

The Rugby & Lutterworth Friday, May 2nd 2025 Week18

Observer



VE Day 80th Anniversary Supplement 1945-2025

MARKING 80 YEARS SINCE VE DAY: A Time to Remember, Reflect and Honour

Eighty years ago, on 8 May 1945, the streets of Britain erupted with joy and relief as Victory in Europe was declared and the Second World War in Europe officially came to an end.

For those who lived through it, VE Day was more than a moment in history—it was the day the darkness began to lift after nearly six long years of conflict.

Today, we honour the courage and sacrifice of those who served on the frontlines and those who kept the home fires burning. This 80th anniversary is a time not only for celebration but for remembrance. Across our town and villages, families gather with memories—some joyful, some bittersweet—of a generation that gave so much and asked for so little in return.

As part of this special edition, we're proud to feature personal stories from local veterans and the families who carry their legacy forward. Their accounts are a powerful reminder that history is not just something we read in books—it lives in the memories, photographs,



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and whispered stories passed down through generations.

From the factory workers and Land Girls to the soldiers who fought in Europe, North Africa and beyond, the people of Britain came together in a show of unity and resilience that continues to inspire. And when the war finally ended, they didn't just rejoice—they rebuilt. Streets that once echoed with the sound of air raid sirens became places of peace and progress once again.

In 1945, communities gathered around radios, danced in village halls and filled town squares with laughter

and song. This year, we remember in a different way—perhaps with street parties, church services, or quiet moments of reflection. However we mark it, the message is the same: we will never forget.

We would also like to thank the local businesses whose support has made this commemorative issue possible. Their contributions ensure these stories of bravery and endurance continue to be told, and that new generations can learn from the past.

To those who served, we say thank you. To those who lived through those uncertain years, we offer our deepest respect. And to those who keep their memories alive—through stories, photos, medals in dusty drawers, or names in family trees—we stand with you in remembrance.

Eighty years on, VE Day reminds us that peace is something worth fighting for, and freedom is never free. Let us honour the past not just with words, but with a renewed commitment to the values that victory defended: unity, courage, and hope.



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COMMEMORATING 80 YEARS SINCE VE DAY



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Songs to remember VE Day at the Belgrade

To mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day, The Belgrade Theatre, Coventry presents a tribute to the legendary stars who kept us smiling through the dark days of World War II.

Spirit of the Blitz recaptures the defiant optimism of war-torn Britain, remembering the heroes of that treasured generation through the songs that tell their stories; songs like Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree, Bless 'Em All, Leaning On A Lamp-Post, and of course, We'll Meet Again.

The show, which is touring the country throughout May, comes to Coventry as part of the Belgrade's Midday Variety series, produced by entertainer Andy Eastwood. Andy will portray one of the hardest working performers of the 1940s, George Formby, and he describes it as a moving experience:

"The wonderful thing about Spirit Of The Blitz is that it means many things to different people. On the surface, it's a heart-warming, uplifting singalong. They were such awful times that the entertainment had to be bright and breezy and cheerful. But beneath the humour is a subtext of suffering and tragedy. Everyone in that audience will be remembering loved ones who went through it, so it's very thought-provoking too."

Also performing are singer Helen Farrell, who pays tribute to Dame Vera Lynn and



• Helen Farrell as Vera Lynn

Anne Shelton, and Steve Barclay, recreating the comedy of Max Miller and his contemporaries. Steve is looking forward to the show immensely: "Some of our audience will remember the forties, and it's an honour to entertain them, but it's also great for younger people to see the lovely warm way that performers charmed an audience back then. Swinging live music and good clean comedy – what better way to salute our heroes?"

Spirit Of The Blitz is at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry on Tuesday 13 May at 1.30pm. Tickets can be booked online at belgrade.co.uk or via the Box Office on 024 7655 3055.

CELEBRATING PEACE FOR THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF VE-DAY
A TRIBUTE TO A TREASURED GENERATION - REMEMBERING GREAT STARS OF THE FORTIES

COMMEMORATING VE Day 80

IN RUGBY & LUTTERWORTH



RUGBY

COMMUNITY events in Hillmorton, Rugby will mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The Hillmorton branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL) will hold evening events on Thursday, May 8.

At 7pm, a short service of remembrance will be held at Hillmorton War Memorial, beginning with lighting the Lamp of Peace.

Mayor Simon Ward will lay a wreath on behalf of Rugby Borough.

Deerings Regent Daytime WI have been working to provide hand knitted and crocheted poppies to decorate the War Memorial.

At 8pm, Hillmorton Ex-Servicemen's Club will host An Evening with Vera Lynn and friends. The event is being organised jointly by the Rotary Club of Rugby Dunsmore and the Hillmorton Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Singer Amie Boyd will headline the evening, which will also include music from the Phoenix Ukelele Band and the Ukrainian Choir. Proceeds from a collection and raffle will go towards the Rugby Ukrainian families.

LUTTERWORTH

A CEREMONY to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War will take place in Lutterworth. A beacon lighting event will be held at



Coventry Road Recreation Ground from 7pm to 10pm on Thursday (May 8).

The beacon will be lit at 9.30pm and there will be entertainment from Lutterworth Town Band and 1940s trio The Boswell Project. A bar, barbecue and other hot food will be available, along with fun games for children and goodie bags.

Elsewhere in Harborough District, a 1940s weekend event will take place at Harborough Market from 8am to 4pm on Saturday (May 3) and 10am to 3pm on Sunday (May 4), including a period style singer, a DJ, vintage trader stalls and classic vehicles. Activities are also being planned for the town square throughout the weekend.

On Thursday (May 8) at 10am, there will be a VE Day flag raising ceremony and proclamation taking place near The Symington Building and Old Grammar School in Market Harborough.

At 7.30pm a commemorative service of thanksgiving will take place at the town's St Dionysius Church, followed by an Act of Remembrance and wreath laying ceremony at the war memorial starting at 8.30pm.

On Sunday May 11 from 10am, a VE Day Anniversary Party in the Park will take place at Welland Park.

Harborough District Council will be sharing information about community events being held across the district on its website at www.harborough.gov.uk/ve-day. Community groups, schools, parish or town councils, parish meetings or any other organisations are encouraged to send details of their events to communications@harborough.gov.uk for inclusion on the council website.



SPIRIT OF THE BLITZ

STARRING
ANDY EASTWOOD
AS GEORGE FORMBY



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SWEETHEART OF SONG
HELEN FARRELL
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STEVE BARCLAY
AND SWINGING
LIVE MUSIC FROM
WENDY RICHARDSON
AND
PHIL JOHNSON



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New bid to get stadium on track



Campaigners hope to restore the derelict Coventry Stadium to its former glory.

CAMPAIGNERS trying to bring motor racing back to Coventry Stadium in Brandon have confirmed they are working with a consortium to achieve their goal.

The Save Coventry Speedway (SCS) campaign group is also urging residents to back a Rugby Borough Council (RBC) proposal supporting the restoration of the stadium – the former home of the Coventry Bees speedway team – and protecting it from future redevelopment.

Stadium owners Brandon Estates first presented a proposal to build homes on the site in 2014, with the venue closing in 2016.

Rugby Borough Council's planning committee unanimously refused the plan in 2022, with a subsequent appeal rejected by the

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

Planning Inspectorate in 2024.

A spokesperson for Save Coventry Speedway and Stox said: "Supporters will remember that in 2020 an offer to buy the stadium was made by businessman and stock car enthusiast Warren Hunter – an offer which was never accepted or refused by the owners.

"It is now an appropriate time to confirm that we are working with a consortium of committed individuals, which includes Mr Hunter, all of whom are credible businesspeople and who possess the financial, technical and operational capabilities to firstly secure and clear up the site in a timely manner, and then to restore the site for racing.

"We are fully confident that with the support of Rugby Borough Council to gain control of the site, it will be possible to speedily end the years of misery for local residents and motorsports fans following the forced closure of the stadium."

The group is encouraging supporters to back a policy in RBC's new Local Plan – which is currently under public consultation – which states: "The council supports the restoration of Coventry Stadium for speedway and stock car racing and other motor sports together with other community uses.

"Planning permission will not be granted for development proposals which would conflict with these objectives."

The group's spokesperson added: "We are asking all speedway and stock car supporters – plus local

residents who also want the site to remain as a motorsports venue – to please send an e-mail or letter of support to the council, and to possibly add some brief explanation as to why the stadium is important to you personally.

