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MP hands in petition to bring back urgent care

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

A PETITION demanding the government brings doctor-led urgent care services back to Rugby's Hospital of St Cross has been presented to parliament by the town's MP.

John Slinger has handed in the petition – signed by hundreds of constituents – asking the government to work with the NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board to upgrade urgent care provision at the hospital to include a doctor-led service.

The hospital's Accident and Emergency service was downgraded to an Urgent Care Centre in the late 1990s, when the NHS argued that Rugby was not large enough to provide sufficient opportunities for clinicians to maintain their services.

The town's growth since then has amplified calls for an improved service.

Speaking in Parliament, Mr Slinger said: "I welcome the investment that has expanded and improved services at the Hospital of St Cross. But my constituents want urgent treatment to improve further and include more doctor-led services.



The Urgent Care Centre at the Hospital of St Cross.

"I've raised this issue with ministers and in the House of Commons. Locally, I've convened roundtables

with stakeholders, including community health organisations, councillors, and campaigners to ensure

their voices are heard by local health leaders.

"I have asked these leaders when

their review of urgent emergency care will conclude.

"Now, I expect local health leaders to take note and, more importantly, take action.

"The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urge the government to work with NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board to ensure that urgent care provision at the Hospital of St Cross is retained and enhanced, to include a doctor-led urgent care service."

Government investment has helped to reduce waiting lists at University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) NHS Trust by 3,632 since the general election in 2024 – despite record demand for services in 2025.

And ambulances in Warwickshire are responding to Category 2 incidents like heart attacks and strokes in 25 minutes on average – down from 39 minutes last year.

Mr Slinger said he would continue pushing for improvements with the government in Westminster, local health leaders, local campaign groups and citizens.



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Awards shortlist

THE FINALISTS for a major awards event in the region have been revealed.

The Coventry & Warwickshire Business and Community Awards, presented by Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, has announced the 60 businesses, community groups and individuals competing for 11 titles.

The finalists were chosen from more than 150 entries after a rigorous independent judging process involving business and civic leaders from across the region.

Each finalist will meet with their category judges to help decide the final winners, who will be announced at a celebration event on Thursday, April 23, at Coventry's Belgrade Theatre.

Corin Crane, chief executive of Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, said: "We are thrilled to announce our finalists for the Coventry and Warwickshire Business and Community Awards 2026."

"We were absolutely blown away by the quality and quantity of entries and our judges have spent the past few weeks making the really tough decisions to decide on the final shortlists."

"There are some incredible business and community organisations – as well as inspiring individuals – on the list, from micro businesses right through to some of the biggest employers in the region, which shows the true diversity of our economy in Coventry and Warwickshire."

"We are so grateful to all of our sponsors and judges. Without them this just couldn't happen, and we are looking forward to another fantastic celebration evening at the Belgrade Theatre in April."

"People are still talking about how much they enjoyed last year's event and we're aiming to top that this time."

Visit www.cw-chamber.co.uk/awards to see the list of nominees and for more information.

Chief constable announces departure

by **Andy Morris**
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THE CHIEF constable of Warwickshire Police is set to leave the force, and the profession, after two decades in policing.

Alex Franklin-Smith has announced his decision to pursue new opportunities after nearly 24 years in policing – 19 of which have been with Warwickshire Police.

Reflecting on a career spanning the Surrey, West Mercia and Warwickshire forces – plus a secondment with the National Crime Agency – Chf Const Franklin-Smith described serving in the role as the 'absolute highlight and privilege' of his policing career.

He said: "Policing plays a pivotal role in society and is often described as a job like no other."

"I am biased, but I believe the Warwickshire public are incredibly fortunate to have the talented and hard-working officers and staff committed to protecting them day in and day out."

"Policing has given me an immense level of job satisfaction but, at 44

years of age, I very much consider myself to be mid-career and, while I will be sad to leave the role of chief constable, I am excited to have an opportunity to move to the private sector, helping to deliver improvements and much-needed reform across the public safety, justice and policing sectors.

"I will take with me many career highlights but none will match the level of pride I have felt in these last 18 months leading Warwickshire Police."

"I wish my policing colleagues well and look forward, as a Warwickshire resident, to watching the force's continued upward trajectory."

Warwickshire police and crime commissioner Philip Secombe thanked Mr Franklin-Smith for his service and his commitment to Warwickshire since joining the county force, in 2007.

Mr Secombe said: "While I am sorry to see him leave, I understand this was an opportunity he felt was simply too good to refuse so I wish him and his family all the best for the future."

"During his time in charge of Warwickshire Police, Alex has begun important work to shape a new cul-

ture in the force, with a clear focus on delivering for residents while improving the standards and behaviours communities rightly expect."

"I am confident that the progress that has been made so far will continue and that it will form a strong legacy for his successor to build upon. I will continue to support this work to ensure that the public receives a service they can trust and rely upon."

"Arrangements for interim leadership – post-April – alongside a process to recruit a new chief constable, will be put in place. Updates will be provided as they are finalised."

"I look forward to continuing to work with Alex until he leaves us for his new position."



Outgoing Warwickshire Police chief constable Alex Franklin-Smith.

