Hair raising fun at the Godiva Festival

PLUS
- Rewards for recycling
- 60 years of kids TV
- What’s on this summer

INSIDE
Green boulevard paves way to city centre

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

It’s time to think differently about care

Why not enjoy our Five Star senior living experience?

Newly acquired Avalon Court Care Home is winning rave reviews for the quality of its care, its exceptional staff and elegant hotel style décor and services. Delighted residents are enjoying five star treatment with fine dining rooms, luxury en-suite bedrooms, cinema, bistro and private dining for those special occasions. With a busy activity calendar, days are fun packed with exciting, interesting and stimulating things to do, from wine tasting sessions to an art club and travel club.

Avalon Court has been modelled on a boutique hotel, complete with a spectacular lobby, and every detail has been meticulously considered in the build, setting a new standard in Coventry for senior living. Avalon Court Care Home, owned and managed by award winning care provider Avery Healthcare, offers 107 en-suite rooms, and is situated within beautifully designed gardens, but also boasts a stunning roof terrace with decking and seating areas for residents to enjoy the wonderful views.

Come and see for yourself, please call 02477 469196
A personal message from Ken Sloan, chair of the Coventry Partnership...

The Godiva Festival is a great event that brings all the city’s communities together along with hundreds of visitors across the West Midlands. Visitors will always get a warm welcome here and I’m sure the festival, which is featured in this month’s issue of Citivision, will leave people with a good impression of Coventry. The Coventry Partnership includes public sector, business and voluntary organisations working together to make sure that not only do we continue to raise the profile of the city – and events like the Godiva Festival highlight this – but also to ensure that people who live and work here experience a good quality of life. Striking that balance is essential to a healthy city.

news

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contact us

Call the Citivision 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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* 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:

Tel: 024 7683 1081
Fax: 024 7683 1132

Cover story: There’s fun for all the family on the cards at this year’s Coventry Godiva Festival.
Get your council tax paid for a year

One lucky Coventry resident who signs up to paying their council tax by direct debit could be in with a chance of getting their council tax paid for a year.

A prize draw held earlier in the year saw 10,000 entries from people who switched to direct debit. The winner’s prize was an iPad mini and was won by a lady from Aldermans Green.

Already seven out of 10 people pay their council tax by direct debit but the Council are keen to see the numbers increase.

Councillor Damian Gannon, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, said: “I’m delighted with the response to our recent drive to get more people to pay their council tax by direct debit.

“As well as being secure and quick, you never need to worry about remembering to pay your bill again. “It also saves you time waiting on the phone or queuing at the Council House.”

You can find how to sign up to direct debit and be entered into the draw to be in with a chance to get your council tax paid for a year by visiting www.coventry.gov.uk/counciltax

Caroline’s passion to improve lives of vulnerable

Coventry Citizens’ Advice bureau have recruited Caroline Leighton (pictured) as the new Chief Executive.

The announcement comes at a time when free advice will be needed more and more as cuts and welfare reform changes are felt in the city.

The bureau has operated in the city for 75 years and originally helped people cope with the aftermath of the blitz. It continues to serve the city in helping people cope with the everyday challenges they face.

Caroline joins the Bureau with a wealth of senior executive experience for other charities including Age UK and The British Red Cross. She has lived and worked in the West Midlands for a number of years.

If you need advice please visit your local bureau www.coventrycab.org.uk

Directory helps you get active

A new, city-wide directory of community activities, ranging from Archery to Zumba, is set to be launched this July to help residents discover some of the groups and activities available on their doorstep.

The Council’s Community Development Service have created the directory in order to provide a single point of access to a wide range of community activities across the city.

There are currently over 700 groups and activities listed, with more being added every day. Local groups, residents and partners are also being invited to submit their own.

Cllr Faye Abbott, Cabinet Member for Community Development, Co-operatives and Social Enterprise, said: “I’m really looking forward to seeing how people use the new directory to discover new activities and groups within the city.”

To take a look at the Community Activity Directory, find an activity or submit your own, visit www.coventry.gov.uk/cad

Top honour for good Samaritans

Coventry and District Samaritans has won the prestigious Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service.

The Award is the highest given to local volunteer groups across the UK. Coventry Samaritans is currently celebrating 50 years of service to people in Coventry and Warwickshire and over that time has taken 1.5 million calls. It is managed and operated by unpaid volunteers and provides a free 24 hour helpline every day of the year.

To contact the Samaritans call 024 7667 8678 or call in for a chat at their branch office in Moor Street, Coventry.

New dog controls

Coventry City Council is set to advertise the detail of new dog control orders with the introduction of new controls set for 15 June 2015.

The new order will mean responsible dog owners will continue to be able to let their dogs off the lead in parks with sports pitches – except when matches are being played. There will be restrictions on owners taking dogs into children’s play areas and a requirement for dogs to be on a lead in some areas of parks and open spaces. There will also be a limit on the number of dogs a person can have with them at any one time.

The policy and order have been drawn up following on going work with dog owners following an online petition signed by more than 4,000 people. For details visit www.coventry.gov.uk

More ways to get in touch

There’s lots of different ways you can contact us and the quickest and easiest is through our website – www.coventry.gov.uk. You can:

• find out information about all our services
• pay for things including council tax, business rates, fines and fees
• apply for a new bin, library cards, housing benefit, community support grant, postal votes
• tell us about missed bins, anti-social behaviour, instances of fly-tipping and graffiti, and they can tell us about potholes and streetlighting problems

All whenever and wherever is convenient for you. So before you visit or phone go online – it could save you time and money.
Green boulevard paves the way to city centre

Just 15 months after initial demolition work took place, the new £14.9m bridge deck at Junction 6 of the Coventry Ring Road is now open.