"The previous Local Plan consultation resulted in one of the largest responses in RBC history with specific regard to Brandon, and it is absolutely crucial that we now look to match or exceed that response.

"This is a critical moment in the campaign, and every single response really is important."

RBC leader Coun Michael Moran said the stadium continuing as a derelict site was not an option.

He added: "A viable business plan for a new stadium must be put forward and underpinned by external independent professional advisers.

"I am due to meet the SCS Group in the coming weeks, and after that I will hopefully meet with Brandon Estates once again. Then for everyone's benefit we will soon be in a position where the Brandon site can come forward - as clearly continuing as a derelict site for another decade helps nobody.

"Rugby Borough Council can then look to make a formal statement on the matter as soon as it is able."

The Local Plan consultation period ends on May 19.

Responses can be sent by email to localplan@rugby.gov.uk with "Preferred Option Consultation" in the subject line, or by post to Preferred Option Consultation, Development Strategy Team, Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby, CV21 2RR. Names and addresses must be included.



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Bangers for cash in run to Benidorm

FUNDRAISING petrol heads are hoping to clock up the miles for local children's charity Molly Ollys as they gear up for an epic 1,200-mile car rally.

by Philippa Mingins

Kieran Kelley, from Autotech Warwick and Nick Perkins, from Wedgcock Motors, will each be heading up two of the five teams taking part in the Benidorm Bangers Road Trip. Kieran will be joined in his car by Riley Wright and Ben McIntosh, and Nick by Dave Reagan and Derek Fitzpatrick.

Father and son teams make up the other vehicles, with Harry and Paul Maynard, and Steve and Callum Pickering, all from Leamington, and Andy and Tom and Lewis Perkins,

all from Hinckley. As part of the five-day adventure, also known as Run To The Sun, the teams will set out from Dover on May 6, before driving through France and Spain to the finish line in Benidorm.

Their vehicles of choice will be old Mercedes and Volkswagen Beetles destined for the scrap yard at the end of the rally.

Kieran said: "What we're most nervous about is getting to the destination without too many problems. Our VW Beetle convertible we used last year gave us a bit of trouble but we managed to limp it over the finish line."

"We chose Mollys Ollys because

most of us are fathers and they are a local very good cause. After meeting Rachel, the founder, it was quickly obvious that is who we wanted to support.

"Last year we did it for SCBU special care baby unit at Warwick Hospital and had a very good response, raising £2,500.

"This is our way to give back to the community. We do this totally self-funded, buying the cars, entry fees, vehicle repairs, also accommodation when away, so every penny we raise can go to the greater good. If we can have a laugh and raise money for something good like Mollys Ollys that will do me."

Molly Ollys works to support children with terminal or life-limiting



Nick Perkins and Kieran Kelley will be taking Olly The Brave along for the ride in their Benidorm Bangers Road Trip.

illnesses and their families and help with their emotional wellbeing. As well as providing more than 4,300 wishes to date, they donate therapeutic toys and books to both children directly and to hospitals throughout the UK.

Kieran and Nick, whose garag-

es are the main sponsors of their Benidorm Bangers trip, are hoping to break their £6,000 fundraising target.

Visit www.justgiving.com/page/kieran-kelly-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL to donate.

Time to get on your bike – to help hospice

THE WHEELS are being set in motion for The Myton Hospices' annual cycle challenge

It will take place on Sunday August 3 and riders

can choose to pedal 50km, 100km, or 100-mile.

All routes begin and end at Warwick Myton Hospice and a barbecue, drinks and entertainment will be wait-

ing at the finish line.

This year, Myton is aiming to raise £55,000 from this event, which could cover the running costs of Warwick Myton Hospice for

11 days. The funds raised will enable the hospice to continue providing essential palliative and end of life care to people living with life-limiting illnesses, and their families.

Natalie Walker, events and campaigns manager at The Myton Hospices, said: "We are thrilled to host this popular cycling event and invite everyone to join us in raising funds for Myton's essential services. This year, we need to raise over £11 million of the £14.3 million it costs to continue proving our services free of charge.

"Everyone who takes part in this year's cycle challenge will help to ensure we can be there for more people when they need us most, now and in the future."

Visit the website at www.mytonhospice.org/Cycle to sign up.

Fundraisers are being urged to saddle up for The Myton Hospices' annual cycle challenge. Picture by Marcus Mingins 1823001MMR To order copies of our photos, visit www.buyphotos247.com





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Cara, Lewis, centre, Ronnie and Jackson with friends and supporters at the Pathway to Progress garden party. 1925003 MMR5



Ronnie (right) and Jackson (second right) took part in an egg-and-spoon race to raise money for STARS and the OurJay Foundation. 1925003MMR3



The grown-ups – including Cara, centre left – had a go too! 1925003MMR4 Pictures by Marcus Mingsins

Mum on right Path for charities

A ‘THRILLED’ mum has stepped up her campaign to raise awareness of the rare condition which leaves her three-year-old son vulnerable to seizures.

Cara Flitton launched her campaign Pathway to Progress to share the story of her son Ronnie, who suffers from Reflex Anoxic Seizures (RAS), and to connect with other families in the same position.

And she is celebrating the success of her first community event, a garden tea party which has raised hundreds for STARS and the OurJay Foundation – two charities which have helped Ronnie.

Cara, who lives with Ronnie, his five-year-old brother Jackson,

and her partner Lewis, said it was a ‘completely unexpected and terrifying’ experience when Ronnie had his first episode while he was at nursery.

She said: “He suddenly went pale, limp, and lost consciousness – something no parent ever wants to hear. Watching your child go through something like that is heartbreaking. We were left feeling helpless and overwhelmed.

“Learning that he had RAS was a huge shock, and it’s something we’re still learning to live with every day.”

After he was diagnosed, STARS – the Syncope Trust And Reflex anoxic Seizures charity – helped the family understand what was happening to Ronnie and how to support him.

“We constantly have to be on alert and adapt our daily routines to try and avoid triggers and reduce risks,” Cara said. “It’s also meant educating those around us – friends, nursery staff, and extended family – so they know what to do if he has an episode.”

The family was contacted by Rugby woman Naomi Rees-Issitt from the OurJay Foundation – a charity she set up in memory of her son Jamie who died aged 18 – to provide them with a portable defibrillator.

“That gesture changed everything,” said Cara. “It gave us a huge sense of relief and took the edge off the constant anxiety we live with, just knowing we have it with us in case of an emergency.”

“There was one incident where we came close to needing it dur-

ing one of Ronnie’s episodes, but thankfully he came back around quickly. Just having it gives us peace of mind we didn’t have before.”

At the garden party last weekend, Cara and family raised £400 to be split between the two charities – and Cara hopes to keep raising awareness of the condition to help other families facing the same challenges.

She added: “Ronnie is such a brave little boy. He copes so well, even though he’s been through more than most his age.

“Ronnie is cheeky, curious, and full of life. He loves to laugh, dance, and explore the world around him. His spirit is so bright, and he has a real knack for bringing joy to everyone he meets.

“As a family, we’re doing our

best to stay positive and proactive by raising awareness and connecting with others.

“Pathway To Progress is a small awareness page I set up in honour of Ronnie. It’s become a space to share our story, promote education, and create positive change through community, conversation, and charity events.

“We have had over 10 different families that have reached out to the page that have a child with RAS and we all been keeping in regular conversation about each others experience and support where needed.

“Fundraising has really helped us focus our energy in a positive way.”






Visit <https://tinyurl.com/3tr7rmjw> for more information on Pathway to Progress.

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LEFT: Left to right: Stephen Pinner from The Hill Group, Kevin Roach, director of regeneration at Citizen, Coun Jim O'Boyle and Coun Naem Akhtar at the demolition site.



RIGHT: Housing association Citizen is working with The Hill Group to demolish Kerry House, Milestone House and Trafalgar House.

10-year revamp project begins

DEMOLITION of buildings in the Spon End area of Coventry has officially started, marking a key regeneration milestone.

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

Housing association Citizen is working with The Hill Group to demolish Kerry House, Milestone House and Trafalgar House.

Initially, works will take place inside the homes to all fixtures and fittings before the buildings are taken down.

This marks the first stage in a huge regeneration project to build more than 750 homes across three phases.

In the first phase, 158 homes will be demolished, and, subject to planning permission, 261 affordable

homes will be built in their place.