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Andrew Wallace. s

Isalah Taitt. s

Dequarme Lennox. s

County lines trio jailed after raids

by **Andy Morris**
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AN ORGANISED crime gang has been jailed for a total of more than nine years following a British Transport Police (BTP) county lines taskforce investigation.

Drug dealer Andrew Wallace, 22, of Bridget Street in Rugby, pleaded guilty to assault of an emergency worker, offering to supply crack cocaine, offering to supply heroin, and possession with intent to supply crack cocaine and heroin.

He was sentenced at Warwick Crown Court to three years and five months in jail.

His accomplices, Isalah Taitt and Dequarme Lennox, were both jailed in November last year at Warwick Crown Court for their involvement in running the drugs line.

Taitt, 24, of West London, pleaded guilty to offering to supply crack cocaine and heroin and was jailed for two years and nine months.

Lennox, 22, of Telford, was jailed for three years after pleading guilty to offering to supply crack cocaine and heroin.

The court heard how, on January 20 last year, intelligence led BTP's county lines taskforce to an address in Northamptonshire which was being used as a 'trap house': a base to sell drugs.

After forcing entry to the property, officers located Wallace, who had internally secreted a package suspected to contain class A drugs.

He was arrested and, while in custody, became aggressive when officers advised him he would need to go to hospital, kicking one of them and knocking him off balance.

Wallace subsequently had to be carried into a police van to hospital where the package was recovered and confirmed to be crack cocaine and heroin.

Wallace was bailed while the taskforce launched an investigation into the operation of the drugs line. Analysis revealed another two people were involved.

Multiple drug trafficking messages between the three men were recovered from Wallace's phone, proving they were working together to supply class A drugs.

Officers from the taskforce executed warrants at addresses in Rugby, London and Telford in the early hours of March 12.

Wallace, Taitt and Lennox were arrested and the drugs-line phone, a large knife disguised as a bike pump, drugs and £9,000 in cash were seized in the raids.

After nearly 24 hours in custody, the three men were charged with a total of 10 offences.

Referring to drug operations across local authority and police borders, BTP Det. Insp. Matt Davies said: "This is a hugely significant result in our crackdown on county lines."

"Three men who operated a once thriving drugs line are now behind bars and the illegal drugs they peddled have been taken off the streets, along with a potentially lethal weapon. This could not have been achieved without the efforts of colleagues at the Metropolitan Police, as well as Warwickshire, West Mercia and Northamptonshire Police."

"Working together means we combine our individual resources to hunt down those who profit from the sale of drugs and exploit others."

"Make no mistake, if you're using the network to deal drugs, we'll be catching up with you very soon."

Witness appeal after fatal crash

A DRIVER died in a car crash in Luttworth.

A silver Volkswagen Golf, a black Honda Civic and a white Scania lorry collided on the A4303 westbound – just off the roundabout for junction 20 of the M1 – just before 6pm on Wednesday, February 11. The lorry was parked in a layby.

The Golf driver, a man in his 30s, was pronounced dead shortly afterwards.

No other injuries were reported and no one was arrested.

DC Madeleine Hayes, from Leicestershire Police's serious collision investigation unit

said: "Enquiries to establish the circumstances of what happened are continuing and I'd like anyone who can help but who has not yet spoken to us to come forward. I'm particularly keen to speak to anyone with a dashcam who witnessed the collision, or saw either the Golf or Civic."

"Anything you're able to provide, no matter how insignificant you think it is, could help."

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/43fefsav>, or call Leicestershire Police on 101, to pass on information, quoting incident 518, of February 11.

Crimestoppers offers finders' reward



Brady Winterburn, 21. s

A £1,000 reward is on offer to anyone who can help police locate a man with links to Rugby and Coventry.

The reward, from independent charity Crimestoppers, is available for information which leads police to Brady Winterburn, aged 21.

Officers want to speak to him in connection with an aggravated burglary which took place at a flat in Rugby on Monday, January 19.

Police located a 22-year-old man in relation to the incident, following a previous appeal.

The reward is for information given exclusively to Crimestoppers and which helps police to locate Winterburn. Anyone with information should contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 and cite incident 349, of January 19.

To claim the reward, complete a form on the charity's website, at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>, and type 'reward request' in any text box. Then create a 'keep in contact' account. When contacting the charity's UK-based contact centre, callers must ask for a code.

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BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 2025

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Representatives from Coventry BID, Coventry City Council and West Midlands Police celebrate the Purple Flag award. s



City centre safety is flagged up

by **Andy Morris**

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NIGHT-time safety initiatives in Coventry city centre have been awarded a major international accreditation for the first time.

The city has secured Purple Flag status, recognising it as a safe destination after dark.

The award highlights Coventry city centre; Earlston High Street; and the Kasbah, in Primrose Hill Street, as a 'safe, entertaining, diverse and enjoyable night out'.

Coventry Business Improvement District (BID), Coventry City Council (CCC) and West Midlands Police have been working to raise

standards and ensure safe nights out for residents, visitors and city centre workers.

Coventry Community Safety Partnership's city centre management and safety measures include licensing and compliance activity; taxi safeguarding checks; the Ask for Angela 'safe word' scheme; Best Bar None, in which customers identify well-run bars; and terrorism preparedness activity under the Protect and Prepare programme.

Purple Flag assessors from the Association of Town Centre Management visited Coventry in November.

