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School transport move sparks angry response

by **Philippa Mingsins**
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A 'CRUEL' Victorian style shake-up of school transport in Warwickshire has been slammed.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) leader George Finch is seeking to remove free school transport for some pupils by narrowing the eligibility criteria.

Under current government rules, children under eight are eligible for free travel to their nearest suitable school if more than two miles from their home, with children aged eight and above eligible if the distance is more than three miles.

Coun Finch has written to education secretary Bridget Phillipson seeking permission to revise the rules by allowing Reform-led WCC to extend distances by two miles for each of the age categories, saving money in the process.

Rugby MP John Slinger branded the proposal 'Victorian'.

He said: "I'm all for encouraging families to walk or cycle to school where safe and appropriate, but to change the distance from three to five miles is ridiculous, potentially dangerous and places families in a very difficult position."

"It is the equivalent of expecting a child to walk from the village of Pailton to Avon Valley School, which is roughly five miles."

"This would be very risky regarding the child's safety and health, because

while physical exercise is a good thing, turning up to school cold and wet after an hour and a half of walking is certainly not.

"This is without considering the impact on families with more than one child in more than one school."

"My constituents deserve better from this Reform-run county council. I wonder what other ill-thought-out policies Coun Finch has up his sleeve. It's clear: vote Reform, get chaos."

Stratford MP Manuela Perteghella called the proposal 'cruel, short-sighted and completely out of touch'.

She added: "The answer isn't to make children walk further in the rain next to busy roads, it's to properly fund councils so they can deliver safe, reliable school transport."

Jerry Roodhouse, WCC's Liberal Democrat Group leader added: "The Reform administration at Warwickshire County Council led by Coun Finch need to reconsider this proposal."

"Reform are prioritising money over child safety. This initiative will create anxiety for parents, particularly those who work or who do not have alternative transport."

WCC is running a seven week public consultation on the Home to School Transport Policy until Monday December 22. Visit ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/ to take part.

Coun Finch declined to comment on the criticism when contacted by The Observer.



Victor and Frank say hello to yarnbombers Charlotte Baxter and Harris Bicknell (ten). Picture by Marcus Mingsins 4525001MMR9

A SPIRITED EFFORT: YARN-spinners unfurled more than just ghost stories in Rugby town centre this Halloween.

A group of spirited knitters yarn-bombed Sheep Street and High Street with decorations themed around Halloween and Day of the Dead.

The decorations lined the route of a novelty ghost train ride which took families on a

creepy tour around the streets throughout the weekend.

Elsewhere, spooky stories were told at Rugby Theatre, Halloween-themed story walks invited participants to discover chilling tales from the town's past, and fun craft activities were held at the Rugby Hotel, including painting and hat-making.

See page 13 for more pictures.

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Tinie inspiration for new book to help boost charity

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

AN AUTHOR and filmmaker from Rugby has published a children's book based on the story of her rescue dog to raise money for a local charity.

Gail Downey wrote *The Big Adventures of Tinie* to help children understand you don't have to be perfect to be loved.

The book – proceeds from which will go towards Rugby-based charity Pawprints – tells the story of how a Jack Russell Terrier called Tinie wonders what she has done wrong when she is abandoned in a park.

But with the help of the animal friends she makes, she discovers she is not a 'bad dog,' and just needs an understanding and loving home.

Along the way, Tinie outwits

park bullies, saves a child's life and discovers being yourself brings true friendship with people who love you just the way you are.

Gail said: "It is hard for children to navigate friendships and family dynamics – particularly nowadays. I want them to understand that just because one person or a group of people don't want to be with you, it doesn't mean it's your fault."

"Tinie was rejected by her previous owners but in the end she found someone who didn't care that she wasn't perfect. In fact, she is perfect. Perfect for me."

Pawprints CEO Anita Twigger said: "We are so excited and honoured to be collaborating with lovely Gail and Whirlwind Productions."

"Gail is a long-standing supporter of ours and previously has created a wonderful film for Pawprints Dog Rescue to help spread awareness about the

work we do, so we were thrilled when she got in touch about her incredible book.

"We are so blown away that a portion of the proceeds made from this book will go towards helping our rescue dogs."

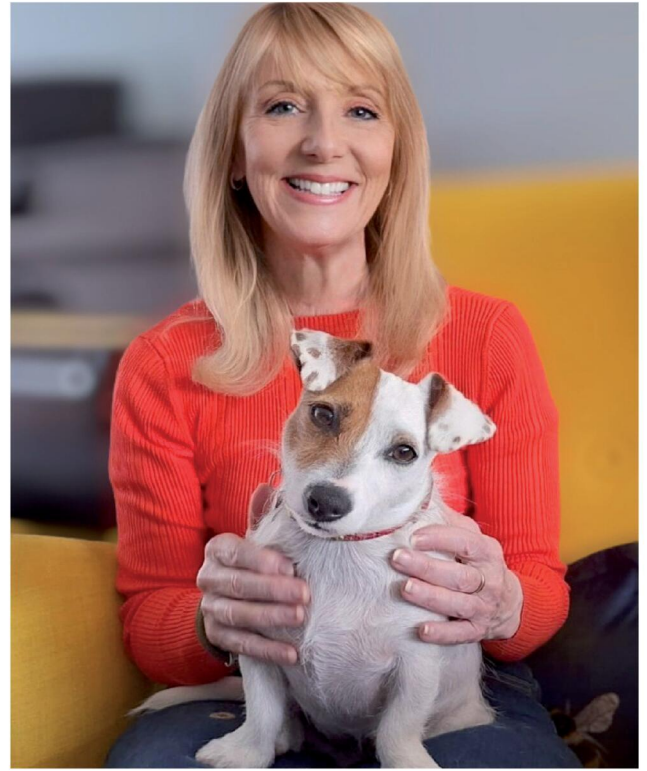
"The *Big Adventures of Tinie* really is a must-read – not only for kids, but for adults too. Thank you to Gail and Tinie!"

The book is available at Pawprints Charity Shop in Rugby Central Shopping Centre, and at Hunts Bookshop in High Street.

Email gail@whirlwindproductions.co.uk with the subject heading 'Tinie Reading' to arrange for Gail to do a reading of the book for children.

Visit www.pawprintsdogrescue.org for more information on Pawprints.

Gail with Tinie, the rescue dog who inspired her children's book.



Festive market to help out traders left high and dry

'STRANDED' canal-dwelling artists and craftspeople will be thrown a lifeline at an artisan fair in Rugby next weekend.

Art at the Alex is hosting a Festive Market to help waterways artists – whose main income comes from tourism on the canals – to make up for lost sales.

Their business has been hampered this year by water shortages and poor maintenance on the canals, meaning they have not been able to travel to the places where they would usually sell their wares.

Canal-dwelling artist Charlotte Ashman said: "Water shortage such as this has not been experienced since the summer of '69, so it is not a common occurrence."

"With the economic struggles of recent years, this was the last thing traders on the canals needed."

"In an attempt to keep their businesses going, waterways traders are

looking for bricks and mortar venues in which to sell their crafts before the slow winter period reduces their incomes further still."

Charlotte persuaded Art at the Alex to host the market for eight canal-based artisans who usually trade across the canal system.

Chris Pegler, co-owner of the former pub in James Street, said: "We often have

work by canal-dwelling artists on display here, so we are delighted to be able to help, and also to bring to the centre of Rugby examples of creative talent from the waterways."

The Festive Market takes place from 11am to 6pm on Saturday (November 8). Visit www.artatthealex.com for more information.



Artist Shiam Wilcox will bring her work from the canalside to Rugby town centre at the Festive Market.

PHOENIX COACHES

	Adult	Child
November		
27th Christmas Lunch & Entertainment	£36.00	
December		
2nd Melton Mowbray	£25.00	£20.00
6th Stratford Victoria Christmas Market	£18.00	£10.00
13th Meadow Hall Sheffield	£27.00	£22.00
20th Black Country Museum	£35.00	£22.00
22nd Pub Lunch & Stratford	£30.00	£24.00
January		
17th Pub Lunch	£30.00	£24.00
21st Telford	£25.00	£20.00
March		
3rd Melton Mowbray	£29.00	£22.00
7th York	£27.00	£22.00
17th Cotswold Market & Broadway	£27.00	£22.00
21st Afternoon Tea & Litchfield	£33.00	£28.00
31st Liverpool	£29.00	£22.00
April		
8th Cheddar Gorge & Clarks Shopping Village	£30.00	£24.00
11th London	£30.00	£24.00
14th Cotswolds & Broadway	£29.00	£24.00
May		
5th Pub Lunch	£31.00	£25.00
16th Black Country Museum	£27.00	£24.00

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Hospital offering more keyhole ops to patients

by Andy Morris
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MORE keyhole surgeries will be carried out at Rugby's hospital, meaning quicker recovery times for patients.

The Hospital of St Cross is expanding its range of minimally invasive surgeries – known as laparoscopic procedures – which are safer than traditional surgeries because they involve less cutting.

Already used on the Barby Road site in trauma and orthopaedics, the procedures are now being implemented in general surgery for operations such as gallbladder removal and hernia repairs.

They use a laparoscope – a thin, flexible tube with a light and a video camera on the end – which allow surgeons to operate on the organs inside the abdomen or pelvis without making large cuts.

Rugby resident Nicola-Marie Gibson was the first to receive the new service when she had her gallbladder removed by Upper GI surgeon Euan McLaughlin and his team.

She said: "It has really impacted my life – I've had nine admissions to hospital since being diagnosed at the end of June.

"I've two young children, four and six, and I feel I've not been a mum to them over this period, plus I haven't been able to go and see my other children who live down south.

"It was great that I was able to



Nicola-Marie Gibson with members of the Upper GI Surgery team.

have the surgery in Rugby as it was a lot more convenient for me and my family. The staff were really friendly and I was home the same day."

The move is part of a commitment by University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) NHS Trust to treat people closer to home and increase the range of treatments on offer.

UHCW Chief Medical Officer Jonathan Young said: "I am delighted that we can now offer these treat-

ments at Rugby to Nicola and other patients.

"A lot of hard work has gone into making this come to fruition, including investing in new equipment, and I want to thank everyone involved. This is a clear demonstration of the Trust's commitment to the development of the Hospital of St Cross."

The extended service follows on from the hospital being accredited as an elective surgical hub, delivering high standards in clinical and

operational practice as part of the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) programme run by NHS England and the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Other new services – such as keyhole abdominal surgery, plus an expansion in spinal surgery and inpatient gynaecology – are planned in the next few years after planning permission was granted in February for four theatres and two 24-bed wards at the site.

'Machete used in incident'

A FIGHT in broad daylight between two men – one armed with a machete and the other with a bottle – reportedly broke out in a Rugby street on Friday October 31.

Police received a report of the incident in Bow Fell, Brownsover, at around 1.30pm.

They arrested two men who were both taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Rugby Police commander CI Angus Eagles said: "This is not something any of our communities expect to see on the streets of Rugby and I understand residents will be concerned.

"Enquiries are ongoing, but what we can say is that this looks like an isolated incident and there is no risk to the wider public."

Anyone who witnessed the incident is asked to call police on 101, quoting incident number 133 of October 31.



Headmaster Grove du Toit with pupils at Princethorpe College.

College praised by inspectors

INSPECTORS have given a 'ringing endorsement' to an independent school near Rugby.

Princethorpe College was judged to have fully met all standards by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) following a visit in September.

The inspectors commended the quality of teaching, learning, and the curriculum.