Director of regeneration at Citizen, Kevin Roach, said: "We've been working hard with our partners behind the scenes over the last few years on this regeneration project which will transform Spon End by providing more energy-efficient, affordable housing, increasing the area and quality of green open space and opening up the area of the River Sherbourne.

"This is a major project to regenerate the area over the next 10 years and we have worked with the community to ensure that their priorities and feedback has influenced

our plans for the area. We're looking forward to seeing the demolition progress over the next few months and to start on site in spring 2026."

The three blocks which are being demolished were first built in the 1960s and have most recently been used as part of various BBC productions including This Town, My Name is Leon and Phoenix Rise.

Coventry City Council, Homes England and West Midlands Combined Authority are key partners supporting the delivery of the project.

Coun Jim O'Boyle, Coventry City Council's cabinet member for jobs, regeneration and climate change, said: "This is a really important regeneration scheme and one that

is going to provide a lot of social and environmental benefits to the area.

"I've visited the site and seen close up the work under way to remove fittings and structures inside the buildings.

"You can also see how dated and tired the existing housing and infrastructure looks, and it's great to know that they will be replaced modern, warm and energy efficient homes, more quality green space and all with the River Sherbourne as a key feature.

"It's going to be a major improvement for the Spon End area and I'm looking forward to seeing work start to progress."

West Midlands Mayor Richard Parker added: "Our region is bril-

liant at building houses but not always the kind that people can afford.

"We desperately need more social and affordable housing so that everyone in the region can have a safe, secure place to call home.

"Spon End may be something of a TV star, but it's no longer fit for purpose.

"It's time to bring the curtain down on these old properties and replace them with new, high-quality social homes."

Demolition works are due to be complete in early 2026, with plans to start building the new homes in Spring 2026. The homes, which will be one and two-bed flats, are due to be completed and handed over to customers in late 2028.

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PC sacked after having explicit images on phone

A WARWICKSHIRE Police constable has been dismissed without notice for multiple breaches of professional standards amounting to gross misconduct.

The former PC misused police systems, and was found to have explicit images on their work mobile phone and indecent images taken in the workplace on their personal mobile phone.

During a hearing at Stratford Police Station, chair Asst Ch Con Claire Armes, found the allegation of gross misconduct proven and determined there had been breaches of the standards of authority, respect and courtesy, orders and instructions, duties and responsibilities, confidentiality, and conduct.

The officer has been placed on the barred list by the College of Policing.

At the start of the hearing, the chair agreed to all parties

by Philippa Mingins

anonymity and a subsequent application to lift reporting restrictions was also refused on the grounds of protecting children involved in the case and preventing unacceptable risk to their identity being revealed.

Det Supt Paul Thompson said: "We welcome this decision and although it has been a lengthy investigation, it's ultimately one with the correct outcome.

"We will always seek out and investigate officers where we believe there have been potential breaches of the standards of professional behaviour we expect.

"We understand behaviour of this nature completely discredits the police service and the officer in this instance fell a long way short of the standards we would expect in our organisation.

"However, I would like

to emphasise that the vast majority of officers and staff in Warwickshire go to work every day to make a difference and protect the community.

"We hope the public can take confidence from today's outcome knowing that we will deal robustly with any wrongdoing and take action accordingly."

The officer was originally suspended in 2020, and a referral was made to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) as part of a larger investigation involving the officer and other parties.

Following the conclusion of the IOPC investigation in early 2023, Warwickshire Police conducted a further investigation between spring 2023 and December 2024, which then led to this month's hearing.

The outcome of the misconduct hearing is subject to the normal appeals process.

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WHERE THINGS FOR YOUR GARDEN WON'T COST YOU THE EARTH

Inspiring finalists compete to be First in prestigious awards

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

INSPIRATIONAL achievers from Rugby have been named among the finalists in the seventh Ladies First Network Business and Inspirational Women Awards.

Clare Randall, of Stonewall Security, is competing for the big award of the night – Business Woman of the Year.

Also among the finalists, who have been selected from hundreds of nominations from across the UK, are Tracy Richardson of Serendipity Wellness, who is up for the Excellence In Health and Beauty award, and Malcom Freeman of Oxygen Elements, who has been shortlisted for the Business Man of the Year prize.

A host of new categories are among the 20 being contested this year, including Women of Courage, Excellence In Independent Food Businesses, Excellence In Marketing and Media, Women in Property, and Inclusive Leadership/Women on Boards.

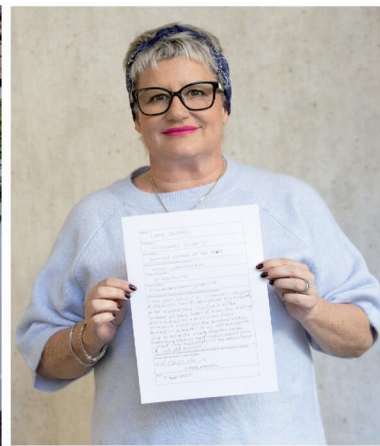
The gongs are also honouring, Start-up of the Year, Trailblazer/Entrepreneur, Excellence In Health and Wellbeing, Charity of the Year and Community Advocate,



Tracy Richardson, of Serendipity Wellness, is up for the Excellence In Health and Beauty award. Picture by Jane Collier.



Malcom Freeman, of Oxygen Elements, has been shortlisted for the Business Man of the Year prize. Picture by Jane Collier.



Clare Randall is competing for the Business Woman of the Year award. Picture by Jane Collier.

Family Business of the Year, Business Consultant, Excellence in Professional Services, Excellence In Technology, Start-Up, and Lifetime Achievement.

All nominees were invited to an independent judging day at Mallory Court Country House

Hotel and Spa in Leamington, ahead of a prestigious awards ceremony at Dallas Burston Polo Club in Southam on June 5.

The awards were unveiled at The House of Commons in February and are headed up by Ladies First director Tracey McAtamney. She

said: "What an incredible day filled with inspiration, introductions and networking."


"Mallory Court was buzzing with six teams of judges and ninety finalists across the day."

"A huge thank you to all of our sponsors, finalists, judges and

Ladies First Team for making the day so special."

This year's awards are supporting fundraising for vital cancer equipment for local hospitals.

Visit the website at <https://ladiesfirstnetwork.co.uk> for the full list of finalists.



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7TH-10TH MAY 2025

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Music by
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Lyrics by
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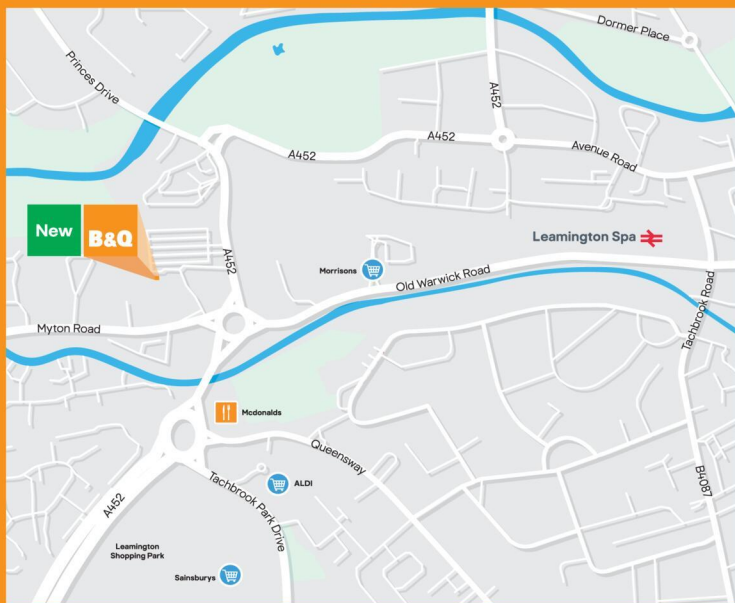
Roald Dahl's amazing tale is now YOG's golden ticket with songs from the original film including *Pure Imagination*, *The Candy Man*, and *I've Got a Golden Ticket*.
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Friday	9th May	7.30pm	ALL TICKETS - £20.00	
Saturday	10th May	2.30pm	£20.00	£18.00
Saturday	10th May	7.30pm	ALL TICKETS - £20.00	