Joanne Glover, chief executive of Coventry BID, said: "The safety of visitors is our highest priority so it is fantastic to have received Purple

Flag recognition after many years of hard work. It was great to hear how impressed the assessors were with the collaboration shown, and their feedback that they were surprised we had not applied sooner, speaks volumes."

CCC deputy leader, councillor Abdul Salam Khan, said: "The accreditation reflects years of hard work led by Coventry City Council's regulation and community safety teams and our partners, demonstrating our commitment to a safe, vibrant, well-managed city centre."

"We want our city centre to feel safe and welcoming and I'm grateful for the efforts of the council, Police, BID officers and Coventry street pastors, as well as so many hospitality venues, in achieving this."

"The assessment process helped us showcase the city's many fantastic venues and the feedback we received from the assessment team was overwhelmingly positive."

West Midlands Mayor Richard Parker said: "Purple Flag status is hard to achieve and it reflects the dedication of Coventry BID and the council in making the city a vibrant, safe and well-managed place after dark. Everyone using our pubs, clubs and venues, as well as the 100,000 people working in hospitality, deserves to feel safe and supported. That's why I set up the nighttime economy commission: to support venues, protect jobs, and help the sector thrive."

Chief Insp. Hamir Godhania, from West Midlands Police, said: "We

are incredibly proud that Coventry has been awarded the Purple Flag accreditation. West Midlands Police work closely with the BID, council and other emergency services to ensure we are doing our very best for Coventry's evening and nighttime economy.

"We want everyone to feel safe when visiting Coventry. We have three dedicated neighbourhood teams for the city centre, a priority crime team, response units and specialist teams like project guardian, who proactively seek out those wanting to cause harm.

"We want to continue to reduce antisocial behaviour and violence across the city and the Purple Flag accreditation is just another step closer to achieving this."

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Musician Bill moved to finish his album in memory of son



A MUSICIAN has released a heartfelt new album to raise money for Myton Hospice, the charity that cared for his son during his final days.

Every penny raised from the sale of Bill Bates' album Madhouse will go directly to the hospice in gratitude for the care and support his family received when his son Matthew became seriously ill.

The former Observer journalist, from Whitnash, was diagnosed with a rare form of kidney cancer in 2014 and passed away two years later aged just 27.

Bill said his songwriting came to a halt during Matthew's illness and remained unfinished following his loss.

"I had songs half-written but I completely lost the motivation to finish them,"

he explained.

"After Matthew died, they stayed in a drawer and I honestly didn't think I'd ever complete them."

The project was brought back to life after a conversation with his wife, Louise, who asked for a CD of his songs as a Christmas present.

"That one simple request gave me the push I needed to go back, finish the songs and turn them into something meaningful," said Bill.

The album features a mixture of humorous and reflective songs, each carrying personal significance and telling different stories shaped by life's challenges and emotions.

Bill praised Myton Hospice for the support they gave Matthew and his family.

"They don't just provide medical care. They offer

kindness, dignity and incredible emotional support when families need it most."

Matthew was himself a talented musician and recorded an album shortly before his death which he wanted to provide a lasting legacy and have a positive impact on those who heard it.

Bill's album Madhouse is available as both a physical CD or digital download, with all proceeds supporting Myton Hospice and the services they provide to families across the region.

The album can be purchased via the Myton Hospice JustGiving page or Bandcamp, and donations are also welcomed.

For more information or to purchase the album, visit www.justgiving.com/page/bill-bates-cd or billbates.bandcamp.com/album/madhouse

Bill Bates' album Madhouse will be raising funds for the vital work of The Myton Hospices. Picture by Marcus Mings 0726001MMR

Matt Bates, himself a talented musician, recorded an album shortly before he died in 2016.

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Unclaimed

HIDDEN wealth in Rugby is going unclaimed.

New figures from the Office for National Statistics reveal there are five estates in the town which have not been claimed due to the lack of a rightful heir.

When a person dies without leaving a valid will, their estate is distributed to their relatives unless none can be found, in which case it passes to the Crown as ownerless property.

Laura Stuart, a partner at town solicitors Brethertons, said: "Across England and Wales, many estates go unclaimed every year, likely because no will was left, or no known heirs have come forward."

"We're shining a light on unclaimed estates registered across the regions we serve. By monitoring the latest updates, we aim to raise awareness and encourage people to check for family connections that could entitle them to a forgotten inheritance."

Anyone who believes they might be entitled to an unclaimed estate is advised to check the UK government's unclaimed estate list at www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/unclaimed-estates-list.

Fund closes after seventy years of handing out cash

A CHARITABLE fund in Rugby which has given away over £17million has reached the end of its 70-year lifespan.

The Rugby Group Benevolent Fund has announced that it has formally closed as of the end of December, marking the end of seven decades of charitable support for communities connected to the former Rugby Group, RMC and Cemex UK operations.

Formed in 1955 and established as a registered charity in 1973, the fund has been managed throughout its history by a group of Trustees, all former employees, who have worked to ensure the organisation's philanthropic legacy reached those who needed it most.

Over the last 70 years, the Fund has distributed more than £17 million to a wide range of beneficiaries including charities, charitable organisations, youth and community groups.