Work began in March last year and has seen a 100m wide “bridge” replace the old roundabout, in the biggest alteration to the Coventry Ring Road since it was built 40 years ago.

As well as completely revising the road layout, the deck also now features wide open landscaped areas which link into Greyfriars Green, alongside a new larger, clearer pedestrian boulevard directly linking the railway station to the city centre at Bull Yard. Cllr Rachel Lancaster, Cabinet Member for Public Services, said: “This has been an enormous project - one that completely changes the face of this part of the city - and the fact that we have achieved completion on a project of this scale in just 15 months, is actually quite remarkable. “We have also managed to achieve this whilst maintaining almost continuous use of the Ring Road at peak times, as well as ensuring access to the busy railway station remained open to commuters and visitors.”

The opening of the new bridge deck marks the first stage in the wider Friargate development next to Coventry Railway Station, which will be home to the new Coventry City Council building and will eventually lead to a brand new business destination for the city, with the potential of creating up to 15,000 new jobs.

Work on the bridge deck is fully funded by grant funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

Sky’s the limit for cyclists

Sky Ride Coventry returns on 27 September for a free event where cyclists can join together on a traffic-free city centre route. Last year’s event saw 8,000 people take part and British Cycling and Sky are joining together for the one day event.

Walkers and cyclists can now enjoy a green, traffic-free route right into the heart of the city centre as a £470,000 project to improve the Coventry Canal towpath is officially opened.

A 2.5km stretch of towpath between Coventry Canal Basin and Stoke Heath has been resurfaced and made wider, which is also helping cyclists get closer to nature and explore their local history.

Squaring up to success

Coventry’s Council House Square design has won praise from civil engineers by winning the Innovation Award at the 2015 West Midlands Institute of Civil Engineers Annual Awards. The ICE Award recognised highway design, high quality paving, and landscaping that has created significant changes in driver behaviour at the new square.

The work is part of a wider city centre strategy to improve the ways pedestrians, cyclists and motorists used shared space.
Pete’s Two Tone
labour of love

Coventry Music Museum has recently secured another excellence award courtesy of TripAdvisor and the museum’s manager Peter Chambers is keen to point out that the award is based on feedback of some of the 6,000 visitors to the museum.

The relatively small venue in Unit 7, The Courtyard to the rear of 74-80 Walsgrave Road, punches above its weight to showcase an impressive array of music memorabilia from music hall to 50’s Rock ‘N Roll and from the 60’s Beat scene to 2-Tone.

It’s a quirky venue which is run by volunteers, who are absolutely passionate about Coventry music.

Pete Chambers, who is 58 and a local lad, is one of the museum’s stalwarts, working at the venue from Thursday to Sunday giving up most of his week to help develop and expand the museum.

Pete, was born in Brays Lane just a stone’s throw from the Coventry Music Museum where he works for free.

“I’ve been into music since the Beatles,” explained Pete.

“For the past 20 years it has been my ambition to open a music museum in the city and we seem to be going from strength to strength…”

“For the past 20 years it has been my ambition to open a music museum in the city and we seem to be going from strength to strength…”

area for children and those of us who are young at heart.”

Anyone who would like to check out the Music Museum can call in between 10am and 4pm Thursday to Sunday and Bank Holidays. For details visit www.covmm.co.uk. Admission is £3 for adults, £1 for children and £2 for students and senior citizens.

The cafè is open Monday through to Sunday.

Coventry Music Museum – part of the 2-Tone Village project will be taking a selection of its exhibits to Coventry Godiva Festival in July.

Plumb job is no pipe dream

Plumber John Dimascio recently attended the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce’s free business start-up workshops and was allocated to an enterprise coach for one-to-one business mentoring.

Within just eight weeks John launched his plumbing and DIY business, JSD Plumbing, based in Coventry while developing his website, Facebook page, Twitter page and a range of marketing materials.

He said having an enterprise coach helped him pick up a great deal of advice in a short time.

John added: “To have someone just an e-mail, call or meeting away is priceless. The work is starting to come through and the future looks very positive indeed.”

Sandra Garlick, who provided the business support on behalf of the Chamber, said that the business mentors work with anyone who has a business idea to help them turn that idea into reality.

Start-up courses are taking place at St. Peter’s Centre in Coventry on July 7, July 23 and August 6 from 9.30am until 4pm.

For details contact on 024 7665 4321 or e-mail info@cwchamber.co.uk

Centre stage for young talent

It’s 50 years since the invention of theatre in Education at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry and to mark the milestone some of its best new work made for and by young people today will be staged at a festival from Wednesday 8 – Sunday 19 July 2015.

The Belgrade Theatre is home to seven youth theatre groups which include Canley Youth Theatre – a dedicated outreach group made up of ages 8-16; – as well as a Black Youth Theatre and newly launched Asian Youth Theatre. The Belgrade is also home to Shine On, a weekly performance group aimed at ages 50+.

The two week ‘In Our Own Words’ festival will also include a weekend of live performances by all seven Belgrade companies alongside visiting Youth Theatre companies from across the UK including Bristol Old Vic’s Propolis Theatre.

Make a pledge

The Belgrade is also launching a new pledge to help support drama in schools and recognise that that every child has the right to access drama as a regular part of their curriculum.

To find out more about making a pledge, the July Festival and the history of TiE in Coventry, visit www.inspiringcuriosity.co.uk

Cooking up a storm in Russia

Henley College catering students have just returned from Coventry twin city Volgograd, Russia where they conducted a master class of British cuisine for Russian chefs.

Russian television also covered their visit as they demonstrated dishes to the students and explained about the trends of British cuisine and life at Henley College Coventry.