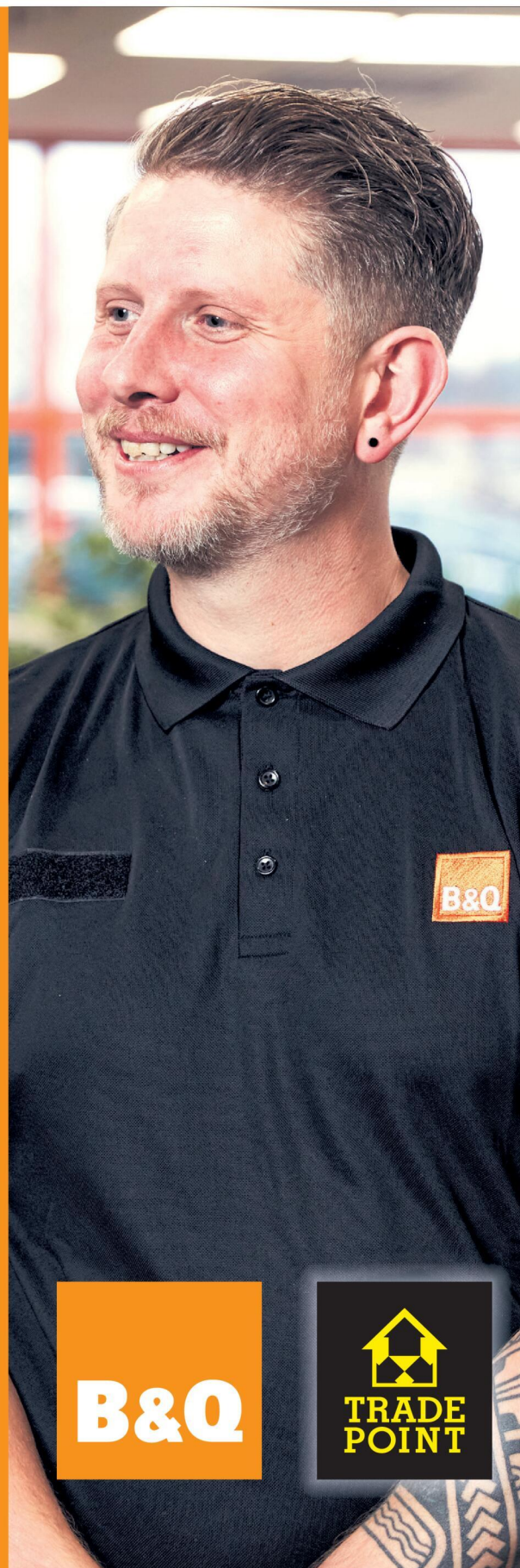
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VE Day 80

Vintage market and re-enactors join event to mark anniversary

RUGBY will celebrate the anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day next week at a free event in the town centre. A vintage market takes place at Old Market Place on Thursday (May 8), the 80th anniversary of the Second World War in Europe coming to an end when the German forces surrendered after nearly six years of conflict.

In addition to the vintage market, the VE Day celebration includes free vintage garden games and face-painting, with Second World War re-enactors also on hand to help visitors step back in time to the 1940s. Rugby Borough Council plans to mark VE Day by flying a special 80th anniversary flag at the Town Hall and, at 9.30pm, lighting a Lamp Light of Peace

– part of a nationwide campaign to mark the anniversary and remember those who fought for our freedom during the Second World War. The council also plans to install VE Day and Victory in Japan (VJ) Day 80th anniversary memorial benches at the war memorials at Whitehall Recreation Ground and Hillmorton's High Street,

together with a memorial bench near the silhouette statues of soldiers at Bilton's Assheton Recreation Ground. Tom Kittendorf, Rugby Borough Council's chief officer for leisure and wellbeing, said: "We want to capture the spirit of VE Day at the vintage market and turn it into a celebration for the whole community, while taking the opportunity to remem-

ber the sacrifices made by so many to ensure we enjoy our freedom today." The VE Day vintage market runs from 3pm to 8pm. Email MandyJane@tcountrevents.co.uk to book a stall at the event. * See page 16 for more on VE Day celebrations in Rugby and Lutterworth.

 [bargains_from_yesteryear](#) 

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 Followed by Sunday 1st June '25

City's Broadgate to host free street party



Communities will light a Lamp Light of Peace – part of a nationwide campaign to mark the anniversary and remember those who fought for our freedom during the Second World War – on VE Day.

A FREE street party in Coventry will celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Coventry residents are being invited to join a street party in Broadgate on Thursday (May 8) to mark 80 years to the day since Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces, which signalled the end of the Second World War in Europe. The party starts at 7pm and will run until 9.40pm. There will be a stage and big screen, and BBC CWR will be presenting the entertainment.

People are encouraged to bring their own picnics (no glass) and set up at benches that will be in place around the square. Costumed greeters will welcome people as they arrive, and flags will be provided for people to

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

wave. Attendees are also encouraged to turn up in 1940s style dress to add a little extra touch of nostalgia. Coun Abdul Khan, Coventry City Council's deputy leader and cabinet member for events, said: "As a city that suffered so greatly in the war and emerged with a message of peace and reconciliation, it is so fitting that we host a party in the heart of the city to mark the 80th anniversary of such a momentous day in our history."

"We know communities will be hosting their own street parties, but this event will give everyone the chance to come together and celebrate as a city."

"It promises to be a lot of fun for people of all ages, but it also gives us a chance to look back and remember and give thanks for the peace that the people of those years fought so hard to give us."

Sophie Cook, editor at BBC CWR, added: "VE Day stands as a powerful reminder of the courage, sacrifice, and resilience shown by so many during one of history's darkest times."

"BBC CWR are proud to join Coventrians together to pay tribute to the Second World War generation and ensure their legacy is remembered."

The event will start with the reading of a national proclamation to remember the victims of the war and the sacrifices made.

There will then be a varied programme of music and entertainment, as well as images from 1945 projected on to a big screen.

The event will also honour the contribution of South Asian communities to the war and the victory, with a vibrant on-stage display of Bhangra dance as part of the evening's entertainment.

The evening will close as Coventry joins other towns and cities in lighting a Lamp Light of Peace with the audience invited to join the singing of We'll Meet Again before the National Anthem is played.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yvbx83hh> for more information.

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Saturday June 14th at 11 am
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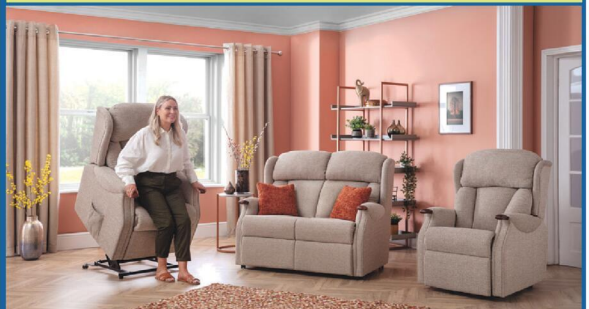
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Rugby Spring Food Festival



LEFT: Harriet (seven), Cassandra and Emily (10) enjoy churros. 1925002MMR7

© All pictures Bullivant Media

RIGHT: Stuart and Karen Berry sample onion bhajis from Navjot Singh of Chilli Guys. 1925002MMR8



Saucy crepes. 1925002MMR11



Families enjoy the day. 1925002MMR10

The perfect recipe

AL FRESCO feasting was the order of the day at the Rugby Spring Food Festival on Saturday (April 26).

Around 50 stalls lined Regent Street and Regent Place, serving up food and drink from local businesses, farms and producers.

The free event also featured a fun-fair, circus skills, a bouncy castle, a children's show, face painting and spoon carving workshops.

Live music, performed at St Andrew's Church Gardens and on Bank Street, included a Rock Choir, The Big Sing, Joe Davis, David Newman, James Kirkland, Sam Flack, Izzie Porter, Rosie and Ben, Josh Ireson, Robert Miles Barnett, Steve Litten and The Boat Rats.



Rosie and Ben. 1925002MMR4



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Rugby Spring Food Festival



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: Cheeky painted faces. 1925002MMR5; Oodles of noodles. 1925002MMR1; Enjoying their gin fizz cocktails. 1925002MMR3; Rock Choir entertain the crowds. 1925002MMR6; and Crowds flock to Rugby for the Food Festival.1925002MMR2
All pictures © Bullivant Media

Pictures by
Marcus Mingins





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Enjoy the sights and sounds of Bollywood in charity fundraiser

by Ian Hughes
ian.hughes@bullivantmedia.com

THERE'LL be plenty of Bollywood glitz and glam at a fundraising dance spectacular in Warwick.