Support has focused on Rugby and other communities surrounding existing or former cement plants, including Southam, Barrington, Kenworth, Lewes, Chinnor, Rochester and South Ferraby.

In the Rugby area, the fund has provided substantial donations to hospices including Myton and Helen Ley House, health facilities such as the Friends of St Cross, family support organisations such as Children in Touch, youth clubs such as the Bradby Club, com-



Pictured last September, the late Graeme Fuller (centre), Chair of the Rugby Group Benevolent Fund, and Trustee Ian Southcott (right) present a £100,000 cheque to Friends of St Cross President Willy Goldschmidt (left).

munity groups such as the Benn Partnership Centre, and adult support organisations such as Hope 4 Rugby and Age Concern.

The Fund's Chair for the last 20 years and a trustee for a total of 25 years, Graeme Fuller, passed away on December 1.

A former HR Director of Rugby Cement, Graeme had put everything in place as required to secure the proper closure of the Fund, but sadly was not able to oversee the final few weeks of its

existence.

Rugby Group Benevolent Fund Director and Trustee Ian Southcott said: "It has been a privilege to continue the long-standing tradition of giving that began many decades ago within the Rugby Group.

"The fund's purpose has always been to support the wellbeing of our local communities and former colleagues, and we are incredibly proud of the positive impact achieved over the past 70 years.

"As the fund reaches the natural conclusion of its journey, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed, partnered with us, or benefited from this work.

"The closure reflects the completion of the Fund's planned charitable lifecycle, with all remaining commitments now fulfilled.

"The present trustees and their predecessors can be justly proud of the contribution the fund has made over seven decades."

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Coventry North West MP Taiwo Owatemi (centre) visited the Mosaic Family Hub to see how the initiative supports families.

‘Trailblazer’ Family Hubs set for £6m funding boost

HELP for families with young children in Coventry has been boosted by a funding windfall.

Coventry City Council has secured \$6.1million in government funding over the next three years to continue and expand its award-winning Family Hubs programme and its Start for Life healthy babies programme.

The investment recognises Coventry’s status as one of 13 national ‘trailblazer’ sites for family support.

Family Hubs provide free services for children, young people and families from pregnancy through to age 18, including parenting courses, infant feeding advice, perinatal mental health services, help with child development, access to computers and data, warm spaces, travel schemes, free clothing, energy and income advice, and free children’s haircuts during school holidays.

Coun Patricia Seaman, the council’s Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, said: “This significant investment is fantastic news for Coventry’s families and shows the government’s confidence in our approach to supporting children and parents.

“Our Family Hubs have become vital community resources, offering everything from expert health advice to practical help with the cost of living.

“We know that the early years are absolutely critical for children’s development, and this funding will help us reach even more families who need support.

“Whether you’re a first-time parent looking for advice, a family facing challenges, or just want to connect with other parents in your area, our Family Hubs are here for you.

“I’m particularly proud that Coventry has been recognised as a national trailblazer. This funding allows us to continue leading the way in giving every child the best possible start in life.

She said the service had already made a positive impact over the past four years.

She added: “Families tell us how valu-

able the support has been, and we’ve built a strong parent voice network of over 400 parents who help shape what we offer.

“This continued funding means we can develop our services further and reach even more families who could benefit.”

Coventry North West MP Taiwo Owatemi said the funding was a boost for families across the city.

She visited the Mosaic Family Hub and met with Michelle Wallace, Parenting Lead in Children’s Services, to see how the initiative supports families.

Ms Owatemi said: “This funding recognises how important Family Hubs are as a source of trusted support from pregnancy right through to young adulthood.

“As the mother of a young child, I understand the pressures that parents face and just how much this kind of support can mean to families.

“Visiting Mosaic Family Hub was a powerful reminder of the difference these services make.

“Alongside wider action to help parents keep their children safe online, this shows a joined-up approach to backing families and giving children the best possible start in life.”

By 2028, the programme aims to help over 70 per cent of Coventry children achieve a ‘good level of development’ by the time they are five, with a particular focus on reducing inequalities for disadvantaged children.

Over the next three years, the council plans to expand the network of Family Hubs in partnership with health services, schools, and community organisations.

The new funding follows Coventry’s successful delivery of the previous Family Hub and Start for Life Programme, which brought \$6million to the city between 2022 and 2026.

All services delivered through Family Hubs are free. Visit www.coventryfamilies.co.uk for more information.

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Para-dressage star heads to Qatar for prestigious event

by Philippa Miggins
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A PARA-dressage rider from Alcester is preparing to compete on one of the world's biggest equestrian stages.

Sara Bates' chance place in the prestigious CHI Al Shaqab competition in Qatar this weekend, is the culmination of more than a decade of grit and elite-level performance, following her diagnosis with multiple sclerosis (MS) in 2012.

Sara said: "I didn't even really know what MS was at the time. I just carried on riding and tried to ignore it. It took me about five years to accept that something wasn't right and I needed to think about leaving the able-bodied dressage events to join the para-dressage world properly."

A lifelong horsewoman, Sara had competed in eventing before her diagnosis. She was formally graded in para-dressage in 2017, entering the sport at grassroots level before climbing the ranks. Today she is ranked 13th in the world in her classification, and is among Britain's most consistent para-dressage competitors.