They added: "The curriculum is complemented by a well-resourced co-curricular programme, which benefits pupils of all ages."

Inspectors also praised the school and learning

environment, adding: "The arrangement of having tutor groups consisting of pupils of all ages promotes a family and community spirit in the school, which contributes positively to pupils' personal development.

"Pupils take responsibility through initiatives they lead themselves, such as volunteering for environmental groups, sixth form mentoring and fundraising activities.

"These encourage pupils to take responsibility for their actions and contribute to the school and wider society."

Headmaster Grove du

Toit said: "We are particularly proud that the inspectors recognised the strength of our school's values and purpose, of our school rules 'Be kind and do your best' and the powerful impact these have on pupils and their learning.

"Alongside pupils' wellbeing, pupil achievement is always a key benchmark for any successful school, and I am very pleased that the ISI inspectors have so comprehensively recognised this in their report."

Visit the website at www.thep rincethorpefoundation.co.uk/inspections to read the full report.

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Chance to choose your own favourite

REGENCY style revels in Warwickshire will help celebrate Jane Austen's 250th birthday.

Warwickshire Libraries is inviting people to step into the world of bonnets, ballrooms, and biting wit as it marks the landmark anniversary of England's most famous ever female writer.

Book-loving residents will also be the chance to vote to crown Warwickshire's favourite Austen novel, couple, and villain. Visit forms.office.com/e/0yR8wdgnCg to vote until December 12, with results revealed after Austen's birthday on December 16.

Warwickshire Libraries is also hosting events throughout November and December, including readings, parlour games, quill and bookmark making, and dancing in full period costume.

Austen had close ties to Warwickshire. For 400 years Stoneleigh Abbey was home to Jane's maternal relatives, the noble Leigh family.

In 1806, Jane, with her mother and her sister Cassandra, visited Stoneleigh Abbey in the company of her mother's cousin, the Reverend Thomas Leigh.

During her stay Austen was so inspired by the house, its grounds, and the many family intrigues that she wove descriptions of the interiors, views of the grounds, and cameos of the family into her novels.

Warwickshire Libraries spokesperson Coun Mike

Bannister said: "Jane Austen's legacy continues to inspire readers across generations, and Warwickshire Libraries are proud to celebrate her 250th birthday with a programme that brings her world to life and invites people to join in and be part of it.



"From spirited debates over favourite characters to elegant Regency revels, this celebration invites everyone to rediscover the wit, wisdom, and enduring charm of Austen's work. We encourage residents of all ages to join us in honouring one of literature's most beloved voices."

Visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/jane-austen-250-4582533 for full details.

Warwickshire residents can vote for their favourite Jane Austen novel.

Young carers are focus of new book

A NEW children's picture book shines a light on the hidden lives of a young carers.

Mum & Me: The Perfect Team, penned by Leamington mum-of-three Fiona Sharpe, tells the story of a child supporting her disabled mum.

Fiona, who herself lives with a disability, is also a counsellor and psychotherapist, and writes stories that celebrate inclusivity, kindness, and real-life challenges.

Her latest aims to raise awareness of the UK's thousands of young carers — children who balance everyday childhood with the extraordinary responsibility of caring for a parent or family member.

Drawing from her own lived experience as a mum who uses a wheelchair, Fiona highlights an often hidden group of children who can feel unseen and unsupported.

The book provides families and schools with a gentle tool to open conversations around caring, resilience, and inclusion.

Fiona said: "When I was a single mum, my children often had to help care for me."

"I know first-hand the pressures young carers face, and how invisible they can feel. This book is my way of giving them a voice and helping parents, teachers, and communities recognise their struggles."

There are an estimated 800,000 young carers in the UK according to Carers Trust.



Fiona Sharpe shines a light on the UK estimated 800,000 young carers in her new children's book.

By weaving the theme into a relatable picture book, Fiona hopes to encourage recognition, kindness, and support for young carers across the country.

Mum & Me: The Perfect Team is published on November 23 by Bonnie Herats.

Visit www.bonnieheartsbooks.co.uk for further details.

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Acute wards need improvement says latest inspection report

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

IMPROVEMENTS are needed in acute wards for adults and psychiatric intensive care units (PICU) in Coventry and Warwickshire, say inspectors.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has rated the wards as 'requires improvement' following an inspection in April and May.

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust runs the service at the Caludon Centre in Coventry and St Michael's Hospital in Warwick.

During a visit to the Caludon Centre, inspectors found new breaches of regulation in both safe care and treatment and good management.

CQC has again rated how safe and well-led the service is as 'requires improvement', and how effective, caring and responsive it is as 'good'.

The CQC found that the Trust had addressed similar breaches found at an earlier inspection.

Ceri Morris-Williams, CQC deputy director of operations in the Midlands, said: "We were concerned to find new breaches of the same regulations. Leaders need to make sustained improvements to ensure the service consistently provides safe care and treatment and has



The Caludon Centre at University Hospital Coventry. Picture by Nigel Mykura, licensed for reuse under the Creative Commons Licence

good management.

"We found some leaders didn't have the skills, knowledge and experience required to carry out their roles and responsibilities. This lack of leadership caused most of the issues we found, which included how leaders managed risks and oversaw the environment, medicines management, and infection prevention and control.

"Staff didn't always record how people were involved in managing

risks they faced in their care plans. In some cases, they didn't assess the risks people faced at all, and hadn't completed full risk assessments and risk management plans for each person on the ward.

"Our inspectors also found the trust weren't always delivering care in a safe environment. We identified concerns with infection prevention and control processes and safety checks. Leaders had put renovation plans in place and, following

a lengthy contractual dispute, had started this work with completion expected within two years.

"However, people told us staff treated them with kindness and compassion and provided a wide range of activities they could take part in, including sports, cookery, arts and crafts, walking groups and watching films. Staff supported people to keep in touch with family and friends and provided information on the advocacy sup-

port available to them.

"We have told the trust where it needs to make improvements in specific areas and we found it encouraging to see them begin this work at the end of our inspection. Leaders need to build on these plans to make sure people receive care that meets their needs and also to make sure these are sustained."

Inspectors praised the service for listening to concerns about safety, investigating incidents thoroughly, developing staff, monitoring and responding to safeguarding alerts, and providing treatments based on best practice and national guidance.

A Trust spokesperson said: "We acknowledge the findings from the CQC's recent inspection at the Caludon Centre in Coventry and fully accept that further improvements are needed.

"We're pleased that the CQC recognised the kindness and compassion of our staff and rated our services as Good for being caring, effective and responsive.

"Since the inspection, we've strengthened leadership, improved safety oversight and continued investment in our environments.

"We're committed to delivering the required improvements swiftly and ensuring that every patient receives safe, high-quality and compassionate care."

The reports will be published at www.cqc.org.uk/provider/RYG in the coming days.

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Rachele Pizzillo. © Johan Persson. Image © Manvir Rai.

Supported by the Arts Council ENGLAND

Culture sites given £380k grant boost

CULTURAL venues in Coventry have received a funding boost.

The charitable trust Culture Coventry has secured a £384,000 grant from Arts Council England's Museum Renewal Fund.

The investment will help the organisation develop its programming, improve sustainability and evolve its business models.

The funding – a share of the government's £20million Museum Renewal Fund to support the long-term futures of museums nationwide – will ensure venues such as the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum continue to inspire and engage communities for years to

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

come. Culture Coventry, which was established in 2013, also manages the Coventry Transport Museum and the Lunt Roman Fort.

Marguerite Nugent, cultural director at CV Life, of which Culture Coventry is part, said: "This is fantastic news for Coventry's museums. The funding provides a welcome boost for the teams working hard to bring cultural experiences to the widest possible audiences across the city."

"At a time when the sector in general faces widespread challenges, it will play an important role in the

development of new and innovative programmes in support of a sustainable future for our museums here in Coventry, so that we can continue to provide groundbreaking, engaging access to culture for residents and visitors alike."

Liz Johnson, Midlands Area Director at Arts Council England, said the Museum Renewal Fund aimed to help museums become more financially resilient so they can be enjoyed by their communities for years to come.

She added: "Museums can inspire, empower and enrich people's lives."

"We're pleased to be supporting Culture Coventry with £384,000 to



The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum. Picture by Garry Jones Photography

make improvements across their three venues, including re-displaying the city's natural history collections and further repositioning The Herbert as a creative hub."

The Museum Renewal Fund is part

of the £270million Arts Everywhere Fund, announced in February 2025 as part of the government's Plan for Change to support economic growth and increase opportunities nationwide.

Lock your phone away and enjoy the Space to Be calm and creativity

A DIGITAL detox is on offer at Coventry's National Trust property this weekend.

The Charterhouse Coventry is inviting visitors to take a gentle pause from the digital world and enjoy a free evening of calm, creativity, and connection.

Space to Be is designed for young people and adults who want to disconnect for the evening.

All guests will receive a lockable pouch in which to keep their



phones throughout the evening, to be opened at an unlocking station on departure.

Guests will be free to explore the peaceful 14th century medi-

eval monastery, with each room providing a space to pause, think, play or create.

There will be access to boardgames, puzzles and crafting corners, typewriters, scrapbooks and journals – helping visitors to embrace nostalgia, relax and reconnect with the simple life.

There will also be live music from harpist Helena Bowen and Juniper Folk.

Amber Merrick-Potter, public engagement producer for the National Trust, said: "This will be the first time many people will experience a phone-free event in their adult lives."

"Events like this are needed more than ever. Young adults spend more than a third of their leisure time on digital devices, and three to seven hours a day

on their phones. There are now many studies about the detrimental impacts our digital use is having on our health and lives and many people want to find ways to disconnect."

Space to Be takes place on Saturday (November 8) from 6pm.

The event is free and membership is not required, but tickets much be booked in advance. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mvpmh5cz> to book.



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Happy 25th - Richard Allan from Chiltern, pupils from Newburgh Primary School and David Ayton-Hill from Warwickshire County Council are on board for a celebration.

Celebrating a landmark

A MUSICAL performance and a plaque unveiling marked 25 years of Warwick Parkway.

The station, which is part of Chiltern's inter-city route between London and Birmingham, has proved a success over the past quarter century, with 440,000 customers using it to access regional rail services last year alone.

Operator Chiltern Railways and Warwickshire County Council hosted a celebratory event, which included speeches on the future of rail in Warwickshire, a musical performance by Newburgh Primary School and a plaque unveiling for the station's birthday. This also formed part of the wider bicentenary of the modern railway.

The event highlighted the importance of the station for providing rail connectivity in rural Warwickshire, with Chiltern due to launch newer trains and additional services from the station in December 2026.

Richard Allan, managing director of Chiltern Railways, said: "Warwick Parkway

is one of the newest stations on the Chiltern network, providing frequent, fast services to London and Birmingham. The success story of Warwick Parkway underlines how the railway supports economic activity and personal connectivity.

"In addition to celebrating the station's past, we are excited for the future, including looking forward to customers boarding our newest trains, which will come into service from early 2026."

WCC's transport spokesperson Coun Jennifer Warren added: "The anniversary of the opening of Warwick Parkway station is a key milestone for both us and Chiltern Railways and provides a good opportunity to take stock of this council's commitment to investing in and facilitating more rail travel. The Railway 200 celebration is another reason to celebrate the work we have done to help residents and visitors to Warwickshire have better rail facilities."

New bridges are completed

TWO new HS2 bridges have opened near Leamington - one for cars and one for bicycles.