The Shakespeare Soroptimists' Bollywood Charity Ball will feature dance routines by Bollywood Dreams and live singing by Brij Kumar as well as the chance to enjoy a three-course Indian banquet and a DJ.

Proceeds from the night will go towards the purchase of new Cuddle Cots or Cuddle Blankets for Warwick Hospital, thanks to the support of the Luca Foundation.

The Luca Foundation was established by Sharon Luca-Chatha to raise money to provide resources, facilities and training to better serve families that have suffered the loss of a baby or those at high risk of doing so.

Through a calendar of events, activities and donations, families are supported through the provision of refrigerated Cuddle Cots to allow them the time they need to say goodbye to their baby.

The charity works closely with the NHS to distribute, and repair CuddleCots, as well as raising funds to provide research and training to reduce infant mortality, and provide resources and facilities to mater-



nity units, neonatal intensive care units and paediatric wards to support families through child bereavement.

Sharon's life was turned upside down in June 2012 when she lost her son Luca to stillbirth at 36 weeks. Since then she has gone on to give the 'gift of time' to thousands grieving families.

Sharon said: "I am thrilled that

the Shakespeare Soroptimist group has selected The Luca Foundation as their charity for their upcoming fundraising event. Many of the women I've spoken with have either sadly experienced baby loss themselves or know someone who has, making this cause deeply personal for them."

"When they learned about my experience – specifically, how my

baby's body was misplaced for nine hours due to a lack of proper equipment – they felt a strong desire to ensure that such resources are accessible to everyone. This shared passion led them to choose to collaborate with our charity to support bereaved parents."

The Stratford-based Shakespeare Soroptimists is part of a global volunteer organisation that provides

Bollywood Dance Dreams will be performing at the Shakespeare Soroptimists' Bollywood Charity Ball at Warwick School on May 10.

women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Committed to working together to improve the lives of women and girls in Stratford, members work on local projects and in regional, national and global networks to make an impact.

Anita Dinnes, treasurer at Shakespeare Soroptimists and ambassador at The Luca Foundation, said: "The work of the Foundation is close to my heart. I have experienced the loss of two babies and know amidst that trauma how difficult it is to find support and gain space to grieve.

"A friend of mine also lost twins at full term in Warwick Hospital, and I know what they went through as a family. I also had my miscarriage there, so it is good to support the wing of the hospital as it is a department that is struggling with the lack of equipment and midwives."

The Bollywood Charity Ball takes place at Warwick Hall at Warwick School on Saturday May 10.

Tickets cost £80 each or £750 per table of ten. Visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bollywood-charity-ball-tickets-1115632931129 for tickets.

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Town set to celebrate VE Day 80 with service and beacon lighting

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

A CEREMONY to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War will take place in Lutterworth on VE Day next week.

A beacon lighting event will be held at Coventry Road Recreation Ground from 7-10pm on Thursday (May 8).

The beacon will be lit at 9.30pm and there will be entertainment from Lutterworth Town Band and 1940s trio The Boswell Project. A bar, barbecue and other hot food will be available, along with fun games for children and goodie bags.

Elsewhere in Harborough District, a 1940s weekend event will take place at Harborough Market from 8am to 4pm on Saturday (May 3) and 10am to 3pm on Sunday (May



4), including a period style singer, a DJ, vintage trader stalls and classic vehicles. Activities are also

being planned for the town square throughout the weekend.

On Thursday (May 8) at 10am,

there will be a VE Day flag raising ceremony and proclamation taking place near The Symington Building and Old Grammar School in Market Harborough.

At 7.30pm a commemorative service of thanksgiving will take place at the town's St Dionysius Church, followed by an Act of Remembrance and wreath laying ceremony at the war memorial starting at 8.30pm.

On Sunday May 11 from 10am, a VE Day Anniversary Party in the Park will take place at Welland Park.

John Richardson, Chief Executive of Harborough District Council, said: "VE Day is a national time of celebration, reflection and remembrance, as we mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the six years of terrible conflict and the loss of so many service personnel and civilians.

"At Harborough District Council, we are rightly proud of our Armed

Forces Covenant Silver Award and the work we do through our Armed Forces Officer and our Elected Member Armed Forces Champion to support service personnel, and they will remain at the forefront of our minds as we take part in the VE Day commemorations.

"I hope many of our residents will be able to attend the events in our district to mark this important day in our nation's history."

Harborough District Council will be sharing information about community events being held across the district on its website at www.harborough.gov.uk/ve-day. Community groups, schools, parish or town councils, parish meetings or any other organisations are encouraged to send details of their events to communications@harborough.gov.uk for inclusion on the council website.

COMMUNITY events in Rugby will mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The Hillmorton branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL) decided to hold evening events on the anniversary as it falls on a working day - Thursday May 8.

At 7pm, a short service of remembrance will be held at

Hillmorton War Memorial, beginning with lighting the Lamp of Peace.

Mayor Simon Ward will attend and lay a wreath on behalf of Rugby Borough.

Deerings Regent Daytime WI have been working to provide hand knitted and crocheted poppies to decorate the War Memorial.

At 8pm, Hillmorton Ex-Servicemen's Club will host An Evening with Vera Lynn and friends. The event is being organised jointly by the Rotary Club of Rugby Dunsmore and the Hillmorton Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Singer Amie Boyd will headline the evening, which will also

include music from the Phoenix Ukelele Band and the Ukrainian Choir. Proceeds from a collection and raffle will go towards the Rugby Ukrainian families.

Kathryn Lawrence, chair of the Hillmorton Branch of the Royal British Legion, said: "It is a real community event with the involvement of RBL branch members, the

Rotary Club of Rugby Dunsmore, The Ukrainian Choir, the Phoenix Ukelele Band and Hillmorton Ex-Servicemen's Club.

"There is no charge for the event and we hope that people will come along and enjoy a drink or two and join in some of the songs from the 1940s."

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Music Matters

A Damn fine way to spend a night



MUSIC MATTERS!
Pete Chambers
BEM writes for
The Observer

BACK in the 1980s, Coventry was awash with venues and gigs almost every night. Fast forward to 2025 and we are experiencing something of resurgence.

A few weeks ago it transpired that there was something like five major gigs all happening in the city on the same night. Yes it was a Saturday, but such a pattern can also be seen midweek. Venues like The HMV Empire, The Tin, The Arches, Just Dropped In at Fargo and Knights at the 2-Tone Village and many more all help make Coventry a vibrant place and are giving us status as a musical hub.

This is something that should be noted by local music lovers and something to be enjoyed. Coventry is in a good place locally and that has to be a good thing.

On top of that, many of the acts are breakthrough and diverse.

Last week, Just Dropped In at Fargo hosted an 'in-store' event for the Welsh rock band Those Damn Crows, a band that current-



Those Damn Crows performed at an in-store event at Just Dropped In at Fargo.

ly have their album God Shaped Hole at number one in the official national album charts!

For your local record store, you will have to admit that is a great big coup.

I was there along with about another 90 other music fans as the band performed a selection of acoustic-cut downs from their chart-topping LP.

They reminded me a lot like Nickelback, and I heard that name used a few times during the event so I guess I'm wasn't the only one who saw the similarity.

Good set though, and testament to Alun and the team at Just Dropped In.

The Rollocks – Artists of the Month

The Rollocks are something of a Cov supergroup, comprising former members of such local greats as Luna and The Moonhounds, Resurrection Men, Shanghai Hostage and Superhooch.

Some pedigree there, with a line up that boasts Chris 'T-Wurz' Worsley, Aimee 'Tina Tennents' Goodall, Martin 'Motion' Hudson, and Zeke 'Zeke Street' Martin.

The new EP, entitled Up The Rollocks, is imminent. The EP was recorded and mixed at The Moonbase, Coventry Produced by Jon Webb and The Rollocks.

On Saturday May 10 at noon at The Coventry Music Museum, they will become the latest artists we bestow 'Artist of The Month' and they also get to be interviewed by yours truly on a Q&A we call 'Sounding Off'. Expect some acoustic songs plus one very special surprise.

The band describes themselves like this: "Formed in 2022, The Rollocks have since taken the Coventry music scene hostage with their raucous and sassy, glamorous-but-gritty, psychedelic hard rock experience that simply cannot be matched.