The students have written a blog of their experiences which can be found at Henley College’s Coventry’s hospitality and catering Facebook page.
Coventry University has broken into the top 15 of UK universities in the Guardian University Guide 2016. The university has secured 15th spot overall – a rise of 12 places from last year – achieving its highest ever listing and cementing its position as the country’s leading modern university.

Coventry has also moved ahead of several competitor universities in the Midlands for the first time, including Aston University and the universities of Birmingham, Leicester and Nottingham.

Uni’ is top of the class

Coventry University is second only to the University of Oxford for its teaching quality score. Seven of Coventry’s subject areas are ranked in the country’s top 10, including its courses in the ‘film production and photography’ and ‘hospitality, event management and tourism’.

Coventry is also the top performing modern university in the National Student Survey 2014 and the Complete University Guide 2016, published last month.

£9m makeover for transport museum

After 15 months of hard work from a huge team of dedicated exhibition designers and builders, Coventry Transport Museum’s massive £9m makeover is nearly complete. The project, funded by the European Regional Development Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund, has seen 12 of the museum’s 14 exhibitions completely transformed, to create a world class home for Coventry’s truly world class transport collection. Admission is free of charge and the museum is open daily. Visit www.transport-museum.com

Earn and learn jobs boost for youngsters

Young people who are looking to “earn while they learn” and are leaving school this summer may decide to check out Henley College which has over 60 job vacancies with local employers who are looking for apprentices.

The job vacancies are in catering, health and social care, childcare, sport and many more.

Holly Goodwin recently secured an apprenticeship at Moat House Primary School.

“I thought it would be hard to gain an Apprenticeship but in fact it was really easy.” She explained.

“The first interview I went to I got the job! I am doing my childcare Apprenticeship at Moat House Primary school and I recommend an Apprenticeship because it is paid work, you learn new skills and once you are qualified you can go on to be a nursery nurse anywhere in the world.”

Call 024 7662 6306 for details on the current vacancies, drop in your CV at the College or visit www.henley-cov.ac.uk

Play School’s Humpty helps mark 60 years of kids TV

A new exhibition at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, ‘The Story of Children’s Television’ is attracting record-breaking numbers of visitors.

The exhibition features almost 200 exhibits from 60 years of children’s television programmes, including the original Muffin the Mule, Gordon the Gopher, and Humpty from Play School.

A large section features programmes by local company Ragdoll productions, including Teletubbies, Brum, Pob and Rosie and Jim.

The exhibition is proving a hit with adults and children to enjoy together and runs until 13 September.

Admission is free. A range of family activities are on offer throughout the school summer holidays, visit www.theherbert.org for full details.

Play School’s Humpty helps mark 60 years of kids TV

Rosie and Jim take two museum visitors back to their childhood.

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From Whitehall to the West Midlands – not from Coventry to Birmingham...

Proposals that would see power devolved from Whitehall to councils in the West Midlands working in partnership together have been supported by Coventry councillors.

Government proposals for devolution could see Coventry working with Solihull, Birmingham, the Black Country and other councils in the area to take responsibility for a number of major areas currently delivered by central government including transport, housing, skills and regeneration.

The West Midlands is currently the only major urban area in the country without a combined authority, but could become the largest in the country – with a population of four million people - if one is created in the region covering an area from Staffordshire in the north to parts of Worcestershire.

Coventry City Council Leader, Cllr Ann Lucas said: “This means power moving from Whitehall to the West Midlands – not from Coventry to Birmingham.

“Coventry City Council would lose none of its current powers as a result of joining a West Midlands Combined Authority, but the city would get a much greater say in making decisions, currently made in London, that will help economic growth, regeneration and the region’s future prosperity.

“I think councils across the West Midlands working together to make decisions about major investment in things like transport can make much better decisions for Coventry than government officials in London can.”

How to have your say

You’ll be able to find out a lot more about combined authorities over the next few weeks.

There’s a special section on www.coventry.gov.uk so you can find out more and you can share your views by emailing combinedauthority@coventry.gov.uk.

If you’d like to talk to someone face to face you’ll be able to do that at drop-in sessions at city centre locations.

Look out for more information, too, via our Facebook pages and Twitter.

What happens next

14 July

Full Council debate and decision on the principle of joining a combined authority and proceeding to consultation on the review and any proposed scheme.

1 August to 7 September

Consultation period on the review and draft scheme to include Coventry residents, businesses, universities and key partners and the wider West Midlands area.

September 2015

Consultation responses considered and any proposed scheme finalised.

Autumn 2015

Secretary of State carries out further consultation in the West Midlands including with neighbouring local authorities; Coventry residents, businesses, universities and key partners.

April 2016

Establishment of a new combined authority.

Q

Why is Coventry supporting the principle of a combined authority?

A

We’re proposing to work in partnership with councils across Warwickshire, the Black Country, Birmingham and Solihull. We’re not – and never will be – part of something called Greater Birmingham and we will never merge with Birmingham. Combined authorities mean devolving powers from Whitehall to councils in the West Midlands, not devolving powers from Coventry to Birmingham.

Coventry City Council would lose none of its current powers as a result of being part of a combined authority; the new powers would move from Whitehall to the region. The Council will remain at the heart of civic life in Coventry.

Q

What does it mean for Coventry?

A

We already work jointly with Birmingham, the Black Country and Solihull on transport, police, and ambulance services so we will be building on many years of working together. It will mean plans for economic growth, transport, housing, skills and regeneration can be made in the West Midlands and not in London.

All councils who are part of a combined authority make joint decisions about spending on issues that were previously decided in London by civil servants and government ministers.

Q

Won’t we just become part of Birmingham?

A

No. This is about central government devolving powers to the region, not individual councils giving up power to Birmingham or the wider region. Dialling codes, postcodes, city boundaries and everything else that makes us Coventry stays the same.