The Fosse Way bridge carries the B4455 across the controversial high speed rail line near Offchurch, and was opened days after the nearby Offchurch Greenway bridge, which carries the walking and cycle path between Leamington and Rugby.

With the new bridges open, HS2 contractors will now begin the job of demolishing the old section of the road to make way for the cutting which will carry the new line.

Vicki Lee, HS2 senior project manager, said: "It's great to see the Fosse Way and Offchurch Greenway bridges open to the public within a few days of each other. These bridges may be relatively small, but they play a vital role in keeping communities connected and I'd like to thank everyone who worked so hard over the last few years to get them open to the public."

After crossing HS2, the Greenway currently crosses the B4455 at ground level before continuing towards Rugby. This crossing will also be replaced next year with a new bridge.

A total of four bridges have been completed this year on the stretch of line in this part of Warwickshire, following the Welsh Road Underbridge, which was opened to traffic in February, and the A46 box structure, completed in April.

There are more than 200 bridges on the HS2 project, ranging from foot and cycle bridges and wildlife-friendly 'green bridges', through to enormous viaducts like the Colne



Valley - the longest railway bridge in the UK. Some 54 kilometres of the 190km line linking London and Birmingham will cut through the heart of Warwickshire, with a new station also being built near Birmingham Airport. Swathes of the county's landscape has already been transformed by work on the line.

A recent government commissioned report sets out evidence of the historic mishandling of the line including a lack of ministerial oversight and scrutiny, inadequate control of the project by HS2 Ltd and a lack of effective incentives within the supply chain, which will collectively cost the taxpayer billions more than planned.

The government has confirmed the opening of HS2 would be delayed beyond the target date of 2033.

Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander vowed in June to address years of mismanagement and restore public trust in the highly controversial line.

The Fosse Way bridge with the Offchurch Greenway bridge behind.

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Eduard Fesko, Dawid Kozłowski, Adrian Barton, Kate Manley-Soanes, Simon Miesegaes, Susan Rasmunsen and David Kelham unite for Ukraine.

SHOWING UNITY: THE GREAT and the good of Warwickshire came together for an evening of unity for Ukraine.

Over 160 guests gathered at Leamington's Spa Centre for "Building Hope Together Through a Chain of Kindness".

The event was organised by Leamington-based community initiative Belveder and brought together community leaders, diplomats, mayors, councillors, and volunteers to honour those who have contributed to humanitarian efforts in support of the war torn country.

Among the guests were Eduard Fesko, deputy ambassador of Ukraine to the United Kingdom, MP Rachael Taylor, The Honorable Anthony Cleary, and David Kelham, deputy lieutenant of Warwickshire.

The event was also attended by Karen Lynch, high sheriff of Warwickshire, as well as the mayors of Warwick and Whitnash and numerous councillors from Warwickshire, Warwick district and local town councils

respectively.

The evening began with a heartfelt message from Sister Marlena in Ukraine, read by Wanda Cicholaz, followed by moving speeches from William Grow and Dawid Kozłowski, coordinator of the ambulance convoys to Ukraine and one of the event's organisers.

The event also celebrated the growing local impact of Belveder, which runs and develops social projects such as Sunday Lunches at the Polish Centre, supported by WDC and "Warm and Well at home".

Eduard Fesko said: "On behalf of the people of Ukraine, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the people of the United Kingdom - and to our friends here in Warwickshire - for their unwavering support.

"Every act of kindness, every ambulance sent, and every symbol of solidarity reminds us that we are not alone in our struggle for freedom and peace. Thank you for standing with Ukraine."

Marathon effort sees Angus bring in charity cash

A FOOT sore fundraiser from Warwick is currently working his way through running 40 marathons in 40 different countries around Europe.

Angus Read flew from Luton Airport to Chi in u in Moldova to start the challenge in aid of Cancer Research in August.

The 22 year-old is now more than 70 days into his challenge, and completed his 23rd marathon in his 23rd country - the Icelandic capital Reykjavik - on October 25.

Throughout the challenge Angus is running solo and sleeping in hostels, but said some of his friends were planning to join him and cheer him on for future runs in Sweden, France and Belgium.

After graduating from Leeds University in June, where he studied law, Angus wanted to go solo travelling.

While he was working out his options, he decided he wanted to make a difference by raising money for Cancer Research during his travels. He aims to raise £10,000 for the charity and has raised more than \$5,700 so far.

Angus said: "I feel like I have a bit of an obligation now, so many people have supported me and sent money to the cause.

"There is absolutely no chance in my mind that I will give up at any point.

"That always keeps me going because when you are running for hours and hours, there are definitely moments when you don't fancy it, but it's the discipline of knowing what I am doing it for."



On average, Angus runs a marathon every three days, with each marathon taking him around four and a half hours to complete.

He is hoping to cross the finish line and complete his 40th marathon back in the UK on December 14.

Angus first got into running after the first Covid lockdowns in 2020 and has completed 50km every week in preparation for the challenge. Alongside his fundraising effort, he could also break a Guinness World Record as the youngest person to complete so many marathons consecutively.

Visit fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/angus-reads-euro-40-40-4-expedition to donate. Search readrunround on Instagram to keep up with Angus' journey.

Angus Read, here running in Serbia, could become the youngest person to complete 40 marathons consecutively.



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Photo credit: The Corbett Creative Photography



Top rating for nursery

PROUD staff at a Rugby nursery have celebrated receiving the highest possible rating from the education watchdog.

Bright Horizons has been rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted for the second time running, following an inspection.

Inspectors awarded the top rating across all key areas - Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, and Leadership and Management.

They praised the nursery's curriculum, community links, eco-conscious activities, and inclusive support for special educational needs.

Nursery Manager Laura Smith said: "We

are so proud to have achieved Outstanding again. It reflects all of the dedication and passion of our amazing team, who put children at the heart of everything we do.

"Through our Nurture Approach, we always aim to create a warm and inspiring environment where children can grow in confidence. I am so happy this has been recognised."

The nursery has also been recognised as one of the Top 20 Nurseries in the West Midlands by DayNurseries.co.uk, based on feedback from families.

Staff and children at Bright Horizons celebrate their Ofsted rating.

Taking the Good Times on the road

GOOD Times rolled into a Rugby care home as part of an initiative to increase social interaction among adults with dementia.

Rugby Art Gallery and Museum's Good Times roadshow visited Westlands Care Home to reminisce with residents during a Second World War-inspired workshop.

The Good Times' team took a range of 'reminiscence boxes' to the Oliver Street care home, where residents were encouraged to explore objects from the museum's social history handling collections.

They included vintage toys and games, Second World War ration books, Home Front posters and cigarette cards.

Residents also had the chance to try arts and crafts at the workshop.

Tash Stevens, manager of Westlands Care Home, said: "It's amazing what stories come out

when someone spots something familiar from their past.

"These sessions get people chatting and sharing memories, and everyone benefits from that connection.

"We're really grateful to the Rugby Art Gallery and Museum team for giving their time and bringing these wonderful items to our home."

Rugby Art Gallery and Museum was able to preserve its Second World War collection this summer thanks to a £25,000 grant from the government's Victory 80 Fund, which aims to help museums commemorate this year's 80th anniversaries of VE (Victory in Europe) Day and VJ (Victory over Japan) Day.

The grant also meant the museum could expand its handling collections to support Good Times' work.

Coun Maggie O'Rourke, Rugby

Borough Council's spokesperson for partnerships and wellbeing, attended the session at Westlands.

She said: "It was wonderful to meet the residents at Westlands and experience first-hand the work of the Good Times project, which has made such a difference for people living with dementia and their carers since launching nearly ten years ago.

"During the workshop, the items from the museum's handling collections sparked conversations, triggered memories and created a shared experience which benefited everyone involved."

Visit www.ragm.co.uk/good-times for more information about Good Times.

Coun Maggie O'Rourke joined residents at Westlands Care Home to take part in the Good Times roadshow.



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Communities prepare to fall silent to remember the heroes



RUGBY'S annual remembrance service and parade will take place at the War Memorial gates on Remembrance Sunday (November 9).

Mayor Barbara Brown and the civic party will walk from the rear of Lesley Souter House in Whitehall Road to the War Memorial gates in Hillmorton Road to participate in the parade and service.

Representatives from around 20 contingents, including the Royal British Legion, the 250 Squadron of the Queen's Gurkha Signals, the 4th Battalion of the Parachute Regiment and ex-service organisations, will gather in Hillmorton Road - between Whitehall Recreation Ground and Temple Street - at 10.20am to be reviewed by the Mayor before marching on parade to the War Memorial Gates.

Members of the public can attend the service and parade, which takes place from 10.50am to around 11.30am.

A two-minute silence will take place during the service. The Deputy Lieutenant of Warwickshire, the Mayor and representatives from the contingents will then lay wreaths at the memorial gates.

Members of the public can lay wreaths at the gates when the service has concluded.

The Reverend Edmund Newey will lead the service, assisted by Father Aji Alphonse. Wayne Perry, of the Rugby No.1 branch of the Royal British Legion, will deliver the exhortation, while the Mayor's Cadet, Cadet First Class Maddison Head-Dunn of Rugby Sea Cadets, will read the Kohima Epitaph.

The Salvation Army will provide music for the service.

Visit www.rugby.gov.uk/RemembranceSunday25 to view or download the Order of Service.



Representatives from around 20 contingents will take part in the annual parade in Hillmorton Road on Remembrance Sunday. Picture by Peter Realf.

Road closures

Rugby

8am to 12 noon - section of Hillmorton Road between Temple Street and the roundabout at Whitehall Road (both directions). Whole of Whitehall Road (both directions) and section of Hillmorton Road between Moultrie Road and the roundabout at Whitehall Road. Access to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre only permitted until 10am.

10am to 12 noon - section of Hillmorton Road to Bruce Williams Way. Traffic leaving Bruce Williams Way to be escorted to turn left on to Hillmorton Road. No access to Bruce Williams Way permitted. Access for emergency vehicles maintained at all times.

Diversion from Hillmorton Road to Lower Hillmorton Road via Temple Street/Caldecott Street and from Hillmorton Road to Clifton Road.

Bilton

10am to 1pm - Bilton Road from the junction with Beech Drive to Main Street, with Main Street closed to the junction of Magnet Lane and Lawford Lane.

Diversion from Main Street along Alwyn Road, left into Longrood Road, right into Bawmmore Road, left down Overslade Lane into Lytham Road and back on to Bilton Road (and vice versa).

Hillmorton

10am to 11.45am - High Street (from its junction with Deerings Road to its junction

with Fenwick Drive).

Diversions from Deerings Road to Fenwick Drive/Watts Lane via Deerings Road, Wesley Road, Fenwick Drive and via Deerings Road to School Street and Watts Lane.

Stretton-on-Dunsmore

10.15am to 10.25am - Brookside Medical Practice, half way along Brookside (opposite Kaysbrook Drive) to All Saints Church, Church Hill.

Wolston

10.45am to 11.30am - Main Street from the junction with School Street (including slip road in front of baptist chapel) to Main Street junction with Meadow Road.

Diversion from Main Street to School Street via Meadow Road and Priory Road.

Armistice Day

On Armistice Day, Tuesday November 11, Rugby Borough Council will support the Royal British Legion in the tradition of a two-minute silence at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, in memory of those who gave their lives for their country.

Maroons will be fired at Whitehall Recreation Ground, in Hillmorton Road, to mark the beginning and end of the silence - 11am and 11.02am.