Sara says Sir Lee Pearson, 14-times Paralympic Games gold medallist, played a role in helping her climb the rankings not only in the para-dressage but also in the able-bodied standings.

She said: "Sir Lee came and commented on my para dressage tests and then he encouraged me to have some lessons with him. He has given me lots of valuable advice and has really pushed me to the extent that I am going up the ranks in the able-bodied too, riding regularly at dance medium, which is just below the highest level, of advanced."

Also central to her success, said Sara, is Tango, her 17-year-old, home-bred mare, who has made the long journey to the Middle East ahead of the Al Shaqab competition.

The logistics were formidable. Tango first travelled to Belgium before flying on to Doha under strict welfare conditions while Sara and her groom – her daughter Megan – followed separately.

At CHI Al Shaqab, Sara will compete against some of the strongest riders in the world, including the current world number one, from the United States.

The dressage ace said: "If I can

get anywhere close to their marks, I'll be delighted. My goal is simply to show Tango off to the best of her ability and enjoy every second. You never know if you'll get another chance like this."

Managing MS alongside elite sport requires constant planning and adaptation. Sara rides daily, starts work from early morning and carefully builds rest into her routine to manage fatigue – one of the most challenging symptoms of the condition.

Para-dressage permits riders to use approved adaptations, including specialist reins and additional riding aids, ensuring competition remains fair while enabling athletes to perform at the highest level.

Following Doha, Sara plans to continue competing internationally, with her sights set on breaking into the world top ten this year.

She added: "I'm 55, Tango's in her late teens – we're not the obvious candidates! But if you keep working hard and stay positive, you never know where it might take you. And of course, I couldn't do all of this without the support and love from my friends and family, who are there for me every single day."



Sara and Tango are ready to compete on one of the world's biggest equestrian stages. s

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Rent rise 'will allow for improvements'

RENT for council homes in Rugby is set to go up by an average of £268 a year from April.

Proposed rent increases for council-owned homes are to be capped at 4.8 percent in 2026-27, according to a draft Housing Revenue Account budget report presented to Rugby Borough Council's (RBC) cabinet.

The increase – which reflects the Consumer Prices Index for inflation of 3.8 percent, plus one percent – will bring the average weekly rent to £112.58, meaning council homes will remain the most affordable in the borough.

The increased income will allow the council to continue investing in its ageing stock to ensure homes are warm, safe, and affordable for ten-

ants to heat and manage.

In 2025-26, the council took ownership of 100 new homes at Navigation Way – the former site of the Biart Place tower blocks – which are now being let to eligible families with a connection to the borough.

The council has also continued its kitchen and bathroom replacement programme and invested in a stock condition survey to allow targeted investment based on the condition of each individual home.

The draft budget includes plans to continue the council's transformation of its repairs service which has bought empty properties back into use more quickly, and halved the number of tenants waiting for repairs.

Previously unreported repairs, identified through stock condition surveys, have also been tackled to make homes warm and safe.

Also budgeted is the purchase of 15 new properties for social rent, to be funded from Right to Buy receipts.

Coun Claire Edwards, RBC's portfolio holder for Communities and Homes, Regulation and Safety, said: "The information presented in this report shows that we are in a good position to continue to invest in improving our homes.

"The draft budget shows we will be able to continue our programme of improvements and investment in our properties.

"While we understand any increase in rent will be unwelcome, more than two thirds of our tenants will have all or part of their rent paid by Universal Credit or Housing Benefit."

Coun Jerry Roodhouse, leader of the Rugby Borough Council Liberal Democrat Group, added: "Increasing rent is always a difficult decision, but we want to make sure that extra support and advice is available for tenants who need it.

"The increase also allows us to keep investing in our stock and carrying on with energy efficiency work as well."

The final budget and rent amounts were due to be set at a council meeting on Wednesday evening (February 18), after The Observer went to print.



Children at Busy Bees created playdough in colours that reflected their current emotions, to help them learn to express their feelings.

FEELING THEIR WAY: TOTS at a Rugby nursery have been getting in touch with their feelings during Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

Busy Bees Rugby held a self-regulation activity to support children's emotions.

In the pre-school room, children enjoyed the story *The Colour Monster*, a gentle book which teaches kids to explore their feelings.

Vicki Prestwich, Centre Director at the Rodney Close nursery, said: "We read *The Colour Monster* to spark meaningful conversations

about emotions, encouraging the children to share their own experiences of feeling happy, sad, angry, calm, or worried.

"Through storytelling, we explored how emotions are a natural and important part of our daily lives.

"To further support the children's learning, they created playdough in colours that reflected their current emotions. This hands-on activity provided a creative and safe way for them to express their feelings, reinforcing the importance of emotional awareness and self-regulation from an early age."



Representatives of Rugby Borough Council and Homes England at RBC's new housing development in Navigation Way, pictured when the first homes were handed to the council last autumn.

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Chinese celebration

THE YEAR of the horse will be welcomed in Rugby town centre this weekend.

The town's Chinese new year celebration will take place in Market Place on Sunday, between 11.30am and 3.30pm.

There will be a full programme of music and dance including bamboo flutes, violins, drums, a fan dance and taichi.

Visitors will also be encouraged to try their hands at calligraphy; origami; face painting; lantern making; and tea tasting; to sample some traditional Chinese food and to pick up a red envelope and coins – a traditional new year gift symbolizing good luck and happiness.