A combined authority is not a replacement for existing councils – it’s actually an equal partnership between all councils involved. Each member council continues to provide local services and to represent the local area in the same way they did before.

Q

Will this mean more bureaucracy?

A

No. The combined authority will make use of existing staff and finances and decisions will be made by the existing council leaders working together – they won’t get paid more for this.

Q

What about an elected mayor for the region?

A

Although we don’t have to have one the Government has made it clear that areas that do go for this – like Manchester – will get the most powers from Whitehall. And if we did go for one their powers and responsibilities would be negotiated with Government as part of a devolution deal.
West Midlands focus

From Whitehall to the West Midlands - the big debate

A combined authority... what does it really mean?

All decisions about local council services will still be made by Coventry councillors putting Coventry people first.

Coventry City council would like the combined authority to cover these areas:

- Black Country
- Birmingham and Solihull
- Coventry and Warwickshire

Council leaders work in equal partnership to deliver:
- Better transport links across the whole region
- A regional fund to boost building on brownfield sites
- Funding for skills and training to get people into jobs needed in the region
- More business support and foreign investment

A combined authority means power moves from Whitehall to the Midlands.
**Date set for trophy tour**

With England hosting the Rugby World Cup 2015 in September, fans in Coventry will get the chance to see rugby’s greatest prize – the Webb Ellis Cup – up close as part of the national trophy tour.

On Sunday 16 August the Webb Ellis Cup will visit the city of Coventry which will be marked by a celebration event at Coventry Cathedral, where all of the city’s rugby clubs will be part of an iconic photograph on the steps of the Cathedral with all clubs represented in their club colours and with the international flags of the teams competing in the World Cup.

Organisers believe the trophy journey throughout the UK and Ireland will capture the enthusiasm of fans of all ages and give visitors the opportunity to build unforgettable memories as part of their own Rugby World Cup 2015 story.

**Sporting fun for all**

Broadgate Square will be transformed into a sporting playground at the end of July, when the city again stages its annual Coventry Sports Week.

Between 28 – 31 July from 10am until 4pm, a week of ‘come and try’ sports activities and events, is being designed to encourage more local people to take part in sport and fun activity.

Three sports zones will feature taster sessions in tennis, football, rugby, golf, basketball, gymnastics, skipping, judo, golf, cycling, and lots more pop-up sports and activities.

Activities are available for a wide range of age groups and abilities and are completely free.

Local clubs and national governing bodies will be there promoting activities and encouraging people to ‘try out’ different sports and offer further opportunities to take part across the city.

‘This is a great event for the city centre and reflects Coventry’s sporting prowess. It’s an excellent way to get more people involved in sport, whatever level you want to participate in. I hope people of all ages are able to come along...’

Cllr Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member for Sport, said: “This is a great event for the city centre and reflects Coventry’s sporting prowess. It’s an excellent way to get more people involved in sport, whatever level you want to participate in. I hope people of all ages are able to come along.”

For more detail on sports week please visit www.covsport.org.uk

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**Scrum down for festival**

A festival of rugby is also being organised on 16 August where the War Memorial Park will host the Webb Ellis Cup and visitors will be able to get their photograph taken with the cup.

An action packed afternoon of fun for all the family will be held from 12pm to 4pm including a variety of stalls, a fairground and lots of rugby based activities, and even the chance to see how many drop goals participants can kick in a minute – could you be the next Andy Goode?

For further details visit www.coventry.gov.uk/events
World cup taster at the Ricoh

International rugby union comes to Coventry this September when Samoa will be Wasps’ opponents on the weekend of September 4/5/6.

The match is part of warm-up preparations for Wasps’ 2015/16 Aviva Premiership campaign and Samoa’s Rugby World Cup campaign, in which they will play Scotland, South Africa, USA and Japan, in Pool B.

Nick Eastwood, Deputy Chairman of Wasps, said: “Hosting Samoa at the Ricoh Arena in September will be a fantastic occasion and one not to miss as a rugby supporter. The game will be included for supporters as part of the 2015/16 season ticket package, which is on sale now.”

The match will give spectators a taster of top class rugby as World Cup fever grips the nation when the Rugby World Cup kicks off on Friday 18 September.

The 2015/16 Aviva Premiership will kick off on the weekend of 16/17/18 October, as the World Cup reaches the knock-out stages.

For more information, or to sign up to ‘The Buzz’ newsletter, log on to www.wasps.co.uk or call 0844 847 1867.

Youngsters get the chance to shine

In support of the 2015 Rugby World Cup and as part of Coventry’s efforts to become a “City of Rugby”, Coventry will be hosting an International Youth Tag Rugby 7’s tournament.

The event is being organised through the Engage! programme, a project that aims to promote the core values of rugby to provide social and educational benefits as a way of developing healthy, well-rounded, confident young people, who have greater access to opportunities and a real sense of belonging within their local communities.

The event is being held between 4 and 11 September, including international teams aged between 13-15 years old and from Paris, Uganda and New York as part of a week long programme of cultural, educational, sporting and social exchange.

The tournament will help raise the profile of rugby in Coventry and will help promote the values of rugby, including teamwork, respect, integrity, enjoyment and discipline.

For further details visit www.engagecoventry.com or follow @EngageCoventry on twitter.

Watch rugby live on the big screen

18 September – 31 October Live Site big screen, Millennium Place

Watch all the home nations’ games in the 2015 Rugby World Cup LIVE on the big screen. Cheer on England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales to lift the Webb Ellis Cup. Visit www.coventry.gov.uk/events
Residents who are signed up to Coventry Recycling Club will earn points when recycling improves in their area and get the chance to win rewards and prizes in competitions.