Members of the public can attend.

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Fancy dress costumes on show. 4525001MMR12



All aboard. 4525001MMR5



Chloe (four) and Owen (10) among the gravestones. 4525001MMR1

Ghostly goings-on

THE GHOST train pulled in to Rugby town centre last weekend in the spirit of Halloween.

The novelty train ride ran between Sheep Street and High Street, taking in installations themed around Halloween and Day of the Dead along the way.

Throughout the weekend, spooky stories were told at Rugby Theatre, and Halloween-themed story walks invited par-

ticipants to discover tales from the town's past – and some of the ghostly characters who may or may not still be around.

Fun craft activities were held at the Rugby Hotel, including painting and hat-making.

Many turned up in fancy dress, with prizes for the best costumes.

Yarnbomber Liz Andrews has a close encounter with the Grim Reaper. 4525001MMR2



Pictures by Marcus Mingins

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St Mary's Guildhall is up for the Small Visitor Attraction of the Year prize at the West Midlands Tourism Awards. Picture by www.fstoppress.com / www.rkpphotography.co.uk

Tourism numbers help boost economy

TOURISM in Coventry enjoyed a record-breaking year in 2024.

More than 400,000 additional visitors flocked to the city last year, taking the value of the city's visitor economy to £922.9million as the sector saw strong growth for a fourth successive year.

New figures show 11.8million people visited Coventry in 2024, an increase of 3.6 per cent on the previous year, with the total value of the visitor economy rising by £67.9 million to a new record high.

The sector now supports 8,116 jobs and continues to drive confidence and investment across the city, including new accommodation projects that will expand Coventry's bed stock by five per cent.

The value of overnight stays rose by 14 per cent, while day visits continue make up 88 per cent of total trips.

Food and drink businesses remain the largest contributor with 33 per cent of all expenditure, with retail representing a further 29 per cent.

The figures come from an economic impact report on tourism in the city commissioned by destination management organisation Destination Coventry, in partnership with West Midlands Growth Company.

Destination Coventry Managing Director Paul McMahon said: "It's fantastic to see the visitor economy in Coventry continue to rise and hit new heights, with another record-



Events such as the VE Day celebrations in Broadgate are helping to boost tourism in Coventry. Picture by Coventry City Council.

breaking year reflecting the dedication of partners across the city.

"Over the past 12 months we have been working hard to lay the foundations for further growth by developing new marketing models, strengthening collaboration and ensuring we are delivering impactful work to support businesses across the visitor economy.

"We will continue to work with partners across the city to ensure tourism remains a key driver of jobs, investment and growth for businesses."

Coun Jim O'Boyle, Coventry City Council's cabinet member for jobs, regeneration and climate change, said the new figures were 'great news'.

He said: "The tourism sector is really important – supporting a wide range of sectors and providing good

jobs for local people.

"It's especially pleasing to see that visitors are staying longer and spending more money while they are here.

"The city centre is undergoing massive change at the moment – change that will ultimately be really good for businesses and for visitor experience, so our ambition working with partners like Destination Coventry is that this area continues grow."

Corin Crane, chief executive of the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, added: "We're no longer a well-kept secret and, as we continue to invest in first class marketing assets and new models of business support, we know these numbers will keep getting stronger and the positive growth will continue."

In line for award

A MEDIEVAL venue in Coventry has been recognised as one of the region's top visitor attractions for a fourth year running after reaching the finals of the West Midlands Tourism Awards 2026.

St Mary's Guildhall is up for the Small Visitor Attraction of the Year prize at next year's ceremony.

The judging panel praised the Guildhall's community-focused approach, noting that its collaborative ethos 'punches above the attraction's size' and brings economic benefits to the city.

Judges also commended the venue's strength in accessibility, inclusivity, and regenerative tourism, and staff's ability to keep history relevant by integrating contemporary experiences.

The 14th century venue's Marketing Manager Jayne Pyatt said the nomination was a 'fantastic tribute' to the hard work of its team.

She added: "St Mary's Guildhall continues to evolve and inspire thanks to the efforts of our staff and partners.

"Being recognised in this way reflects our ambition not just to preserve the past, but to share it in an engaging and meaningful way with as many people as possible. Reaching the finals once again is a real honour."

The winner will earn a chance to compete against the best attractions across the country in the VisitEngland national finals.

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Stratford-upon-Avon College will be welcoming visitors to its next open event on Saturday 15th November, 10am-2pm.

School leaver courses will be of interest to those seeking a practical route towards either university or the workplace. Level 3 courses - which can be worth up to the equivalent of 3 A-Levels - allow students to progress to university directly on completion. Courses also provide students with the necessary skills, knowledge and practical experience to head directly into the world of work.

The event will give local people the opportunity to explore the College's newly redeveloped campus. Visitors can experience the College's brand-new TV & Radio Studios where Digital Media Production students will

be demonstrating use of the industry-standard equipment, explore the refurbished theatre spaces, discover the new library, gym, construction workshops and more. The College's freshly landscaped 'green heart' will also be on display.

College Principal, Dr Rebecca Gater, comments: "This is an exciting time to be joining Stratford-upon-Avon College with our £13 million investment project now complete. It's always a pleasure to welcome prospective students to our open events and we look forward to showing visitors our brand-new state-of-the-art facilities!"

Open Event
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Pre-register now!

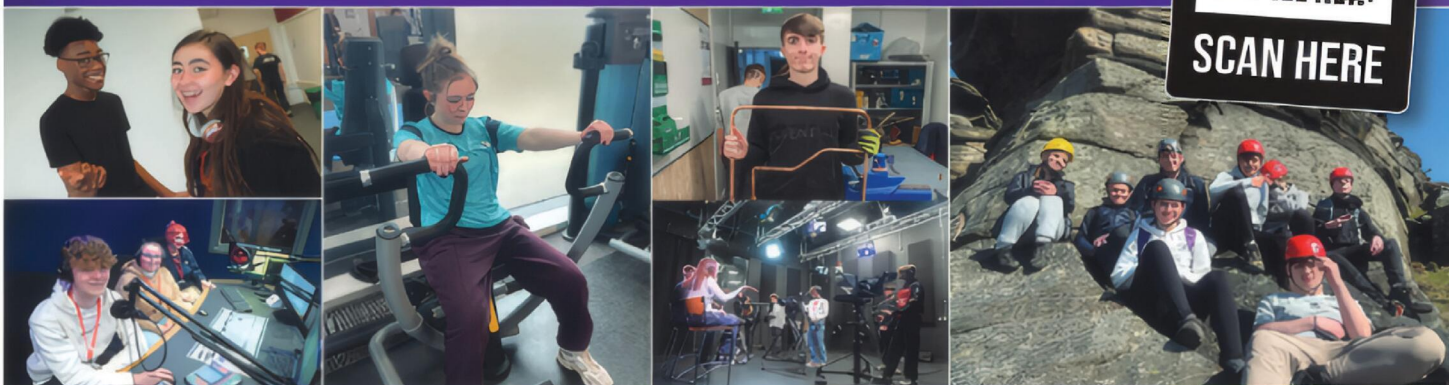
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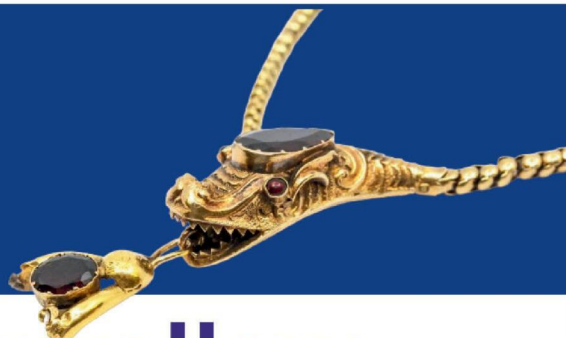


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Colder and wetter - but pressure's on to save our water



Severn Trent Water Resources Planning Lead Doug Clarke says saving water can help the environment and save money.

SEVERN Trent has issued seven autumn tips to help customers be water wise after national experts warned drought conditions in England could continue into 2026.

The UK saw a record dry and warm summer, with drastically lower than average rainfall so far this year.

The National Drought Group (NDG) has warned England should prepare for continuing drought conditions in some areas in 2026, unless there is significant rain this autumn and winter.

NDG chair Helen Wakeham said: "We need a lot more rain this winter to fill up our rivers, reservoirs, and groundwater. Even if it is wet outside, I urge people to use water as efficiently as possible to protect the environment and public water supplies."

The NDG heard that England needs at least 100 per cent of average rainfall (482mm) to largely recover from drought by the end of March. Only two months of 2025 have seen more than 100 per cent so far.

Severn Trent has already been asking customers to continue to

be mindful of their water usage through autumn, to help reservoirs return to their normal levels.

Doug Clarke, Water Resources Planning Lead at Severn Trent, said: "We've seen some rain in recent weeks, but it's easy to forget we had the driest spring on record and the annual rainfall this year is way below what we normally see.

"Many of our reservoir levels are improving, but we do have less water than we would want in some of our reservoirs at this time of year.

"With climate change, experts say droughts like we experienced this year could happen more often. This is why it's important we all do our bit to help reservoirs refill over autumn and winter and we would encourage everyone to continue to be water-wise all year round.

"By doing so, they can help the environment - and save themselves money if they have a meter, or even through their energy usage on hot water."

Severn Trent's seven simple water saving tips:

- Get a water meter – Having a

smart meter puts you in control of your water usage and what you pay. Have one installed, and switch today, to start seeing how you could save. To find out more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc3mny88>


- Turn off taps while you brush – This will save over 12 litres of water. Similarly, if you're washing the dishes, filling the bowl with water rather than having a running tap will help to save water
- Fix leaks promptly – Even small leaks can waste significant amounts of water. So regularly check your taps, showerheads and toilets for leaks and repair them as soon as possible. Leaky loos can waste hundreds of litres every day. For more information on leak-detecting, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ycdm9h6b2>
- Use water-efficient fixtures – Consider installing water-saving devices such as low-flow showerheads or dual-flush toilets which do the same job while using less water
- Try a shower timer – A shower timer might keep you on track to spend less time in there. Not

only will that help lower your water bill, but it could also cut your energy bill

- Run full loads – Only using dishwashers when they are full can be more efficient than washing dishes by hand. Similarly, only using your washing machine on a full load will mean fewer cycles

- and less water used
- Lag your pipes before winter chill – Protect your pipes by lagging them before any cold freeze hits. Lagging can prevent costly leaks and bursts.


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Consultant Hand Surgeon

Event details

-  **Thursday 20th November 2025**
-  **6pm - 8pm**
-  **Silhillians Sports Club**
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BOOK NOW 

Tips for Managing Hand Pain in Autumn

As the leaves change and the temperatures begin to dip here in Solihull, many of us may notice an unwelcome guest: increased hand pain and stiffness. The colder weather can have a significant impact on various hand conditions, particularly arthritis and Raynaud's phenomenon.

For individuals with arthritis, the drop in temperature and barometric pressure can sometimes lead to increased joint pain and stiffness. The cold can also cause the muscles and tissues around the joints to tighten, further exacerbating discomfort.

Raynaud's phenomenon, a condition affecting blood flow to the fingers and toes, can also be triggered by cold temperatures. This can cause the fingers to turn white, then blue, and finally red, often accompanied by numbness, tingling, and pain.

If you're finding that the autumn chill is significantly impacting your hand comfort and function, don't hesitate to seek professional advice.