"They bear a wide range of influences such as Tina Turner, Black Sabbath, Etta James, Iggy Pop, Motorhead, Aretha Franklin and Sex Pistols to name a few.

"In the short space of a year, The Rollocks have sold out local venues and have an ever-increasing fan base containing people from all walks of life. Their songs are ferociously hook-laden and catchy. Their performances are wild and hypnotic.

"Their members are working-class artists who demand to be heard."



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Whether you're a die-hard fan or discovering their music for the first time, this stunning show promises an unforgettable experience for all.

For tour dates, tickets and more information, visit www.abba-arrival.co.uk

Coventry Albany Theatre, Saturday 14th June, Tickets £21-£27.50, www.albanytheatre.co.uk



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Shakespeare's Birthday



LEFT: The birthday boy himself joins the parade through the town's streets. 1925001MMR

RIGHT: Youngsters from Poland on the parade. 1925001MMR

FAR RIGHT: Stratford MP Manuela Peregheila spotted in the crowd. 1925001MMR



Day of firsts for the Bard

STRATFORD staged the 461st birthday celebrations of its most famous son at the weekend – and there were a few firsts.

Crowds lined the streets for the annual Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations parade on Saturday morning. Participants from around the world joined others from closer to home, including school children and of course the birthday boy himself 'Mr Shakespeare'.

The procession paraded to Bridge Street for the unfurl-

by Philippa Mings

ing of the flags before heading to Holy Trinity Church where flowers were placed on Shakespeare's grave.

The official Shakespeare Birthday Luncheon was held in the Theatre Gardens where this year's Birthday Lecture was given by Dame Harriet Walter.

There were a host of activities inspired by Shakespeare's female characters, as the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust embarks on the second year of its multi-

year project, The Women Who Made Shakespeare.

And in a first, a silent disco was held outside Shakespeare's Birthplace. Disco-goers were given a set of headphones and could explore two different playlists of modern artists inspired by the female heroes and anti-heroes found in the plays.

There were also drop-in craft workshop led by female artists.

A glass was also raised to the Bard by his grave. The new event, which also provided

the opportunity for people to see the flowers laid following the parade, was organised to raise funds for the Friends of Shakespeare's Church.

And for the first time an auction took place for Shakespeare's quill.

During the parade a pupil from King Edward VI School places a new quill in the hand of the bust of Shakespeare in the chancel of the church. This year the old quill was auctioned off with all the cash going towards the conservation of the church.



Ruff! Ruff! 1925001MMR

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John raises £1.8k for Back & Forth

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

RUGBY'S MP has raised thousands for a mental health charity in the town by running the London Marathon.

John Slinger took to the streets of the capital on Sunday (April 27) to run his first marathon in ten years - raising over £1,800 for Back & Forth Men's Mental Health.

He finished the marathon in four hours and 33 minutes.

He said: "I'm glad I ran the London Marathon.

"The atmosphere was amazing, and these events show how running is a positive thing that brings people together.

"I haven't run a marathon for over ten years and it was a hot day so it was quite a tough run! Towards the end I was kept going by knowing that I'm raising money for Back and Forth Men's Mental Health. It's an important cause and they're a great charity."

Founded by Dan Phillips, Back & Forth provides a safe, stigma-free space for men



to walk and talk. The charity hosts weekly walks that encourage open conversation and connection, supporting hundreds of men in the Rugby area each year.

Mr Slinger added: "I've met the team, and hugely respect their approach, which is based around going on walks that encourage men to talk about their emotions.

"They offer a wide range of support.

"I'm nearly at £2,000, so please do donate if you can." Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yxus9b7t> to donate.

Visit <https://backandforth-mmh.co.uk> for more information on Back & Forth Men's Mental Health.

John Slinger during the London Marathon.

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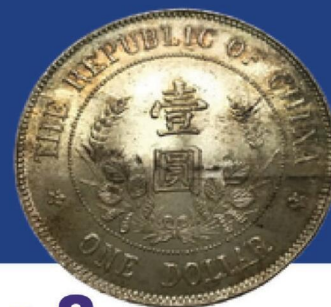
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Indian music legacy to hit the right note

AN INDIAN classical musical tradition dating back half a millennium will continue this weekend with a performance in Rugby.

The May Mahotsavam event will showcase Indian Carnatic classical music – a 500-year-old musical art form from southern India which involves playing traditional compositions with the artists adding their own creative improvisations.

The event, which is now in its fourth year in Rugby, aims to bring

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

Indian classical music to wider community and different cultures. It will feature violin, vocal and percussion performances.

Organiser and violinist Srividya Venkat – a performing artist, teacher and a musical event organiser – said she started the event in 2022 to provide a platform for her musical students and professional adult performers, and to bring their music to a wider audience.



Violinist and organiser Srividya Venkat (centre) with percussionists Dr Vishnu Swaroop, Dr Jai Shankar, Danujan Sivanesan and G Ganesan performing at 2023's May Mahotsavam.

She said: "I felt the need for a professional platform focused primarily on Indian classical music.

"Considering the rich musical legacy of over 500 years, I want the wider community to appreciate and listen to music that is aesthetically pleasing and has a cultivated history.

"It is a very nice feeling and it makes me proud of the diverse musical heritage I carry forward.

"Music is a language of no words, and it is fascinating how different music shares similarities and blends so well.

"I hope different members of the audience can relate to special parts in the music tailored for them."

The performances take place across a series of sessions from 10am to 4pm on Saturday (May 3) at Dunchurch Sportsfield and Village Hall.

Youth club hosts fashion fundraiser

A FUND-RAISING fashion show will raise money for a beloved century-old Rugby youth club next week.

Bradby Club Ladies' Fashion Show takes place from 7.15pm on Tuesday (May 6) at the club's East Union Street HQ.

Organisers promise lots of bargains on the night, with up to 75 per cent off major brands.



The Bradby Club will host a fundraising fashion show next week to support its work.

Tickets cost £7.50 in advance or £10 on the door, including a slice of cake and a cup of tea.

Funds raised will help the club continue its work supporting vulnerable young people with activities and informal education.

For tickets, contact Sue Williams via sjw@rugbyschool.net or on 07740 462365, email events@bradby.org.uk, visit Rebecca at the club, or visit Gail at The Pink Peony at Manor Farm in Catthorpe (Wednesday to Saturday).

Family-fun spring fair returns for first time in six years

RUGBY'S Spring Fair is coming to town for the first time since the pandemic.

The event will take place on Bank Holiday Monday May 5 at Whitehall Recreation Ground.

Organised jointly by Rugby's three Rotary Clubs in Rugby, Rugby Heritage Lions Club, Rugby Round Table and 41 Clubs, the fair will raise funds for local charities and good causes.

More than 50 local charities and businesses will host stalls, and



The Spring Fair is returning to Whitehall Recreation Ground for the first time since 2019.

a Kids' Zone will feature Wolly the Clown and a 'Big Bounce House'.

Arena entertainment comes from local performance groups and musicians, introduced by BBC CWR radio presenter Dan Sambell and entertainment promoter David Head.

Dog owners can show off their pooches at a 'fun' dog show, and

the Stokes Fun Fair will provide thrills and spills. A range of food outlets and a bar will provide refreshments all day.

A spokesperson for the organisers said: "We are going to be celebrating 80 years since the end of the Second World War, so there will be lots of red, white and blue, dressing up and plenty of bunting - and we'd like you to join us."

Visit www.rugbyspringfair.org for more information.




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Coffee app will support independent town shops

ENTREPRENEURS with a thirst for success have launched what is believed to be the world's first subscription service designed to champion independent coffee shops - beginning in Warwick and Leamington.

Friends and self-confessed 'coffee nerds' Rob Oakley and Alex Baker, from Leamington, have teamed up to create Kuppso Coffee Club, a unique game-changing app which is set to inject a huge boost to the area's cafe culture as well as its economy.

The app, which the pair hope to eventually take UK-wide, is rooted in their shared passion for community, encouraging more people to choose local independent coffee hotspots instead of national chains.

Kuppso allows customers to either subscribe or buy coffee packs, giving access to a range of hot drinks from a selection of independent partner venues with

by Ian Hughes
ian.hughes@bullivantmedia.com

options for four, eight or 12 coffees a month.

Rob said: "The concept behind Kuppso is something that's always been in our minds. It's something that we both felt was interesting and different.