The centrepiece of the day will be the procession, which will involve lion and dragon dancing, lanterns and drums. It will leave Market Place at around 11.45am.

The free event is being organised by the Rugby Warwickshire Chinese Society in partnership with Rugby First and Rugby Borough Council.

Amy Zhang, joint organiser and chairperson of the Rugby Warwickshire Chinese Society, said: "Chinese new year is such an important celebration for the Chinese community and I am so pleased that we will be able to share the day in Rugby town centre.

"The day will provide a real taste of Chinese culture and provide lots of fun and enjoyment for everyone and I am keen for people to join in and enjoy the activities, including the procession."

Visit www.rugbyfirst.org for more information.



Traditional Chinese dancers will perform at the event. s



The men from Onley Prison reinterpreted Rugby Art Gallery and Museum through a 'street illustration' aesthetic. s

by **Andy Morris**
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A NEW exhibition in Rugby is the culmination of a series of creative workshops between Brink Contemporary Arts and eight men from HMP Onley Prison.

Rugby Reimagined: Landmarks & Lines is now open in Rugby Art Gallery and Museum's Balcony Gallery.

A collaboration between Rugby Borough Council's parks team; the men at the category-C training prison; and Brink Contemporary Arts, the project included the refurbishment of park benches and the creation of artificial wildlife habitats.

Inmates expressed an interest in pursuing art as a subject so they were provided with sketching materials and creative prompts to explore the architecture and heritage of Rugby.

The men expressed an interest in street art, leading to an additional project focused on designing artwork for a railway bridge walkway which is due to be completed this year.

Construction company Morgan Sindall provided funding and commissioned Brink Contemporary Arts – a Midlands organisation which creates street art and murals – to deliver the project.

Local artist Luke Spate helped the men to reinterpret Rugby Art Gallery and Museum through a 'street illustration' aesthetic.

Using paint markers and

graphic fine liners, the men developed an illustrative style characterised by bold outlines, high-contrast colours and attention to detail.

Luke said: "The response from the men has been positive and focused. There are some real creative minds in that diverse group – and for a lot of them, saying 'I don't do art' initially, they are now 'doing art' well."

Over the course of the project, the men developed transferable professional skills including painting and visual storytelling, working to briefs and deadlines and building self-esteem.

The initiative aims to help inmates 'go straight' and make a valuable contribution when they leave prison.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke, Rugby Borough Council's

spokesperson for partnerships and wellbeing, said: "This project has been a fantastic opportunity for collaboration and creativity with HMP Onley Prison. Our work together has enabled meaningful creative projects to take place across Rugby. We are proud to be hosting this exhibition as a celebration of that partnership."

Her Liberal Democrat counterpart Coun Neil Sandison added: "This initiative has developed new skills, inspired creativity and has introduced more art to Rugby. I hope we find more street-art opportunities for Onley Prison to get involved in soon. Visit the exhibition and enjoy the work on display."

The exhibition runs until Saturday, February 28, and is free.

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Josephine Rugg

Borough art collection shown in its full glory

Rugby's artistic trove is 80 years old

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

A UNIQUE exhibition will bring together all 257 artworks from the Rugby Art Collection in one gallery for the first time in decades.

Unveiled – The Rugby Art Collection in Full, opens at Rugby Art Gallery and Museum tomorrow (Saturday).

The show will span 80 years of British art, from post-war scenes to contemporary works and including famous names and hidden gems.

It presents a rare opportunity to see the entire collection in one place and to discover how the collection has changed over the years.

Founded in 1946, the Rugby Art Collection was created to make art accessible to everyone. It has grown into a nationally significant collection including works by LS Lowry, Lucian Freud,

Barbara Hepworth, Bridget Riley, Paula Rego, Lubaina Himid, Maggi Hambling and Gillian Wearing, alongside work from lesser-known artists.

A Rugby Borough Council (RBC) spokesperson said: "The exhibition is arranged across eight decades, giving visitors a chance to see the collection evolve from post-war realism and industrial scenes, through bold abstract and pop works to striking contemporary pieces.

"Together, the works tell a story of creativity, ambition and the importance of art in everyday life.

"Unveiled is free to visit and promises an inspiring experience for art lovers, families and anyone curious about the story of 80 years of collecting in Rugby."

A book, *The Story So Far: The Rugby Collection at 80*, will be launched at the exhibition. Published by RBC, it features contributions from Rugby Art Gallery and Museum staff.

The book explores the history of the collection, its most exciting acquisitions and the people who have helped shape it. The volume was printed in Rugby and will be available to buy at the gallery throughout the exhibition.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke, RBC portfolio holder for partnerships and wellbeing, said: "Unveiled is a rare chance to see the Rugby Art Collection in its entirety.

"It's a celebration of creativity, curiosity and community, showing how a public collection can remain alive and relevant today.

"The Rugby Collection is owned by RBC on behalf of its residents and I hope that many of our residents will want to visit and view the collection for the first time."

Her Liberal Democrat counterpart Coun Neil Sandison said: "We hope visitors will take their time, enjoy discovering familiar favourites and surprising new works and leave inspired."

Unveiled runs until June 6.