Mr Shyamalan, Consultant Hand, Wrist and Elbow Surgeon at Midland Hand Clinic, specialises in diagnosing and treating a wide range of hand and wrist conditions. Don't let discomfort hold you back.

Tips for Managing Hand Pain in Autumn:

- **Keep Your Hands Warm:** Wear gloves, even indoors if necessary. Consider using hand warmers for extra comfort when you're out and about.
- **Moisturise Regularly:** Dry skin can become more of an issue in colder weather, potentially increasing discomfort. Use a good quality hand cream to keep your skin supple.
- **Gentle Exercise:** Continue to perform gentle hand exercises to maintain circulation and flexibility.
- **Stay Hydrated:** Drinking enough water can help keep your joints lubricated.
- **Consider Warm Compresses:** Applying warm compresses to your hands can help soothe aching joints and improve circulation.

Schedule a consultation with Mr Shyamalan at Midland Hand Clinic today to discuss your concerns and explore potential solutions.

Submit an enquiry through our website and we'll get back to you as soon as we can: www.midlandhandclinic.com

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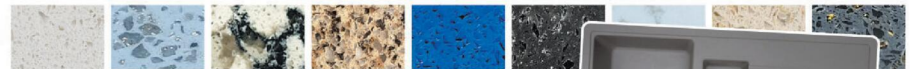


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Lifting the curtain on neglected piece of town's dramatic history

by **Philippa Mingins**
 philippa.mingins@bullivantmedia.com

THE SPOTLIGHT is being shone on the overlooked theatrical history of Stratford's Guildhall.

A new exhibition curated by Nottingham University research fellow Dr Will Green details how the upstairs of the Grade I listed building in Church Street was used as an early modern theatre venue.

Experts agree it is the only authentic space remaining in Stratford that hosted theatre during William Shakespeare's lifetime and may even have been the very venue at which a young Shakespeare first witnessed profession theatre.

But before now, this was told to visitors through a paragraph on a single information board.

Dr Green has curated and installed a full partition display board which replicates how the original performance space would originally have been partitioned off from the rest of the upstairs Guildhall, and produced a new self-guided interactive tablet display, enabling visitors to explore how regional theatre existed alongside the permanent London theatres of Shakespeare's day, and the experience of being an actor on tour.

The display also explores how performances would have worked within the Guildhall space, given



that the building was never actually designed as a theatre.

Dr Green said: "As the town in which he was born and raised, heritage in Stratford has long been

dominated by Shakespeare and his works. This is understandable, but it is another way in which opportunities to speak to the public about the wider culture of theatre

of which Shakespeare was just one part have ended up being treated like secondary considerations, or overlooked entirely.

"Stratford's Guildhall is a fasci-

Schoolmaster Thomas Jenkins learns how the upper Guildhall worked as a theatre. Picture by Marcus Mingins 4425003MMR

nating space with a rich theatrical history. It was the civic, social, and educational heart of the early modern town, and we know the building's upstairs council space hosted performances by multiple theatre companies that toured the Midlands during the 16th and 17th centuries, with at least 35 visits to Stratford being recorded. Our new interpretation of the space allows visitors to go beyond Shakespeare, and dive into the town's rich alternative history of English theatre at a regional level."

Dr Lindsey Armstrong, general manager at Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, added: "The collaboration with Dr Green and the University of Nottingham has added an exciting new dimension to Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall's story, breathing fresh life into a previously underappreciated chapter of our Guildhall's rich past."

"This new interpretation of the upper Guildhall space is hugely significant, establishing our site as the only historic building in the region with a permanent exhibition exploring its unique connection to the wider theatrical world in which Shakespeare lived and worked."



By Coach from Coventry, Rugby

Reader Travel



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 - ✓ **2 for 1 bar** (6pm-9pm) on selected drinks
 - ✓ Excursions to Goathland (Heartbeat), Whitby & York
- Optional excursion to Beverley (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £269

Single Supplement £75



YORK & SCENIC YORKSHIRE

Departing Mon 16 Mar '26

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 - ✓ **2 for 1 bar** (6pm-9pm) on selected drinks
 - ✓ Excursions to York, Skipton Market & Haworth
- Optional excursion to Harrogate (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £319

Single Supplement £75



LIVERPOOL & SOUTHPORT

Departing Mon 23 Mar '26

Join us for a wonderful short break to the vibrant city of Liverpool where there's plenty to explore - from its glorious maritime history and rejuvenated docks to its bustling city centre, The Beatles connections and much more.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Rugby**
 - ✓ 4 nights at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool (JG2 rating) with dinner & breakfast
 - ✓ **2 for 1 bar** (6pm-9pm) on selected drinks
 - ✓ Free time in Liverpool
 - ✓ Excursion to Southport
- Optional excursion to Chester (£15pp)

5 Days by Coach only £299

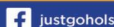
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The College offers something for learners at all levels, from those with no qualifications to those looking to undertake a full degree.

Many of the College's university level courses are offered in collaboration with top universities including Oxford Brookes, Coventry and Birmingham Newman.



Students receive the degree from the university but study right here in Solihull in small class sizes with plenty of support. Subjects available include Computing, Business, Animal Behaviour & Welfare, and more.

The College also offers several professional qualifications such as Accounting, HR and Leadership as well as a whole range of Community Education courses on offer at the College's campuses and in centres across the borough. Community courses available include Languages, Art, Floristry and many more!

At the event tutors will be available to offer help and guidance. The College's careers team and representatives from student finance will be on hand to give advice, plus the enrolment team will be in attendance for those wishing to enrol onto a part-time course at the event.

For more information and to pre-register for the event, please visit www.solihull.ac.uk



The next Adult & University Level Open Event will be taking place at Blossomfield Campus on Tuesday 11th November, 5.00-7.00pm.

 Solihull College & University Centre

ADULT & UNIVERSITY LEVEL OPEN EVENT

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5pm-7pm
Blossomfield Campus**

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Gardening

November offers the chance to prepare the garden for winter

NOVEMBER is maintenance month in the garden, getting everything ready for winter. Clearing leaves and cutting back dead growth is the order of the day – which is great news because November is also all about compost, and leaves and garden debris are perfect ingredients.

It's also a good time to plant trees before the ground gets too hard or frozen. Trees can be positioned in wet and dry land and they can tolerate acidic, chalky, sandy and clay soils and come in all shapes and sizes, from flowering cherries and crab apples to evergreen yews and weeping willows.

With trees come leaves – the basic ingredient for good mulch. Leaves don't need the heat of a compost to rot down; you can compost them by filling up bags with leaves to make really good garden mulch. The best way is to fill biodegradable sacks, then place them somewhere in the garden where they will be rained on... and wait. Come spring next year you will have a bag full of nutritious leaf mould compost.

If you have established trees



in your garden and are looking for something to grow under them that also provides autumn and winter colour, hardy cyclamens can be a great choice. They thrive around the base of mature shrubs and trees, but are also happy along north facing walls and in rock gardens. As a rule, cyclamens prefer a position which is

slightly shaded in summer and moist during autumn and winter and are best planted in drifts for maximum impact. Planting sites must be well drained and the addition of lots of shredded leaf mould will create a perfect environment for them to grow. Cyclamen hederifolium is an excellent variety that will provide

ground cover from winter to spring and has large flowers in shades of pink that appear before the leaves in autumn.

One tree that doesn't drop its leaves at this time of year, and can also be used as a culinary herb, is bay. Although often purchased and planted as bushes, bay trees are

Hardy cyclamens are a great choice if you have established trees in your garden and are looking for something to grow under them that also provides autumn and winter colour.

a great addition to your outside space and work well in smaller gardens as they only grow to around 7.5m (23ft) tall. Bay leaf herbal tea is said to help ease an upset stomach and relieve sinus pressure or a stuffy nose.

In addition to dealing with fallen leaves, top tips from the RHS for November jobs in the garden include:

- Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging
- Plant tulip bulbs for a spring display next year
- Prune roses to prevent wind-rock
- Plant out winter bedding
- Cover brassicas with netting if pigeons are a problem
- Insulate outdoor containers from frost
- Sow some sweet peas indoors
- Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into the garden
- Clear up fallen leaves especially from ponds, lawns and beds
- Don't burn woody waste – compost it or recycle into dead hedges or log piles

And finally...
 "Dull November brings the blast, Then the leaves are whirling fast."
 Sara Coleridge

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Chosen to help boost the economy

by Sarah Mason
sarah.mason@bullivantmedia.com

LEADING voices from the region's breweries, pubs, restaurants, cultural and entertainment venues have been chosen to join national industry chiefs to help Mayor Richard Parker protect and revitalise the West Midlands night-time economy.

The Mayor's Night-Time Economy Commission - chaired by Wolverhampton councillor Chris Burden - will start identifying the biggest challenges facing this important part of the West Midlands economy.

Members will report back to the Mayor next year with their recommendations for a plan designed to reignite the industry and help breathe new life into town centres and high streets.

Mr Parker said: "I'm bringing together some of the best minds in the business. These are industry experts and the brilliant people at

the frontline, running our pubs, clubs, restaurants, music venues and cultural spots. I can't wait to work side by side with them to keep our region buzzing long after dark.

"The night-time economy is huge for us. Around a third of the West Midlands workforce is employed in the sector - 120,000 people in hospitality alone. That's why it's a top priority to back businesses, protect jobs, and make sure this sector doesn't just survive, but thrives."

The Night-Time Economy Commission will be managed for the Mayor by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).

It has been set up at a challenging time for the sector with its Covid recovery slowed by changing consumer behaviours linked to cost-of-living pressures. Concerns over night-time safety, public transport, staffing issues and changes to licensing and other regulations have also played a part.

Coun Burden said: "This is such an important part of our region's

economy and it's vital the industry and the public sector work together to find the best ways of supporting it now and into the future.

"We have a rich entertainment and cultural history, and I'm thrilled to have been asked by the Mayor to chair this Commission. We're going to build on the positive work that's already being done in Wolverhampton and by other councils across the region to develop a positive vision for a region that is a thriving and safe place to work and socialise after dark."

The night-time economy is part of the region's everyday economy which employs the workers that provide essential goods and services that people depend on daily.

Coun Burden, chair of the Mayor's Night-Time Economy Commission, with Crissie Rushton, general manager of University of Wolverhampton at The Halls, who is a member of the Commission.



New figures prove West Mids Police are quick to pick up

WEST Midlands Police continue to be one of the fastest and most effective forces in the country when it comes to answering your calls for help.

After major investment in the forces people and technology, it has transformed responses emer-

gency and non-emergency calls.

National released data shows West Midlands Police is the top-performing force when considering both the 999 and 101 service.

Between August 2024 and September 2025 97.4 per cent of

101 calls were answered within three minutes and the average answer time was 22 seconds.

In the same time frame 94.9 per cent of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds and the average 999 answer time was two seconds.

Assistant Chief Constable

Matt Welsted, who leads Force Contact, said: "These figures speak volumes to how we prioritise serving the public by getting the basics right. When we answer calls quickly and effectively, our officers get to crime scenes faster, arrest suspects sooner, and begin

investigations without delay.

"This level of performance is almost unheard of in forces of our size. It's a credit to the professionalism and dedication of our staff, who are ready 24/7 to respond to whatever the public needs."



Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 9th November 2025

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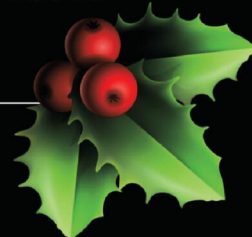
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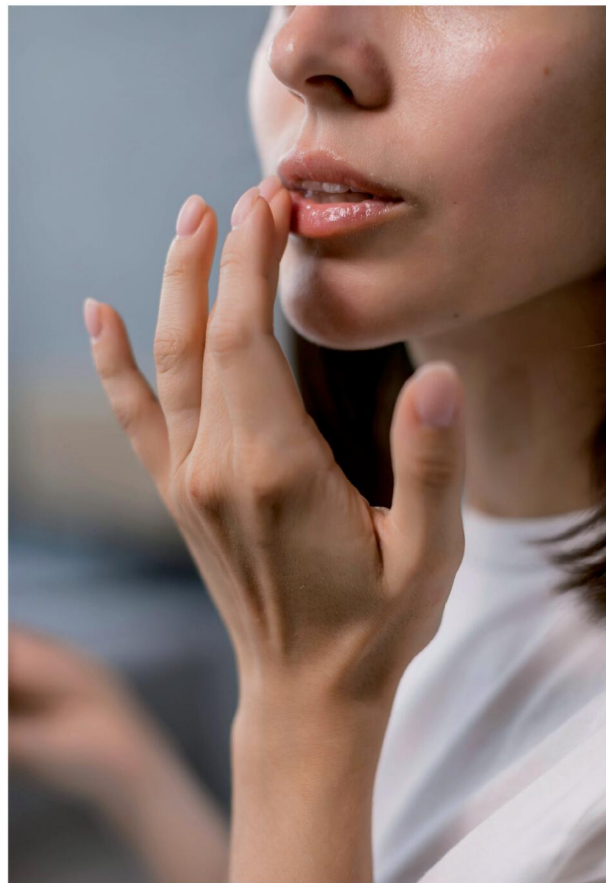


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Daily steps you can take to help keep lips healthy



AS the temperature drops, beauty professionals are warning that many people will soon experience tight, flaking, or peeling lips — and even that strange white layer that sometimes appears inside the mouth.

According to Danielle Louise, a beauty expert listed on Fresha (www.fresha.com/lp/en/bt/beauty-salons), the world's leading beauty and wellness booking platform, most winter lip issues aren't just caused by the cold — they're made worse by our daily habits.

She explained: "Your lips don't have oil glands, which means they can't hydrate themselves. That's why so many people get sore, cracked or flaky lips during winter — and why that white film or 'layer of skin' appears inside the mouth.

"It's often dead skin caused by dehydration, saliva irritation, or overuse of thick balms that sit on top instead of hydrating underneath."

What causes the white or peeling layer

That soft, white film inside the

lips is more common than people realise. Danielle says it usually appears when:

- You're constantly licking or rubbing your lips, irritating the inner skin.
- You're using heavy or waxy balms that block moisture instead of helping it absorb.
- You've over-exfoliated or applied multiple lip products without letting them sink in.

"It's not harmful, but it's a red flag that your lips are stripped of natural oils," she adds. "Treat it early before it leads to painful cracks or inflammation."

What to do instead

- Hydrate from the inside out. Sip water throughout the day and use a hydrating serum or oil before your balm.
- Layer products properly. Serum first to nourish, then a balm to lock it in.
- Use SPF. UV rays can still cause dryness and pigmentation even in winter.
- Sleep with a treatment mask. Overnight formulas with ceramides or squalane help repair

the barrier while you rest.

What to avoid

Danielle says the biggest winter mistakes are often the simplest:

- Licking your lips. It momentarily feels soothing but actually dries them out faster.
- Overusing lip balm. Constant re-application prevents your lips from naturally retaining moisture.
- Matte or long-wear lipsticks. These formulas can be too drying — especially without a serum base.
- Exfoliating too often. Gentle once-a-week exfoliation is enough; too much can worsen peeling.
- Using menthol or camphor balms. They can irritate already chapped lips and make dryness worse.

"If your lips sting when you apply balm, that's your sign to stop and switch to something gentler,"

Danielle advises. "Ingredients like hyaluronic acid, shea butter, and jojoba oil will do far more to heal and protect."

THE JONES FAMILY JEWELLERS

Important Announcement from The Jones Family Jewellers

We're holding our prices until the 5th of January across all our stock in Kenilworth & our two stores in Leamington Spa.

With the recent sharp increases in gold and silver prices, along with upcoming government tax rises, we will unfortunately need to adjust our prices from January 5th onwards.

Although prices have risen significantly, and we realistically should have made this change already - we've chosen to keep our prices steady through Christmas to help our valued customers during the festive season.

Visit us before January 5th to take advantage of our current prices.

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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:

PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM ROBERTSON CLOSE TO HADFIELD CLOSE, CLIFTON UPON DUNSMORE

Order Effect: Footpath Closure to all traffic as follows: Phase 1: 06/11/25-07/11/25 – Rear of 21 Handfield Close to rear of 8 Robertson Close, Phase 2: 10/11/25-11/11/25 Rear of 1 Robertson Close to rear of 7 Robertson Close.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.
Order Commences: 6 November 2025 for up to 6 months.

Anticipated Completion: 11 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Public Footpath from Hadfield Close to Robertson Close and vice versa.

Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 01213 275 167.

BROWNISOVER LANE, BROWNISOVER, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: Works to lay HV cable from site to POC.

Order Commences: 10 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 21 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.

Contractor: Lydon Contracting Ltd, Tel: 01327 811 533.

HOLBROOK AVENUE, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic. In addition, the one-way traffic flow on Holbrook Avenue will be temporarily suspended.

Reason for Order: To enable repair/replacement of defective manhole cover and frame.

Order Commences: 14 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 14 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Manor Road, Park Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

MAIN STREET, WILLEY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable repair/replacement of defective manhole cover and frame.

Order Commences: 14 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 14 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Coal Pit Lane, Watling Street and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

SCHOOL LANE, STRETTON-ON-DUNSMORE

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To safely enable replacement & repairs of manhole frame & covers.

Order Commences: 14 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 14 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Brookside, Church Hill, Fineacre Lane, Oxford Road, Freeboard Lane, Platt Lane and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

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

C207 WARWICK ROAD, WOLSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Brook Street to Dyers Lane.

Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.

Order Commences: 25 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 25 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Warwick Road, Wolston Lane, A45, B4455 Fosse Way, Rugby Road, School Street.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

CORONATION ROAD, CHURCH LAWFORD

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 26 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Coventry Road, Rugby Road, Lawford Heath Lane, Ling Lane, Coronation Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 01213 275 167.

PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM CROWTHORNS TO CONISTON CLOSE, BROWNISOVER, RUGBY

Order Effect: Footpath closed to all traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable water mains works.

Order Commences: 25 November 2025 for up to 6 months.

Anticipated Completion: 19 December 2025.

Access & Diversion: Diversion will be appropriately signed.

Contractor: Severn Trent Water, Tel: 03300 080 820.

PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM HAWLANDS TO GRASMERE CLOSE, RUGBY

Order Effect: Footpath closed to all traffic from a point outside number 34.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.

Order Commences: 26 November 2025 for up to 6 months.

Anticipated Completion: 28 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Will be appropriately signed.

Contractor: Core Highways, Tel: 03300 169 688.

A426 LEICESTER ROAD, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Junction One Retail and the Island with Brownsover Road/Boughton Road.

Reason for Order: To enable road marking and associated works, overnight 20.00hrs-06.00hrs.

Order Commences: 23 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 24 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: A426, A4071, A45, Coventry Road, Daventry Road, A45, A361, A5, A426 and vice versa. Access to Elliotts Park may be limited while works are in progress.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

CHURCH ROAD, CHURCH LAWFORD

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 3 December 2025.

Access & Diversion: There is no available diversion.

Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 0121 327 5167.

HIGH STREET, RYTON ON DUNSMORE

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable repairs to wastewater pipework.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 28 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: High Street, Bagshaw Close, Fetherston Crescent and vice versa.

Contractor: CSP, Tel: 03339 969 800.

VALLEY LANE, KITES HARDWICK

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from the junction of Southam Road.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 28 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: No suitable diversion available.

Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 01213 275 167.

TOFT LANE, DUNCHURCH

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with Southam Road.

Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 28 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.

Contractor: Callan Connect, Tel: 01213 275 167.

D29290 FLECKNOE STATION ROAD, FLECKNOE

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between Sawbridge Road and School Hill.

Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.

Order Commences: 26 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 26 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Flecknoe Station Road, School Hill, Flecknoe Road, A425 Daventry Road, A425 Park Hill, A425 Main Street, Sawbridge Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

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, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 06 Nov 2025

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

A425 SOUTHAM ROAD, UFTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from B4455 to Ridgeway Lane.

Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs - 15.30hrs.

Order Commences: 14 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 14 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: A425, Warwick Road, Welsh Road West, Welsh Road, B4455.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

HARDWICK ROAD, PRIORS MARSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: Works to install boundary box and water meter.

Order Commences: 11 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 12 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Hardwick Road, Main Road, The Green, Southam Road, Welsh Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

WELSH ROAD EAST, SOUTHAM

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: Repair/replace defective manhole frame and covers.

Order Commences: 12 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 12 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Welsh Road East, Holt Road, Napton Holt Road, Thorntons Lane, Chapel Green Road, New Street, High Street, Hackwell Street, Vicarage Road, Butt Hill, Southam Road, Daventry Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

KNIGHTCOTE ROAD, BISHOPS ITCHINGTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To enable new water connection works.

Order Commences: 10 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 12 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Welsh Road East, Holt Road, Napton Holt Road, Thorntons Lane, Chapel Green Road, New Street, High Street, Hackwell Street, Vicarage Road, Butt Hill, Southam Road, Daventry Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Go TM Ltd, Tel: 01158 965 832.

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

A423 SOUTHAM BYPASS, SOUTHAM

Order Effect: Road Closed to vehicular traffic between Leamington Road and Daventry Road.

Reason for Order: To enable carriageway resurfacing works, overnight 02.00hrs - 06.00hrs.

Order Commences: 24 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 1 December 2025.

Access & Diversion: Banbury Road, Leamington Road, Southam Road, Ufton Hill, Fosse Way, Long Itchington Road, Oxford Road, Coventry Road, Station Road, Marton Road, The Green, Southam ByPass and vice versa.

Contractor: Fitzgerald Contractors, Tel: 08008 199 001.

SOUTHAM ROAD, NAPTON ON THE HILL

Order Effect: A 30 mph Speed Limit will be imposed between Napton Bridge and a point 270 metres west of Napton Bridge.

Reason for Order: For the safety of all road users and of contractors working on or near to the carriageway.

Order Commences: 25 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 28 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: High Street, The Square, School Street, Post Office Lane, Napton Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

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, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 06 Nov 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003 - Public Notice

BLAB Group Ltd T/A Brgr Lab is applying for the new grant of a Premises Licence for **Brgr Lab, 10 Clarendon Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 5PZ.**

If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place: **Late Night Refreshment on and off the premises**. Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to the Licensing Authority: Warwick District Council Licensing, Town Hall Parade Royal Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV32 4AT licensing@warwickdc.gov.uk



Representations may only be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this Notice.

A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by the Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be viewed Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, and 9.00 am to 4.30 pm on Fridays, except Bank Holidays.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the Standard Scale.

30th October 2025

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

EnviroBuild Materials LTD of Unit 13, 29 Pear Street, London, EC1V 3AG is applying for a licence to use Unit 18, Gladiator Way, Glebe Farm Road, Rugby CV21 1RX as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available at www.gov.uk/object-hgy-operator-licence.