Club members have already won a range of prizes including two £50 shopping vouchers and three digital cameras. Michaela and Emma (pictured above) both won a £50 shopping voucher in a competition by referring their friends to join the club.

Rachel Lancaster, Cabinet Member for Public Services, said the new club is all about boosting recycling in the city. She said: “We are really excited to launch The Coventry Recycling Club scheme and be able to reward people and local good causes for recycling, as well as improving the amount we recycle as a city. The more the city recycles, the less the government charges us all in the long run. It's free to join, so I'd encourage everyone to sign up.”

The Coventry Recycling Club is fully funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government and will also benefit local charities and organisations when residents’ recycling increases. Residents in the scheme earn points when recycling improves and these points can be given to good causes, with the cause receiving funds in return.

To celebrate the launch of the club the first good causes are the Lord Mayor’s Charities: Coventry Branch of Parkinson’s UK, Rotary Club of Coventry and Holy Trinity Church Roof Restoration Fund.

People can join the scheme by visiting www.coventry.gov.uk/recyclingclub
Apply for funding for your good cause

Local charities and organisations are encouraged to apply for good cause funding from Coventry Recycling Club by visiting www.coventry.gov.uk/recyclingclub and clicking on ‘Good Causes’. Each month three good causes will receive a share of up to £5,000.

On a mission to recycle your bicycle

Anyone who has an old or unwanted bike can recycle it and help to support Coventry City Mission.

You can recycle your bike by taking it to the Recycling and Reuse Centre (the tip) on London Road on the last Saturday of every month. The next opportunity to recycle your bike is on Saturday 27 June (8am to 4pm).

Bikes dropped off on this date will be refurbished for re-sale in the community by Coventry City Mission to encourage more people to cycle by making it more affordable. Any profits will go towards Coventry City Mission’s work.

Dozens of bikes have already been refurbished and resold by the Mission.

For more information about the Recycling and Reuse Centre (including vehicle restrictions and booking) please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/tip

Olivia Davies with one of the recycling crew

Councillor Lancaster signing up during the Broadgate launch
It’s a fun lovin’

The city's War Memorial Park will once again play host to the country's biggest free family music festival with the return of the Coventry Godiva Festival 2015 from 3 to 5 July.

The main stage headline acts for the festival 2015 have been announced, including New York band, Fun Lovin’ Criminals, indie group, The Wombats and rock band, Embrace.

Friday's line up will include reformed Coventry band, KING Phoenix (formerly known as King) and ska band, The Beat, with Fun Lovin’ Criminals bringing the first night of the festival to a close.

This year's festival also sees the return of the popular rock tent on Friday night, where Slaves will headline supported by local bands who won the Godiva Calling competition. The English grime artist, JME, will headline the Rhythm Tent on Saturday evening.

Festival-goers will also have the usual alternatives of comedy, family entertainment, attractions and the funfair.

Despite financial pressures, Coventry City Council made a financial commitment to ensure the 2015 event goes ahead.

The festival, which now enters an incredible 17th year, will continue to offer the usual mix of live music, family attractions, entertainment and a funfair over three days.

The event attracts lots of visitors from outside Coventry as well and in 2014 one in three visitors travelled from outside the city, with local hotels and the railway station for example seeing increases in visits, which again is all good news for the local economy. Godiva also gives event attenders a positive experience of the city and many people say they are more likely to come to the area again as a result of their visit.

Councillor Abdul Khan, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Events said:

“I know for many people the festival is the highlight of the year, and the event is great for attracting people into the city, which in turn is good news for the local economy and the city’s profile, not only locally but regionally and nationally.

“The festival also has a huge economic impact on the local and regional economy. Last year’s festival was estimated to have had a direct economic impact worth £1.8m into the local economy, from within an overall £7.8m value of economic activity generated through the festival weekend...”

To keep up to date with all the latest news about the Coventry Godiva Festival 2015, sign up to receive the free newsletter at www.godivafestival.com
It’s more than music
The weekend will see the return of ever popular attractions like the Petting Farm, a static Falconry display, a child-friendly Make and Take Tent and interactive displays of local crafts and hobbies. Saturday and Sunday will also offer exciting ways to keep active and have some fun with the Coventry on the Move area, to take on the two minute skip challenge once again. The Cook and EatWell team will be there, plus the return of Cycle Coventry, combining advice on cycle training and routes, a mini cycle course, Sky Ride information and free bike check from Dr Bike!

Look out for brand new attractions this year with The Army’s climbing wall, a zip wire adventure and we even have a tempting offer with Kitty’s Cake Emporium!

This year we’ll also run a childsafe wristband scheme where visitors can put essential contact information on the bands so we can reduce the amount of time a child could be separated from their parent or guardian.

Providing a safe and enjoyable festival
To help ensure everyone has an enjoyable festival, please be aware of the conditions of entry:
• do not bring alcohol to the festival
• a section of the festival will be fenced and patrons will be subject to searches as a condition of entry
• those found in possession of drugs or weapons will be reported to the police and will face exclusion and arrest
• anyone appearing drunk or likely to cause crime or disorder will be refused entry
• responsible dog owners are welcome. Please keep dogs on leads, out of tents and ensure you clean up after your dog
• Coventry City Council and their representatives reserve the right to refuse entry

How to get there

BUS: This year the regular bus service, which runs from the War Memorial Park into the city centre (number X16/X17 and U17 on Sunday), will run for all three days. This service also goes to Kenilworth and Warwick, helping visitors to have easy access to the event from these Warwickshire towns.

CYCLE: Cycle Coventry has teamed up with Centro to provide supervised cycle parking by the park’s Visitor Centre. This will be available:

+ Friday 5.30pm-11pm
+ Saturday 11am-11pm
+ Sunday 11am-8pm

ON FOOT: The park is a 15 minute walk from the city centre and 10 minutes from Coventry Railway Station.