More than 200 guests celebrated Rugby SPA's 50th anniversary with afternoon tea. s

PROUD members of a Rugby voluntary organisation celebrated the group's golden anniversary.

The Rugby Shree Prajapati Association (SPA) marked its half-century with celebrating its history, achievements and strong community spirit.

The group, a local branch of SPA (UK), has raised more than £40,000 for good causes during the last 50 years.

To mark the milestone, more than 200 guests enjoyed afternoon tea; exhibitions featuring association photographs, slides and publications; and guest speakers who illustrated the branch's evolution through the years.

Last year, at a fund-raising ladies night, Rugby SPA raised £2,000 for the Make a Wish charity, which supports children with critical illnesses by helping to

make their dreams come true.

The group also donated £500 to the BBC Children in Need appeal and £250 to Rugby Myton Hospice.

A spokesperson said: "SPA Rugby is proud of this significant achievement in supporting such worthy causes during its golden anniversary and extends sincere gratitude to all donors for their kindness and generosity."



Last year, the group donated £2,000 to the Make a Wish charity, £500 to BBC Children in Need and £250 to Rugby Myton Hospice. s

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Heidi super-hairo charity bid

by **Philippa Miggins**
 philippa.miggins@bullivantmedia.com

A FOUR-year-old from Warwick is hoping to raise £2,000 for a special cause by sponsoring her first haircut.

Heidi Webster, who has never had her locks shorn before, has been fundraising for The Little Princess Trust ahead of her inaugural cut, on February 28.

The Little Princess Trust provides free real-hair wigs to children and young people, of up to 24 years, who have lost their hair through

cancer treatment or other conditions. Heidi has already raised more than £1,400, which will pay for two wigs to be made, fitted and styled, free of charge.

The hair from her cut will also be donated to the charity, to make wigs from.

Lydia Webster, Heidi's mother – and a former hairdresser – said: "From the day she was born, Heidi's always had a great head of hair."

"Over the last four years, we've let it grow but we wanted her to experience her first cut before she starts school in September.

"We thought that fundraising for

The Little Princess Trust, and donating her hair, would be a fantastic thing to do and a great way to help other children and young people.

"Heidi's done brilliantly with her fundraising so far but if we could hit over £2,000, that would be incredible. The whole family is so proud of Heidi and we're excited for the special cut at the end of the month."

The Little Princess Trust has helped more than 20,000 children and young people with its free-wig service.

Wendy Tarplee-Morris, founder of The Little Princess Trust, said: "We know our wigs help to restore children's confidence and bring some

normality back to their lives when so much is changing.

"But we can only provide this free-wig service thanks to very special people like Heidi, who donate their hair and raise funds for us. We are so grateful to Heidi and all her friends and family for their fantastic support, and I would like to thank them all."

To sponsor Heidi, search for 'Heidi Warwick Little Princess Trust' in the 'find a fundraiser' box on the fundraise.littleprincesses.org.uk website.



Four year-old Heidi is raising cash for The Little Princess Trust through her first haircut. s

Dickens-inspired show boosted fundraising efforts



The cast of *A Christmas With Carol*, with Leamington mayor Ruggy Singh, second from left, Warwick mayor Jackie D'Arcy, fourth from left, and Donna Bothamley of Blythe Liggins, left.

A THEATRE company is celebrating after its recent production raised more than £9,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital – bringing its three-year fundraising total to £20,000.

Raise the Roof was founded in memory of 11-year-old Annabel Greenhalgh, from Warwick Gates, who died suddenly in 2022.

The company, which recently became part of Warwickshire Youth Theatre, has produced three annual Christmas shows to raise funds – with the most recent, 2025's *A Christmas With Carol*, raising £9,785.

The show – a musical inspired by Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, reimagined with music, laughter and festive cheer – was performed at Bridge House Theatre, in Warwick, at the end of November.

Raise the Roof chief executive Amelia Fewtrill Webster said: "Our mission has always been to fundraise for Birmingham Children's Hospital, in Annabel's memory, through the joy of performance, and *A Christmas with Carol* was our latest chapter in this poignant journey."

"The show received a wonderful reception from audiences at Bridge House Theatre and we're delighted to have raised more than £9,000, bringing our total raised for this important cause to £20,000."

Raise the Roof's Christmas shows have all been sponsored by Leamington-based Blythe Liggins Solicitors.

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Bird box fun is enjoyed by all

NATURE-loving kids at a Coventry primary school have been helping their feathered friends find a home.

Pupils at Whoberley Hall Primary School put their biodiversity knowledge to the test after participating in Eco Buddies, a programme run by housebuilder Orbit Homes.

During the session, which aims to help pupils understand nature and promote biodiversity, pupils built and decorated their own bird boxes and learn about the important role that plants and animals play in keeping the planet healthy.

Year 3 Teacher Sally Mills said: "Our pupils are really curious about the environment and we even have our own Eco Squad here, so this Eco Buddies experience was the perfect

chance to help the children learn more about nature and biodiversity.

"The students absolutely loved the bird box activity because it gave them the opportunity to get hands-on with the idea of protecting the wildlife we have around us.

"We've all enjoyed learning about being as eco-friendly as possible and we're very grateful to Orbit Homes for visiting us."

Eco Buddies aims to support students in understanding the importance of nature and how all living things are connected.