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 SECTION 177

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL THE BOROUGH OF RUGBY (PART OF FOOTPATH R235 DIPBAR FIELD, DUNCHURCH) PUBLIC PATH ORDER 2025

On 8 October 2025, Rugby Borough Council confirmed the above-named Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed will:

Stop up part of footpath from Point A (Grid reference 448663 270993) north for approximately 3.2 metres to Point B (Grid reference 448663 270990), south easterly for approximately 188 metres to Point H (Grid reference 448992 270855), south for approximately 22 metres to Point G (Grid reference 448991 270833) and create a new footpath from Point A (Grid reference 448663 270993) south westerly for approximately 49 metres to Point C (Grid reference 448830 270958), curving slightly easterly for approximately 8.8 metres to Point D (Grid reference 448836 270954), easterly for approximately 132 metres to Point E (Grid reference 448938 270884), turning southerly for approximately 46 metres to Point F (Grid reference 448923 270843), finally turning easterly for approximately 71 metres to Point G (Grid Reference 448691 270833).

A copy of the Order and the order map can be viewed free of charge at the Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby, CV21 2RR, during office opening hours (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday).

It can also be viewed on the council's website: www.rugby.gov.uk/R235

Copies of the Order and map can be purchased at the price of £5.

The Order comes into force on 15 October 2025 but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question the validity thereof, or of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made thereunder has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the order, he or she may apply to the High Court for any of these purposes under section 287 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 within six weeks from the date on which notice is first published as required by paragraph 8 of Schedule 14 to that Act.

Dated: 30 October 2025
Authorised officer on behalf of the Council
The Officer appointed for this purpose

PUBLIC NOTICES

DONALD JAMES DENTEN (otherwise Donald James Denton) (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 Clifton Court Care Home, Labouroune Road, Clifton Upon Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 0BB previously of 88 Ombeline Way, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV22 6LX, who died on 28/03/2023, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 08/01/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Beneficiaries LLP, Montague House, 2 Clifton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3PX

PUBLIC NOTICES

IRENE DOROTHY SELINA JAMES (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 98 Roland Avenue, Coventry, CV6 4LX, who died on 21/01/2025, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 08/01/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Pennams Solicitors LLP, 17A Queens Road, Coventry, CV1 3DH

PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCE PARKER HUDSON (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 Back Lane, Bridbury Rugby, CV1 2JG, who died on 16/06/2023, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 08/01/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

KUNDERT SOLICITORS

Classified

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Revised Boundary between Lapworth & Rowington Parish Councils

Under the provision of Section 82 of the above Act the District Council is empowered to undertake community governance reviews with a view to considering the electoral arrangements in the whole or part of its district.

A request from Lapworth Parish Council to revise the existing Lapworth Parish Council and Rowington Parish Council boundary from Kingswood Brook [bridge B4439/006] to the Grand Union Canal [bridge 65]. This would bring the Kingswood Green development of and properties on the Old Warwick Road (circa 57 properties in total) into the administrative area of Lapworth PC rather than that of Rowington PC.

The Council has drawn up terms of reference for the review and a copy can be viewed on the Council's website at:

www.warwickdc.gov.uk/CGR

Anyone wishing to submit comments on the review can do so via an online form which can be found at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/CGR

Alternatively you can send them to Graham Leach at the below address before **19 December 2025**.

Graham Leach
Head of Governance & Monitoring Officer
Town Hall,
Parade,
Royal Leamington Spa,
CV32 4AT.

Or by email to elections@warwickdc.gov.uk

All representations received will be taken into account by the Council when considering what recommendation(s) to make following the review.

Chris Elliott
Chief Executive, Electoral Registration Officer & Returning Officer
10 November 2025



PUBLIC NOTICES

Department for Transport TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State hereby gives notice of the proposal to make an Order under section 247 of the above Act to authorise the stopping up of a southern part width of Hermes Crescent at Henley Green in the City of Coventry.

If the order is made, the stopping up will be authorised only to enable development as permitted by Coventry City Council under references R/2008/1801 and PL/2024/0001129/RESM.

Copies of the draft order and relevant plan will be available for inspection during normal opening hours at Coventry City Council, Highways Development Control, City Services, Floor 8, One Friargate, Coventry, CV1 2GN in the 28 days commencing on 7 November 2025, and may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State (quoting SUO4515307) at the address stated below.

Any person may object to the making of the proposed order by stating their reasons in writing to the Secretary of State at nationalcasework@dftr.gov.uk or National Transport Casework Team, PO Box 1393, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE99 5FQ, quoting the above reference. Objections should be received by midnight on **5 December 2025**. You are advised that your personal data and correspondence will be passed to the applicant/agent to enable your objection to be considered. If you do not wish your personal data to be forwarded, please state your reasons when submitting your objection.

S Zamezadeh, Casework Manager

PUBLIC NOTICES

JUNE ROSEMARY BELL (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 The Royal Leamington Spa Nursing Home 14-16 Adelaide Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 3PW, who died on 12/04/2025, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 08/01/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Wright Hassall LLP
Olympus House Olympus
Avenue Leamington Spa
Warwickshire CV34 6GF

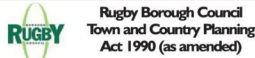
PUBLIC NOTICES

JENNIFER ANN NOON (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 12 Chandlers Road, Whitnash, Leamington Spa, CV31 2LL, who died on 20/10/2023, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 08/01/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ARISTONE SOLICITORS,
12 Cardiff Road, Luton, LU1 10G

PUBLIC NOTICES



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

Application Number R25/0819
5, THE HASTINGS, OLTON CLOSE,
BURTON HASTINGS, NUNEATON,
WARWICKSHIRE, CV11 6XT

Proposed change of use from an area comprising residential curtilage land and agricultural land to equestrian, and the erection of a stable building. This development may affect a Public Right of Way

Application Number R25/0883
LENTONS LANE SOLAR FARM, LENTONS
LANE, ALDERMANS GREEN

Solar Farm Development including solar arrays, control buildings and associated infrastructure, internal access including landscaping and associated development.

This is a major development

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 **28 November 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 householder 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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Name of applicant: BRGR LAB LTD
Notice is hereby given that BRGR LAB has applied to Coventry City Council for a *NEW/VARIATION PREMISES LICENCE* for 65a Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, CV1 4FW. Details of Application: To provide late night refreshments (i.e. sale/supply of Alcohol, Late Night Refreshments and Regulated Entertainment and ON/OFF SALES) Sun-Thurs 23.00-00.30, Fri-Sat 23.00-02.30.

Any person wishing to lodge a representation concerning this application may write to: Licensing Authority, The Council House, Earl Street Coventry CV1 5RR
Or send an email to: licensing@coventry.gov.uk.
The application may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address and further information may be available at www.coventry.gov.uk on the public register.

Any Representation relating to this application must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority by 01/12/2025

Please note it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction for this offence is Unlimited.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Reynolds Logistics UK Ltd of 7a Juliette Way, Purfleet, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 4YD is applying to change an existing licence as follows: to add an operating centre to keep 12 goods vehicles and 17 trailers at Yard 18, Europark Industrial Estate, Watling Street, Rugby CV23 0AQ.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR (GRANT/PROVISIONAL STATEMENT) OF A PREMISES LICENCE/CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE

Barnacles Restaurant Limited, Watling Street, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 3JA
Notice is given that on 28.10.2025 Kate Baron applied to Rugby Borough Council for (Grant/Provisional statement) of a Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensable activities/qualifying club activities are:
Live music - Monday to Sunday 11am - 12pm (occasional 1am finish)
Recorded Music - Monday to Sunday 11am - 12 pm (occasional 1am finish)
Late night refreshments - Monday to Sunday 11am - 12 pm (occasional 1am finish)
Supply of Alcohol - Monday to Sunday 11am - 12 pm (occasional 1am finish)
Anyone who wishes to make representations regarding this application must give notice in writing to: Head of Environmental Services, Rugby Borough Council, Town Hall, Rugby, CV21 2RR. Representations must be received no later than 28.11.2025

The Licensing Authority's Register may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address. It is an offence under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is up to level 5 on the standard scale (unlimited).

PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Chatha Transport LTD of 3 Oaks Drive, Featherstone Wolverhampton WV10 7PX is applying to change an existing licence to use the rear compound at Tarmac Meriden Concrete Plant, Cornet Ends Lane, Meriden CV7 7LG as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice.

A Guide to Making Representations is available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-makingrepresentations-objections-and-complaints-goods-vehicleoperator-licensing

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003 - Public Notice Backstreet International Merchandise Limited is applying for the new grant of a Premises Licence for Unit G, Ashbourne Drive, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 3SS.

If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place: **Sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises.**

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to the Licensing Authority: Warwick District Council Licensing, Town Hall Parade, Royal Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV32 4AT licensing@warwickdc.gov.uk
Representations may only be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this Notice.

A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by the Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be viewed Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, and 9.00 am to 4.30 pm on Fridays, except Bank Holidays.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the Standard Scale.

31 October 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

All your latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences, Licences To Sell Alcohol and Probate Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

Keeping you up to date with all the latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences, Licences To Sell Alcohol, Probate Notices.....

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SALES & WANTS

MISCELLANEOUS

BEDS NEW Doubles £95 Singles £59 King size £159. Second hand doubles £49 Singles £29 Fridges £49 Freezers £59 Can deliver 07703 925662

RECLINER CHAIR electric rise & recline £169 Manual recline chair £60 High seated chair £40 Can deliver 07703 925662

DOUBLE buggy £20 07902 292926 Travel Cot £20 07902 292926

AVTEX 18.5" LED TV / DVD Combo Model L185DRS £195 ONO 0121 744 6085

THULE Roof bars Feet / Locks £75 ONO 0121 744 6085

SET of 14 LH Golf Clubs and Bag Good Condition Ping, Taylor Made, Gallaway, King Cobra £175 ono (Whitnash) 07819015716

SMALL TV Oak Effect Corner Unit As New - Whitnash Area £50 ono 07879015716

SAMSUNG Surround Sound Speaker Set (6 in total) - £60 ono (Whitnash) 07879015716

LADIES Next mustard jumper, size medium, good condition. £4. Tel: 07813 706 158 (Shirley area)

MEN/S long jacket / three quarter coat, suede look, size medium, new! £20. Tel: 07813 706 158 (Shirley area)

LADIES Atmosphere khaki coat, size 10, cost £35. Label off but never worn. £15. Tel: 07813 706 158 (Shirley area)

LITTLE girl's navy coat, age 12 / 18 months, beautiful detail. £4. Tel: 07813 706 158 (Shirley area)

NANNY State turquoise coat, size medium, freshly laundered. £12. Tel: 07813 706 158 (Shirley area)

HIB Cubic sensor activated LED Bathroom Cabinet, 60cm size £899 new, 3 years old, selling for £50 ONO 07805 745820

33" Panasonic TV £40 07780511800

WANTED

****WANTED: Vinyl Records CDs Cassettes Vintage or New****
Seeking classic rock, jazz, indie and rare finds. Cash paid
Call or text: 07765 142354 Or 01527 893992
Or email: welston@live.com
Paul (Albatross & Doomed Records)

MISCELLANEOUS

33" Panasonic TV £40 07780511800

TWO fan heaters £5 each 07780511800

MICROWAVE £15 07780511800

FRIDGE £50 07780800

BASS electric guitar as new with Amplifier £100 ono 07780511800

LADIES zip ankle boots brand new size 4 £10 ono 01527 52163

PACK of 3 shirts size 17 collar £8.50 ono 01527 52163

3 Xmas teapots £2 each Xmas cookie jar £2 01527 52163

MUG with lid plus coffee pot & teapot £3 Letter holder box £1 01527 52163

FATHER Xmas plaque with flashing light £2 brand new 2 snow globes battery £3 each 01527 52163

CRYSTAL drinks decanter and 2 whisky glasses, glasses have never been used. Excellent condition £12. Tel 01527 500217

LOADS of Christmas decorations - poa - call for details - 01905 827192

MOUNTAINS bike levers lhs and rhs £5 good quality brand new used 07977913225

SINGLE bed with hypnosis mattress no marks, and headboard vgc. flame retard label £45 fully sprung bed 07977913225

SOLID oak cabinet £45 good quality 07977913225 vgc

MOBILITY scooter, colt pride vgc new battery, red comes apart for transportation. front basket and rear carrier and waterproof cover. £295. 07796218119

TRAILER Chassis, 2 wheel Steel frame, 6x 42"x 14" deep, drive away. £50. Tel 07967401319

COFFEE machine Nescafé Dulce Gusto £20 07743929558

KIDNEY shaped dressing table with curtains & stool beautiful condition £75 07743929558

BUNK Beds good condition dismantled FREE 01527 404723

FRIDGE £50 07780800

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Saints want Lampard to take charge at St Mary's

by **Aaron Sutcliffe**
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FOOTBALL: COVENTRY City head coach Frank Lampard has emerged as Southampton's preferred choice to replace Will Still as the club's new manager.