CAR PARKING:
• There is FREE car parking for up to 2,000 vehicles on the festival site, with the entrance off Leamington Road. Please follow the festival car park signage.
• The Park and Ride South car park will NOT be open to the public.
• There will be an additional 200 space car parking facility in the Virgin Trains Car Park on Warwick Road, entrance off the Central Six roundabout (Saturday and Sunday only, charges apply).

Please note: Vehicles causing an obstruction on surrounding streets or parked on the verges will be towed away and you’ll be liable to pay a release fee, plus a possible fine, for ignoring double yellow lines.

Staying in touch
Throughout the three day event, bands announcements and updates will be added to

www.godivafestival.com
www.facebook.com/godivafestival
twitter.com/godivafestival
Kids get going with Shake Up campaign

Change4Life will return this summer with tons of ideas to get kids active.

Last year nearly 2,000 families from across Coventry signed up to the 10 Minute Shake Up campaign which aims to inspire children to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day, with fun, manageable 10 minute bursts of exercise.

Those that signed up received a free pack containing a stopwatch, wallchart and activity cards.

A free activity pack will be available from early July. Search ‘change4life’ to sign up.

This year’s Godiva Festival will include an activity zone in the Family Field and there will be a chance to try out fun activities such as skipping and Frisbee.

Blood tests closer than you think

Health organisations across Coventry and Warwickshire are reminding people about the options they have when they need a blood test.

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW) and NHS Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are advising patients can get blood tests at 39 different sites across Coventry as well as at the Hospital of St Cross in Rugby.

The sites are available in city pharmacies and GP practices, who offer a range of appointments from Monday to Friday, some from as early as 7.30am to as late as 6pm to fit around work commitments.

The free service is provided by staff who are trained by the local pathology service and the samples are picked up daily.

Results are processed and available in the same timescale if the test had taken place at the hospital.

Children under 12, people getting a specific Glucose Tolerance Test, or people who have had difficulty during blood taking, should still come to the hospital due to the close proximity of medical attention should they need it.

For more information about where you can get a blood test in your area go to http://uhcw.nhs.uk/for-patients-and-visitors/blood-tests-x-rays

Invite for all

NHS Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group is inviting rconference on Wednesday 23 September in Coventry. Professor Jonathan Valabhji, National Clinical Director for Obesity and Diabetes, NHS England will be giving a keynote speech on Diabetes. The event will also include lots of information on health and wellbeing and interactive sessions where people can have their say on local NHS services.

Please contact Raman Johal for more information call 024 7624 6181 or e-mail Raman.Johal@coventryrugbyccg.nhs.uk

United front helping patients tackle cancer

A group has been set up by University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW) to support cancer patients.

Patient Tony Elliott, 71, from Potters Green, Coventry, who is part of Cancer United, attended the first session after being diagnosed with prostate cancer almost 10 years ago.

Zoe O’Neill, Urology Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist, said: “Cancer United is a great opportunity for patients to get together with the staff they will meet on their journey, and to meet other people who find themselves in the same situation to ask questions and get support about their treatment.”

After being diagnosed with cancer, Tony didn’t give himself long but has now managed the condition for almost a decade, with care from professionals at UHCW. Tony said: “I went to my GP with a urinal problem 10 years ago and they mentioned that it might be cancer. They ran tests on eight cultures, which all tested for cancer. At that point I gave myself two years. “I was put on radiotherapy and drugs to help. Seven years after the two years and I am still here.”

“The staff have been superb and have kept me alive over the last 10 years.”

For information about Cancer United please contact Deborah Smith, Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Manager, on 024 7696 6052 or e-mail deborah.smith3@uhcw.nhs.uk
Payments scheme for the long term ill

People are being encouraged to get up to date with Personal Independence Payments and how they could help them.

The payments (PIP) help with some of the extra costs caused by long-term ill-health or disability for people aged from 16 to 64.

The level of PIP people receive depends on the impact their condition has on living an independent life. People can get between £21.80 and £139.75 a week, depending on how their condition affects them – not just on the condition itself.

A health professional will look at your ability to carry out certain key day to day activities, such as preparing food, washing, communicating and moving around.

The payments are replacing the old Disability Living Allowance and are being brought in in stages to cover all those on the old system as well as new claims. For details visit www.gov.uk/pip-checker

To learn more about PIP visit https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk, http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org

Think twice call in health cartoon

Health and social care organisations across Coventry have joined forces to urge people to think twice before using emergency care.

They have created three short animations to reinforce the message that 999 and accident and emergency is for life-threatening conditions only. The videos, that last around two minutes each, are aimed at three of the biggest groups of people presenting at A&E – parents with children aged up to five, males aged between 18 and 25 and females of the same age.

Research shows that many of these people turn up to A&E when they are not sure what health service to access and a key message of the animations is to phone 111 in the first instance if they are not sure.

NHS 111 is free from all mobiles and landlines 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. People can call the service from their mobile even if they have no credit.

Dialling 111 will put the caller through to a trained health professional who will assess your symptoms, offer advice and, if needed, direct you to the most appropriate healthcare service. They can even send an ambulance to you if you need one. To view the videos visit www.coventryrugbyccg.nhs.uk

Going smoke-free

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust is preparing to go ‘smoke-free’ this year.

The Trust is just the latest across England to agree to ban smoking by staff, patients and visitors, in all buildings and on land it owns.

The new policy will be supported by a programme of ‘quit’ training for staff in a range of Trust services.

