board 5) – C Cllr Damian Gannon

C = Chair DC = Deputy Chair

COVENTRY MPs

Colleen Fletcher MP

Coventry North East, Call 0207 219 8036 e-mail colleen.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk

Jim Cunningham MP

Coventry South, Call 024 7655 3159 e-mail jim.cunningham.mp@parliament.uk

Geoffrey Robinson MP

Coventry North West, Call 024 7625 7870 e-mail robinsong@parliament.uk

EUROPEAN MPs WEST MIDLANDS REGION

CONSERVATIVE

Anthea McIntyre, call 01989 769 544 e-mail anthea@antheamcintyre.com
Daniel Dalton call 01926 930683 e-mail daniel@danieldaltonmep.co.uk
LABOUR

Neena Gill, call 0121 622 7298 e-mail neenagillmep@gmail.com Sion Simon, call 0121 569 1911 e-mail sionsimon@sion-simon.org.uk UKIP

James Carver, call 01562 216020 e-mail mep@jamescarver.org Bill Etheridge, call 01902 664670 e-mail info@mepukip.com Jill Seymour call 01952 924040 e-mail enquiries@jillseymourmep.co.uk

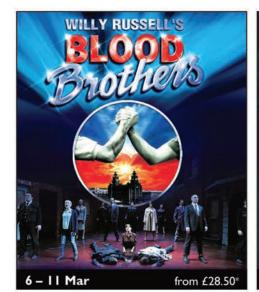
POLICE COMMISSIONER

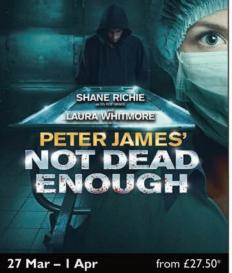
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner **David Jamieson** 0121 626 6060 For details, visit www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk

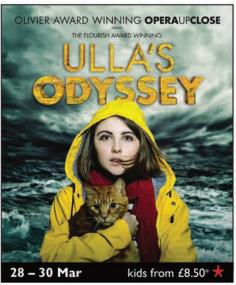


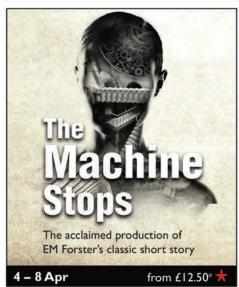




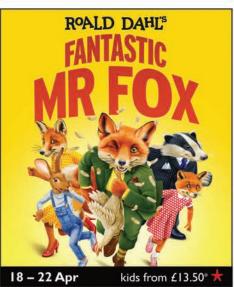


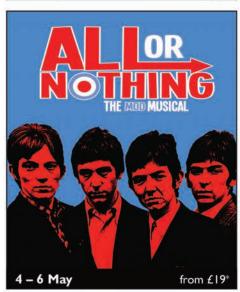


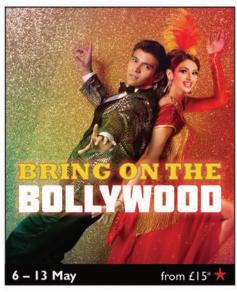


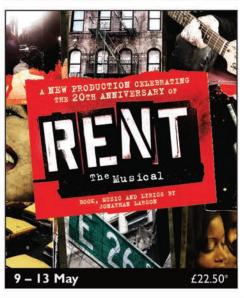












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