The hierarchy at Saints are huge admirers of Lampard and he is the club's first choice to replace sacked boss Still, according to journalist Graeme Bailey.

However, talkSPORT claim it would be difficult for Saints to prise Lampard away from the Sky Blues.

Lampard has taken Coventry to the top of the Championship table this season with the Sky Blues losing just once in 14 matches.

He guided City to the play-offs last season after taking over in November last year with the club 17th in the table.

And his work has not gone unnoticed with Saints keen for Lampard to make the switch to Coventry's Championship rivals.

However, Lampard does not appear in any bookmakers odds relating to Southampton's next permanent managerial appointment.

Oddschecker list former Southampton boss Russell Martin as favourite to take up the vacancy with Gary O'Neil and interim boss Tonda Eckert also considered strong contenders.

Saints sacked now former boss Still with the club 21st in the table, just three points above the relegation zone.

Still managed just two wins from 13 league games and lost his final three matches in charge of the club.

Former Sky Blues boss Mark Robins is also believed to be a candidate to replace Still at St Mary's.

Robins, currently in charge of Stoke City, has steered the Potters to second in the table, just four points behind leaders Coventry.

Sky Blues target signing of young winger Manneh

COVENTRY City are 'in dialogue' with Swedish champions Mjallby AIF over the signing of winger Abdoulaye Manneh.

The Sky Blues are reportedly 'in negotiations' with Mjallby over the signing of Manneh in the January transfer window, according to Swedish newspaper Expressen.

Expressen also report the deal would likely amount to a club-record fee received by the Swedish champions.

The 21-year-old has scored seven goals and provided

three assists in the Swedish Allsvenskan this season.

And his displays helped Mjallby to a first-ever top-flight title with three matches left to play.

Manneh is a full Gambia international and has scored three goals in five caps for his national team.

According to Expressen, the winger almost joined Greek side Olympiacos in the summer only for the deal to fall through over personal terms at the last minute.



Coventry City are reportedly 'in dialogue' over the signing of Abdoulaye Manneh.

Blaze ignite season with Flames win on Bonfire Night after defeat at Nottingham



ICE HOCKEY: COVENTRY Blaze claimed a thrilling 5-3 victory against Guildford Flames on Bonfire Night to secure their third league win of the season.

Captain Kim Tallberg netted twice while Connor Russell, Colton Saucerman and Grayson Constable also found the net at the Skydome Arena.

The result means Blaze sit seventh in the Elite League standings.

Coventry opened the scoring at 3:32 when Russell jumped into the play and fired a shot past Flames netminder Taz Burman.

However, Guildford equalised at 16:16 as former Blaze forward Nick Seitz teed up Ethan Strang to level the game.

Blaze reclaimed the lead at 17:43 when Saucerman blasted home his first league goal for the club.

The visitors drew level for a second time early in the second period at 21:11 as Tyler Busch scored on the powerplay.

However, Blaze skipper Tallberg put Coventry back in front at 25:11 after Mike Pelech provided a screen in front of Burman.

The Flames came back again at 29:26 when Strang netted his second goal of the game from Mathieu Gosselin's behind-the-net feed.

Coventry took the lead for a fourth time at 32:46 as Constable scored his fifth goal of the season from the slot.

And Blaze eventually sealed the points with 26 seconds left to play when Tallberg finished into an empty net after Guildford pulled Burman for an extra skater.

The win came after Blaze suffered a 5-2 defeat away at Nottingham Panthers at the Motorpoint Arena last weekend.

Coventry are next in action against Manchester Storm on Saturday, November 8 with the face-off at 7pm at Planet Ice Altrincham.

Blaze then host Fife Flyers on Sunday, November 9 with the face-off at 5:30pm at the Skydome.

Blaze celebrate during their win against Guildford. Picture by Scott Stevens.

Sullivan crosses for another hat-trick

RUGBY UNION: PETER Sullivan scored a second successive hat-trick as Coventry Rugby returned to winning ways with a 52-17 bonus point victory at Richmond.

Sullivan crossed for three tries at Richmond Athletic Ground while Jordon Poole, Josh Barton, Ewan Baker, Matt Johnson and Sam Maunder all dotted down for the visitors.

The result means Coventry sit ninth in the Champ Rugby table as Alex Rae's side claimed their first away win of the season.

Coventry scored the game's first try after just seven minutes as Poole crashed over from a driving maul and Josh Thomas converted.

However, Richmond responded four minutes later when Alex Post burst clear down the blind-side from the back of a maul with Coventry's Dan Green in the sin-bin for a high tackle.

The visitors scored their second try on 21 minutes as Barton collected Tom Ball's offload and dotted down as Tommy Mathews converted.

Richmond hit back four minutes later when George Nugent powered over the line and Callum Grieve added the extras.

And the home side lost Sam Pim to a yellow card for the final 10 minutes of the first half after he made a no arms tackle as Coventry took a two-point lead into the break.

However, the visitors struck just two minutes into the second period when Baker found a gap in the Richmond defence to dot down.

Coventry had Senitiki Nayalo sent to sin-bin minutes later following a succession of penalties close to the visiting line as Chidera Obonna eventually touched down.

The visitors scored their bonus point try on 57 minutes

when Johnson muscled his way over the line and Mathews converted.

And Rae's side took control of the game four minutes later as Sullivan darted over in the left corner and Mathews added the extras.

Coventry crossed again on 64 minutes when Maunder ran in from 30-metres out with a clever faint following a scrum with Mathews again converting.

Sullivan scored his second try on 73 minutes after he received Dafydd-Rhys Tiueti's pass and sprinted to the line.

And Sullivan completed a second hat-trick in as many games with three minutes remaining as he intercepted a long pass to run in a seventh try in two matches as Mathews converted.

Coventry are next in action against Hartpury on Saturday, November 8 with kick-off at 2.30pm at Hartpury College.

Regional joy for Warwick goalkeeper Timms

WALKING FOOTBALL: A PLAYER from Racing Club Warwick's walking football team recently helped England to regional success.

Graham Timms plays as a goalkeeper for Warwick's over-55s men's walking football team.

And he again featured for England central over-75s with some of the players over the age of 80-years-old at Evesham United's Spiers and Hartwell Stadium.

England central won two of their matches 1-0 and 2-0 and drew their other match 0-0 to win the tournament.

The central team beat England south west 1-0 and England south east 2-0.

They also played out a goalless draw with south west and lost 1-0 against south east.

Timms also played three matches for England south east team in between matches for his central team and conceded just two goals across the three fixtures.



Graham Timms (back middle) helped England central over 75s to victory. Picture by Just Shoots Photography.

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Valley leave it late to see off nine-man hosts

FOOTBALL: CAINE Elliott scored a last-minute winner as Rugby Town battled to a thrilling 3-2 victory against nine-man Long Eaton United.

Elliott finally broke Long Eaton's resistance in the final minute after Teddy Rowe and Josh Thomas put Valley into an early two-goal lead at Grange Park.

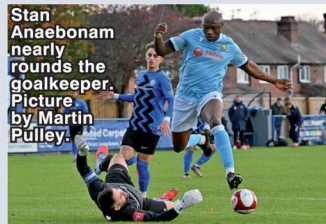
Long Eaton had Gianluca Bucci sent off before the quarter-hour mark as Valley struck either side of the defender's dismissal.

However, Owen Betts and Evan Garnett struck in quick succession to draw 10-man Long Eaton level and leave the visitors stunned.

The home side then had Betts sent off moments before the break to leave Long Eaton down to nine players for the entirety of the second half.

And Elliott struck at the death to secure the points for Rugby as the visitors claimed a fourth successive win in the league.

The result means Rugby sit 11th in the



Stan Anaebonam nearly rounds the goalkeeper. Picture by Martin Pülley.

Northern Premier League Midlands table.

Valley made the perfect start when debutant Rowe broke the deadlock after just two minutes with a cool finish from Nathan Kabeya's pass.

And Long Eaton then had Bucci sent off on 13 minutes after he picked up two quickfire yellow cards.

Rugby made the most of the extra man less

than a minute later as Thomas finished from close range after Lewis King tried desperately to keep out Rowe's initial free-kick.

However, the home side halved the deficit on the half-hour mark when Betts finished on the rebound after Marcus Bald saved Garnett's penalty and subsequent follow-up.

And Long Eaton equalised on 38 minutes after Geoffrey Lundoloki handled the ball in the box for a second time and Garnett made amends for his earlier miss to score from the spot.

However, the home side then lost Betts to a red card after he committed another yellow card offence when already on a booking one minute before the break.

Valley dominated the second half and eventually reclaimed the lead in the final minute as Elliott's deflected strike from the edge of the penalty area beat King in the Long Eaton goal.

Rugby travel to Bourne Town on Saturday, November 8 with kick-off at 3pm at Abbey Lawn.

Stone strike earns point for Borough

LEO Stone's early goal helped Rugby Borough claim a point in a 1-1 draw away at high-flying Belper Town.

Stone put Borough ahead after just five minutes at the Raygar Stadium only for Jacob Fenton to draw the home side level midway through the first half.

The result means Rugby sit eighth in the Northern Premier League Midlands table, two points outside of the play-off places.

Borough made the perfect start when Stone swept home Aaron Nuttall's low ball into the box from close range.

However, Belper equalised on 24 minutes as Fenton powered a header past Brandon Ganley from Ben Rhodes' cross from the right.

Ganley then denied Liam Moran from close range while the home side failed to find the net from a goalmouth scramble shortly before the break.

A bizarre moment in the second half saw Borough substitute Stacey Freeman pick up the ball with his hands after he thought he was fouled.

Freeman received a yellow card for the offence with Belper unable to capitalise from the resulting free-kick.

Belper had a goal disallowed later in the second half with neither side able to find a winner in the remaining minutes.

Rugby are next in action against Anstey Nomads on Saturday, November 8 with kick-off at 3pm at Kilsby Lane.

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