If you live, work or are registered with a GP in Coventry, you can get free NHS support from the Smokefree Coventry team by calling 0300 200 0011, texting QUIT to 07768 867987 or e-mailing smokefree.coventry@cowarkpt.nhs.uk. More details about the Coventry service can be found on the Trust website at www.cowarkpt.nhs.uk/ CoventryStopSmoking

Shopping around for health tips

Coventry health visitors have been offering a Saturday morning open baby clinic trial in Tesco’s Community Room at Arena Park Shopping Centre between 9.30am and 12noon.

Coventry Health Visiting team currently operates a comprehensive Monday to Friday service, providing a range of services that help support children and their families to live healthy and well, from pregnancy to five years.

Shirley Raven, Head of the Pre-school Integrated Practice Unit at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust, said: “If this trial is successful, we hope to extend Saturday clinics to other areas of the city.”

The Saturday drop-in sessions provide the opportunity to talk to a health visitor about any concerns you have about your child.

To find out more visit our website www.cowarkpt.nhs.uk and search ‘Health Visiting’.

Kamran’s vow for healthier city

Coventry City Council’s new Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services, Cllr Kamran Caan is keen to push forward a series of health priorities for the city and believes that getting children to be more active is the foundation for good health.

Since he was elected as a councillor in 2012, he has already been closely involved in the health agendas of the city.

With the help of his Deputy Cabinet Member Cllr Joe Clifford, Cllr Caan hopes that the Council can improve children’s health and improve the life expectancy of people in the city.

“It’s a tragic fact that in the most deprived areas of our city men can expect to live almost 10 years less than people in the most affluent areas and the figure is only slightly lower for women,” he explained.

“Giving every child the best start in life is vital and sets the tone for good health throughout life. I am a keen runner and exercise as often as I can and prevention is the key for breaking health inequalities.

“I hope that all of our health partners can rally together to make a difference in the city. Together we can help make Coventry a healthier place for everyone.”

All smiles for Magic Mile

A city park which holds a monthly event in which participants complete a one mile route, is attracting walkers, cyclists, joggers, skateboarders and even a hula hooper.

Shelley, who regularly attends the Magic Mile event at Longford Park with her two grandchildren, Logan and Aiden, recently decided to ditch her motor scooter to walk the route.

She said: “My grandchildren love coming along to take part each month. I normally use my scooter but this time I decided to walk it with them. It took me a bit longer but I am so proud I did it.”

The Magic Mile takes place every third Sunday of the month and starts at the Windmill Road entrance to the park (CV6 7BE) at 10am and is free to take part. You can sign up online beforehand (www.coventry.gov.uk/magicmile) or sign up on the day, just turn up at 9.50am. To find out more, e-mail naomi.brook@coventry.gov.uk or phone 024 7683 3074.
Let’s make the most of sunshine

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

**JULY**

- **4 – 23** – Water Vole-unters. *(Sat, Wed, and Thur)*. Rangers Park activities. We need your help to protect and enhance the habitat of the endangered water vole. We have a series of volunteer days organised in partnership with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to remove invasive plant species and replant with native food plant species. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided but please bring your own lunch if you plan to stay the afternoon. £3 per child.

- **28-29, 30** – Love Parks Week, Longford Park Boardwalk and Wetland Project. (10.30am - 3pm, free). Suitable for adults and supervised children. No booking required.

- **31** – Once a Tree, War Memorial Park. (1.30pm-3pm, £3 per child). Join the Education Team to make and decorate some crafts that were once a tree! Suitable for five-year-olds and above.

**AUGUST**

- **4 – 27** – Fresh Air and Fun, (1.30pm-3pm Tue, Wed, Thur, free). Rangers Park activities. Join in the outdoor fun at city parks and play areas, including games and craft activities. Suitable for families.

- **4 – 27** – Photography Day at the Boathouse, Coombe Country Park, (9am-5pm access any time during these hours, £10 per person). Calling all photographers – unique opportunity to use the 18th century Capability Brown boathouse for a distinctly different point of view across the ‘serpent’ shaped lake and parkland. Suitable for adults.

- **24** – Summer Time Fun, War Memorial Park, (1.30pm). Join the Education Team for loads of outdoor fun in the sun! Come along and make some outdoor games that you can take home and use all summer long. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.

- **28** – Lucky Ladybird, Coombe Country Park, (10am-12noon, £4 per child). Learn all about the life cycle of a ladybird and see how many you can find in the wildflower meadow. Come back to the classroom to make a ladybird home and some ladybird themed arts and crafts. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.

- **29** – Crazy Clay, Coombe Country Park, (10-11.45am or 11-12.45pm, £3 per child). Have some fun seeing what you can make from clay in our fun workshop. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.

- **30** – Birds of Prey Display, Coombe Country Park, (11am-1pm, free). Fancy getting up-close and personal with these amazing birds of prey, brought to you by Iris May Falcons. Suitable for all. No booking required.

- **1 – 31** – Busy Bee Trail, Coombe Country Park (10am-4pm, £1 per trail sheet). We want to celebrate some of our hardest workers in the park – the bees! This is a fun self-led trial for families to navigate their way around some of the bees’ favourite hangouts in the park by solving the clues. Suitable for families.

- **6** – Badge making Fun, War memorial Park (1pm-3pm, £0.50). Join the Education Team in the Visitors’ Centre to make some badges. Suitable for families, please allow 45 minutes to complete all activities.

- **11** – Beautiful Butterflies, Coombe Country Park (10am-12noon, £4 per child). Learn all about the lifecycle of a butterfly and go out into the meadow to see how many different butterflies you can spot. In the classroom you can make your own nectar feeder to take home to encourage butterflies into your garden. Suitable for three-year-olds and above.

- **18, 25, 26** – Guided Bat Walk, Coombe Country Park (1pm-2.45pm, £3 per person). Have a hooting time finding out fascinating facts about our nocturnal friends and make some owl-themed arts and crafts to take home. Suitable for three-year-olds and above.