"This model not only ensures affordable, high-quality coffee for our customers but also drives footfall, revenue and visibility for local businesses.

"But also, I think it's the fact that we live in somewhere like Leamington and Warwick, where we've got these amazing little businesses. We're both big fans of coffee and big fans of nice little independent businesses. It all sort of ties in together as something that just feels right, but also quite compelling, and different and fun to work on."

Alex added: "Because it's a subscription, it means there are peo-



Entrepreneurs Rob Oakley and Alex Baker have launched what is believed to be the world's first subscription service designed to champion independent coffee shops.

ple who are going to come back time and time again and everybody wins, really, because, as user, with your subscription you can get the coffee slightly cheaper and as a business, it attracts a repeat footfall and audience.

"It's been really well received so far and the fact we've got 12 or 13 partners and a whole load more who want to join, it really shows that it's working."

Rob and Alex hope to build on what is set to be a successful launch in Leamington and Warwick,

by introducing their app to other areas of the county in coming months, starting with Kenilworth, Stratford and Rugby.

In line with Kuppso's sustainability ethos, a complimentary reusable cup is delivered to all new subscribers.

Rob and Alex are already brewing plans to later introduce extra benefits for subscribers including exclusive offers on the wider menu and corporate incentives.

Visit www.kuppso.com for further details.

Get creative to celebrate Refugee Week

CREATIVE youngsters across Warwickshire are being invited to take part in a special arts competition to celebrate Refugee Week.

The theme for the week is 'Community as a Superpower', and children are encouraged to imagine the small, powerful things they can do to help create a kind, welcoming community.

The Warwickshire County Council competition is open to all youngsters aged four to 18 who are in full-time education in Warwickshire, including home-educated children.

Anyone wishing to enter is invited to think about a super thing people can do to make their community kinder. This might be an imaginative superpower or a real action that helps others feel included and welcomed - like offering a kind word, playing together, or sharing.

Entries can take many creative forms - including drawings, paintings, sculptures, photographs, or a written response of up to 300 words.

A selection of the submitted artwork will be displayed in Warwickshire libraries during Refugee Week from June 16 to June 22.

Email entries to migration@warwickshire.gov.uk with name, age, school name and address by May 11.

Visit refugeeweek.org.uk for more details.

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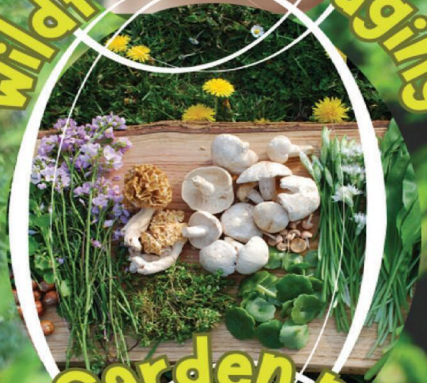
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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

CHESTNUT FIELD, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic. In addition, the one-way traffic flow will be temporarily suspended.
Reason for Order: To enable new supply works.
Order Commences: 6 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 9 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Chestnut Field, Regent Place, Park Road, North Street and vice versa.
Contractor: Network Plus, Tel: 01392 261 362.

HUNTER STREET, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable works for boundary box installation.
Order Commences: 6 May 2025 for up to 18 months
Anticipated Completion: 7 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Corbett Street, Chester Street, Abbey Street, Cambridge Street, Hunter Street.
Contractor: Chevron Tm Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

CORONATION ROAD, CHURCH LAWFORD
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between points 20 metres either side of the railway bridge.
Reason for Order: To enable essential structural maintenance works.
Order Commences: 19 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 20 June 2025
Access & Diversion: Coronation Road, Coventry Road, Limestone Hall Lane, Ling Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Centurion TM, Tel: 013 277 5360.

COVENTRY ROAD, THURLASTON
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Main Street to A45/M45 Interchange.
Reason for Order: To enable Section 278 works, weeknights only 1900-0600hrs.
Order Commences: 20 May 2025 for up to 18 months
Anticipated Completion: 1 September 2025
Access & Diversion: Coventry Road, Rugby Road, Dunchurch Road, Russelsheim Way, Union Street, Bilton Road, The Green, Main Street, Magnet Lane, Lawford Lane, Rugby Western Relief Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Wirvic, Tel: 07519 325 572.

GIBRALTAR LANE, LEAMINGTON HASTINGS
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable engineer for pole testing and tree cutting works.
Order Commences: 20 May 2025 for up to 18 months
Anticipated Completion: 20 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Station Road, Napton Road, High Street, Rugby Road, Southam Road, Hospital Lane, Gibraltar Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Sunbelt Rentals Ltd, Tel: 03700 500 792.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.
S Duxbury, Assistant Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance,
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL Date 2 May 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

Rugby Borough Council
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Application Number R25/0152
68, CHURCH STREET, RUGBY, CV21 3PT
Change of Use of from Use Class E(c)(i) Financial Services to Sui Generis Takeaway including the installation of an external flue.
This development may affect a Listed Building. This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R25/0278
9, CHURCH STREET, RUGBY, CV21 3PH
Change Of Use of First Floor Offices to 1 Bed Flat & Second Floor Offices to Bedsit Including Ground Floor Extension to create office space
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R25/0327
CHURCH HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, CLIFTON UPON DUNSMORE, RUGBY, CV23 0BP
Two storey rear extension.
This development may affect a Listed Building. This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R25/0357
2-3, HIGH STREET, RUGBY, CV21 3BG
Variation of condition 2 (Plans) of R23/0722 (Proposed Change of Use of First floor above existing Drinking establishment and extension of existing Second-floor to create 6no. 1 bedroom apartments and a terrace area) to lower the height of the extension to the rear by removing the existing roof.
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, the plans and documents submitted with it online at:
www.planningportal.rugby.gov.uk or in an electronic form at: Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby CV21 2RR between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday until **23 May 2025**. Please note a planning officer would not be present.

If you wish to make an appointment to discuss the application, please contact the case officer:
Any person who wishes to make representation to the above mentioned Council about the applications should make them online - www.planningportal.rugby.co.uk (search for application number and select comment) - or in writing by that date to The Chief Officer Growth and Investment, Town Hall, Rugby, CV21 2RR.

If an application is determined by the Planning Committee, members of the public may have the opportunity to speak at the meeting. More details about public speaking are available from the Council or on-line at:
www.rugby.gov.uk/speakingatplanning

For household or minor commercial applications, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at the appeal stage.

Nicola Smith
Chief Officer – Growth and Investment
MRTPI

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Order:

CHURCH LANE, CORLEY
Order Effect: A 30 mph Speed Limit will be imposed.
Reason for Order: For the safety of all road users and contractors working on carriageway.
Order Commences: 6 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 9 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Contractor: RNR Traffic Management, Tel: 07852 380 338.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

PACKINGTON LANE, LITTLE PACKINGTON
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Road works for boundary box repair.
Order Commences: 20 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 21 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Packington Lane, Coventry Road, Stonebridge Road, Chester Road, A446 and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820

SANDY LANE, FILLONGLEY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Rosemary Cottage to the rear of Allotment Gardens.
Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.
Order Commences: 22 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 29 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Wood End Lane, Nuneaton Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 0121 327 5167.

SILVER EAGLE WAY, BAGINTON
Order Effect: A 30mph speed restriction will be imposed on Silver Eagle Way, Baginton from a point 38 metres south of the new junction with Stoneleigh Road and continuing south for 320 metres.
Reason for Order: For the safety of all road users
Order Commences: 19 May 2025 for up to 18 months
Anticipated Completion: 20 September 2025
Contractor: Winvic Construction Ltd, Tel: 01604 678 960.

SQUARE LANE, CORLEY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with Tamworth Road.
Reason for Order: To enable works for laying duct.
Order Commences: 22 May 2025 for up to 18 months
Anticipated Completion: 29 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Square Lane, Astley Lane, Wood End Lane, Tamworth Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 0121 327 5167.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.
S Duxbury, Assistant Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance,
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL Date 1 May 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

national highways

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(7) AND 16A(2)(A)
THE A46 TRUNK ROAD (LEEK WOOTTON, WARWICKSHIRE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that National Highways Limited (Company no.9346363) intends to make an order on the A46 Trunk Road, at Leek Wootton, in the County of Warwickshire, to allow the Two Castles Run event to take place.

The effect of the Order will be to close –
(a) the exit slip road leading from the northbound carriageway of the A46, to its roundabout junction with Warwick Road, the B4115 Coventry Road and the A429 Coventry Road; and
(b) the exit slip road leading from the southbound carriageway of the A46, to its junction with the roundabout described in (a) above.

These measures are in place for the interests of road safety while the Two Castles Run is held.

It is expected that the measures will be in operation for three hours between 08:30 hours and 11:30 hours on Sunday 8th June 2025. The order will come into force on Sunday 8th June 2025 and have a maximum duration of 3 days.

Diversion routes via the A46, Warwick Road, Warwick Bypass, the A452, Birmingham Road, High Street, Bridge Street, Abbey Hill, Abbey End, Borrowwell Lane, the A452 Fieldgate Lane, the A452 Behive Hill, the B4115 and the A452 Leamington Road will be signed.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes, and vehicles being used in connection with the event will be exempt from the closures.

For further information please contact Jordan McLaughlin, a project manager on behalf of National Highways Limited, on 07718 236 614.

Karen Eustace, an Officer in National Highways Limited.
National Highways Limited (Company no.9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A Company registered in England and Wales.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Order:

SCHOOL HILL, NAPTON ON THE HILL
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable works to lay new domestic gas service.
Order Commences: 6 May 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 8 May 2025
Access & Diversion: Chapel Lane, Hackwell Street, School Hill and vice versa.
Contractor: Headway TM Ltd, Tel: 0121 474 4344.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.
S Duxbury, Assistant Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance,
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL Date 1 May 2025

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Licensing Act 2003 Notice of Application to Vary Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Mr Andrew Faulkner** has applied to the Harborough District Council to vary the premises licence for **The Shires Inn & Restaurant**, Main Street, Peatling Park, Lutterworth LE17 5UJ. The application is to extend licensed hours for ON Sales of alcohol to Monday – Saturday 1200 – 0900hrs and Sunday: 1200 – 2000hrs, and Update the Operating Schedule with additional conditions. Details of the application and the Public Register may be viewed on the Council's website: https://www.harborough.gov.uk/info/2009/licenses/57/licensing_register or by appointment at Harborough District Council, Council Offices, Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough, Leics, LE16 7AG. Any person wishing to make representations must do so in writing, clearly stating the grounds for objection, to the address above or by email to licensing@harborough.gov.uk. Representations must be received no later than 21/05/2025. It is an offence under section 159 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application for a premises licence and the fine on being convicted of such an offence is unlimited. Date: 29/04/2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

ALAN THOMAS BLOKSOME (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 9 Loney Close, Wellesbourne, Warwick, CV35 9PL, who died on 18/09/2024, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 03/07/2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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NIKE Air MX-720-818 Trainers, White Indigo Fog UK Size 4, Hardly worn, £30. Tel.no.0121 742-2513

3-BIKE rear carrier rack (Auto Care) Still in wrapper, £20. Phone after 6pm 0121 742-4250

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MISCELLANEOUS

ALEXA Echo Dot in box £30 07823509193

GARDEN Furniture round table and six folding chairs Teak wood new condition £200 ono 01789 266936

GREEN Johanna Composter. Unused. Manual and stirring stick. Buyer collects. Bargain - £30. Tel: 01789 751 752

ORNAMENTAL garden water pump with 2 plant planters as new £10 ono 07541576100

FOLDING down dog cage as new £10 ono 07541576100

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FENCE posts all sizes £3 each 07541576100

BOYS mountain bike tip condition £15 ono 07541576100

DARK brown leather suite 3 seater settee 2 chairs 1 large footstool VGC £350 01527 544583

SMALL wooden workmate bench folds up as new £10 0783337576

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Borough march into play-off final

by Aaron Sutcliffe
 aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

FOOTBALL: RUGBY Borough reached the United Counties League Premier Division South play-off final following a 2-0 victory against March Town United.

Goals either side of half time from Will Grocott and Gez McGahey at Kilsby Lane booked Borough's place in the play-off final.

Rugby will play Aylestone Park in the final on Saturday, May 3 with kick-off at 3pm at Saffron Lane.

Borough broke the deadlock in the first half when Grocott fired home from the edge of the penalty area.

And McGahey sealed Rugby's place in the final with a header after the break.



Gez McGahey doubles Borough's lead. Picture by Brian Dainty.

Aylestone thrashed Eynesbury Rovers 5-0 in the other semi-final.

And Aylestone will have home advantage in the final after finishing higher than Rugby in the league table.

Borough finished just one place below

runners-up Aylestone in the United Counties League Premier Division South standings.

The play-off final takes place on Saturday, May 3 with kick-off at 3pm at Saffron Lane.

Valley in search for new boss as King leaves role

RUGBY Town manager Ian King has left the club after Valley suffered relegation from the Northern Premier League Midlands this season.

King replaced Carl Adams in the Butin Road dugout in December with the club five points from safety in the relegation zone.

However, despite improved performances on the pitch, King failed to keep Rugby in the division with the club to play at Step Five next season.

King said: "We tried our utmost to keep us in this league, so it's disappointing that we just couldn't make it over the line in the end.

"The intention was to get more organisation and structure into our play, and I think we achieved that.

"Unfortunately we just ran out of fixtures in the end.

"I just feel that the challenge ahead for the club next season would be better suited to someone who has the experience and contacts needed to manage at that level.

"I appreciate the club asking me to stay, but realistically I don't think I've got the network necessary to succeed

in that landscape, and perhaps it's a job for someone with more of a Step Four/Five background already."

Town director, Neil Melvin added: "We are absolutely gutted to not keep our status this season but all we can do now is plan to come back stronger.

"Ian has ambitions of managing at a higher level, and I have no doubt he'll achieve that from what we've seen in his short time with us.

"For us moving forwards our clear objective now is to appoint a new manager who can lead us back to Step Four at the earliest opportunity."

King leaves his role as Rugby manager following a 3-0 victory against Sutton Coldfield Town on the final day of the season.

However, Valley finished the season four points from safety with the club's relegation already confirmed before their last fixture.

The club are now accepting applications for the position of first team manager.

Interested candidates should send their CV and covering letter to: football@rugbytownfc.com

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The nationwide events programme



MONDAY 5 MAY - BANK HOLIDAY

- The Cenotaph will be dressed in Union Flags for the duration of the four day VE commemorations.
- A Military procession will start from Whitehall, ending at Buckingham Palace in London. Followed by a flypast, including Red Arrows military aircraft.
- HMS Belfast will host a street party onboard the ship.
- The Together Coalition and The Big Lunch will encourage communities to hold street parties and barbecues across the country.

TUESDAY 6 MAY

- A ceramic poppy installation of 25,000 poppies will be on display at the Tower of London.
- Historic landmarks across the UK will be lit up in the evening.

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY

- A Victory in Europe Day parliament choir event will be held at Westminster Hall at the Palace of Westminster
- Letters to Loved Ones live at IWM North with the National Theatre

THURSDAY 8 MAY

- Remembrance service will take place at Westminster Abbey.
- National Theatre film 'The Next Morning' released online to the public.
- VE Day 80 concert in Horseguards Parade.

FRIDAY 15 AUGUST

- The Royal British Legion will host a remembrance service at the National Memorial Arboretum.



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For more information, images or interviews, contact Izzy Austin at isobella@chameleonmusicmarketing.co.uk

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The Royal Family took part in the celebrations



The British Royal Family also played a central role in London's victory celebrations.

Huge numbers of people surged down The Mall to Buckingham Palace, where King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and their daughters, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, soon appeared on the balcony to wave to the cheering crowds. In total, the King and Queen made eight appearances on the balcony, and at one point were joined by Winston Churchill. While the King and Queen were waving to the crowds for the last time that evening, their daughters were secretly mingling with the jubilant crowds below them. The future monarch, Princess Elizabeth, and her sister Margaret had been allowed to leave the palace and take

part – anonymously – in the party-like atmosphere. Princess Elizabeth later recalled, 'We stood outside and shouted, "We want the King"... I think it was one of the most memorable nights of my life.' King George VI, like Churchill, also gave a radio address. In it, he praised his subjects' endurance and called for a lasting peace. He also paid tribute to those who could not join in the celebrations, saying: 'Let us remember those who will not come back...let us remember the men in all the services, and the women in all the services, who have laid down their lives. We have come to the end of our tribulation and they are not with us at the moment of our rejoicing.'



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