- **19** – Badger Trail, Coombe Country Park (10am-12pm, £1 per person). Expect more than life pieces of art in the park for you and your family to discover! From giant frogs to tree decorations – this is an excellent time to visit the park. Suitable for all. No booking required. Trail sheets can be picked up from shop in Visitors’ Centre.

- **30** – Art in the Park, Coombe Country Park (10am-12noon, £3 per person). Create some natural art within the park as part of our Art Week this family event. You will learn some simple techniques to create masterpieces wherever you go in your outdoor studio. Suitable for families.

- **31** – Berty the Bushcrafter: Shelterbuilding, Coombe Country Park (10am-12noon, £3 per person). Join our very popular bushcrafting sessions and learn how to make a one man shelter using natural materials. Suitable for families.
19 – Berty the Bushcrafter: Firelighting, Coombe Country Park (1pm-3pm £3 per person). Join our very popular bushcrafting sessions and learn how to build a fire and then toast some tasty marshmallows! Suitable for families.
20 – Under the Sea, War Memorial Park (1pm-3pm, £3 per child). Join our undersea explorers to have a go at making some arts and crafts of things that live under the sea. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.
21 – Pebble Pets, War Memorial Park (1.30pm-3pm, £3 per child). Join the Education Team for the afternoon and make your own pebble pet to take home. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.
25 – Build a Scarecrow, Coombe Country Park (10am-12noon, £4 per person). Why not come along and build a scarecrow for your garden? Bring some old clothes and create your very own scarecrow. Prizes awarded for the best in the show. Suitable for families.
25 – Batty about Bats, Coombe Country Park (1pm-3pm £4 per person). For details of activities see 25 Aug.
26 – Batty about Bats, Coombe Country Park (10am-10.45am or 11am-11.45pm, £3 per child). For details of activities see 25 Aug.
26 – Bat & Moth Night Date, Coombe Country Park (8pm-10pm, £10 per adult £5 per child). Suitable for eight-year-olds and above, for details of activities see 15 July.
27 – Bat & Moth Night Date, War Memorial Park (11pm-3pm, £3 per child). Come and learn all about the creatures that live in the undergrowth at the park, then make some arts and crafts to take home. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.
28 – Ceramic Fun, War Memorial Park (1.30pm-3pm, £3 per child). Come along and decorate a ceramic item before having a go at making your own unique item out of clay. Suitable for five-year-olds and above.

SEPTEMBER
11 – Guided Bat Walk, Ranger Park activities (8.15pm-9.30pm, free). Come and find out about these fascinating night flying mammals. The Rangers will bring a few bat detectors for participants to share. Suitable for families. Venues to be confirmed.
12-13 – HODs Festival of Crafts, Coombe Country Park (10am-4pm, free). After the roaring success of last year’s event, Coombe Abbey Woodturners are bringing back their festival of crafts for a whole weekend this year to promote traditional crafts and heritage skills. Find something unique at this special event. Suitable for all. No booking required.
12-13 – HODs Capability Clues, Coombe Country Park (10am-4pm, free, car parking charges still apply). Gardening can be hard work – but can you imagine designing more than 200 gardens across the country! Capability Brown did just that, but he had a few shortcuts – by using the same stand-out features in many parks! Can you help Cassie the Clue Hunter find all the Capability Clues in the park. Suitable for families. No booking required. Pick up free clue sheets from shop in Visitors’ Centre.
12-13 – HODs Open Day at the Boathouse, Coombe Country Park (12noon-2pm, free). Visitors can enjoy free entry to the recently restored Capability Brown boathouse so they can gain a brand new perspective on Brown’s famous serpent-shaped lake. Numbers will be limited inside the boathouse at any one time. Suitable for all, (please note that due to the undulating landscape of the deer park, wheelchair users and people with pushchairs may not find the boathouse easily accessible). No booking required.

War Memorial Park activities:
Meet at Education Room Visitors centre, booking not essential. Allow 45 minutes to complete all activities. For more information contact reception 024 76780 628.

Coombe Country Park activities:
Meet at Visitors’ Centre, advance booking and payment essential on 024 7645 3720 or e-mail coombe.countrypark@coventry.gov.uk – bookings by credit/debit cards accepted. Car parking charges still apply.

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

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L...
FOSTERING AND ADOPTION FOR COVENTRY
Together we can give children a childhood

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES EXHIBITION
1 - 30 June 2018 (免费, 开放时间如下)
Herbert Art Gallery

Come along to our exhibitions of positive images of childhood collected from our social media campaign.

If you like, join in and bring along a childhood photo of your own, or share a memory on the community wall.

The Adoption and Fostered team will be there:
Monday - Saturday, 11am - 4pm to chat about the urgent need for families in Coventry.

024 7683 2828
www.coventry.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering

STILL TIME TO CUT YOUR ENERGY BILL

Coventry residents who registered for the Council's latest Switch and Save scheme are set to save up to £300 off their energy bills thanks to super low and exclusive fixed rate tariff offers from British Gas and E.ON Energy, with prepayment customers also able to take advantage of an attractive tariff from OVO Energy.

The great news is that if you haven't registered yet, you can still register online at www.coventry.gov.uk/switch to see what saving you can make. But be quick – you'll need to register by the 29 June 2015.

As soon as you register you'll get your personal offer – if you then want to accept it you'll need to do this online before midnight on 30 June 2015.

www.coventry.gov.uk/switch

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23
Belgrade Theatre
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The Best Days of Our Lives
A sizzling new musical comedy from Maureen Chadwick
Music and lyrics by Kath Goets
4 – 19 Sept
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6 – 10 Oct
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9 – 14 Nov
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25 Nov – 9 Jan
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