Brian Nearney, Chief Development Officer at Orbit, said: "We were delighted to join pupils at Whoberley Hall for an exciting Eco Buddies session.

"We heard how passionate the children are about the environment and felt this was a great opportunity for us to buddy up with them and help them learn more about biodiversity and how they can make their own positive impact, both at home and at school.

"All the pupils were amazing at building and decorating the bird boxes and we'd like to thank Whoberley Hall Primary for having us."

Visit www.orbithomes.org.uk/eco-buddies for more information on Eco Buddies.

Pupils from Whoberley Hall Primary School show off their new bird boxes.



Mayor Richard Parker riding the VLR trial route in Coventry last year.

FUNDING ON TRACK: FUNDING to take the development of the pioneering Very Light Rail (VLR) scheme in Coventry to the next stage has been approved by regional transport chiefs.

West Midlands Mayor Richard Parker and the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Board agreed to advance £50million to accelerate work on a number of key transport projects across the region.

They include further development of the VLR project in Coventry, including upgrades of the tram and the innovative 'slab and track' technology.

VLR will allow urban tramways to be built in half the time and for half the cost of traditional tram systems.

Mr Parker said: "Together we are building a new transport network to fuel the economy, secure investment and bring the new homes and jobs local people need."

The £50million is an advance on the

£2.4billion Transport for City Regions funding coming from the government to the West Midlands from 2027 to 2032. The money will be used for new road, rail, tram, bus and active travel investment.

Other projects covered by the new investment include schemes in Birmingham to extend the Metro to the Sports Quarter regeneration site in the east of the city, and upgrades to the Witton and Aston railway stations.

The decision to bring forward funding was part of a wider review of transport investment to make sure the region gets maximum benefit from the £2.4billion Transport for City Regions funding secured by the Mayor last summer.

It also confirmed the doubling of funding to £240million for pothole repairs and road improvements in Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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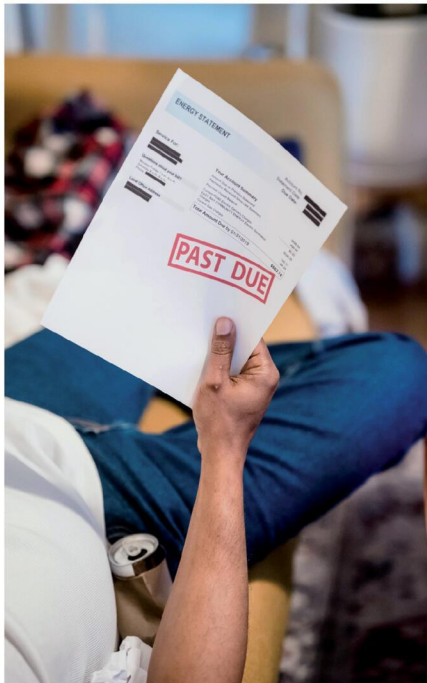


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Keeping control of your money can help with unexpected bills



EVERYONE likes to feel in control of their finances – knowing what’s coming in, what’s going out, and roughly how much to expect when the bills land. So there’s little more stressful than being hit with an unexpected charge you didn’t see coming.

But according Andrew Wayland, VP of Customer & Proposition at <https://drafty.co.uk>, acting quickly and calmly can prevent short-term stress from turning into a longer-term problem. Rising living costs are already pushing many people to the brink, with Office for National Statistics figures showing that 22 per cent of adults in Great Britain have had to borrow money or use credit just to keep up.

Andrew said: “Unexpected bills happen to almost everyone. The key is not to panic or put it off – dealing with it early and having a clear plan can take a lot of the pressure off and stop things getting worse.”

Assess the bill immediately

“The moment an unexpected bill arrives, don’t assume it’s right just because it’s landed on your doormat or in your inbox,” Andrew says. “Pricing errors, duplicate charges and outdated tariffs are more common than people realise.”

Before worrying about how to pay, it’s worth slowing down and checking exactly what the bill is for, what period it covers and whether the amount makes sense. Querying a charge early can prevent unnecessary stress later on – and in some cases, it may even make the bill smaller or make it disappear altogether.

Hit with an unexpected bill? A financial expert shares five ways to stay in control

Work out realistic payment options

After making sure the bill is correct, the focus should be on what you can realistically afford. Taking a few minutes to check your balance and upcoming outgoings can help you make a calmer decision, rather than reacting out of panic.

“A lot of people promise more than they can realistically afford because they feel embarrassed or under pressure,” Andrew explains. “Paying something, even if it’s a small amount, is still a positive step and can stop the situation getting worse.”

Contact the company promptly

Ignoring a bill rarely helps, and it often makes things more stressful. Getting in touch with the company early – ideally before the due date – can put you in a much better position, as many organisations are more understanding than people expect when you’re open about short-term money worries.

“Most companies want to speak to customers who are willing to engage,” Andrew says. “If you call early and explain the situation, you may be offered options that aren’t widely advertised, like payment plans or short-term hardship support.”

Explore emergency assistance

If paying the bill feels out of reach, remember that help is available. Councils and charities can offer different forms of emergency support, and using them can prevent a short-term problem from becoming a longer-term one.

“People often don’t realise how much help is out there,” Andrew explains. “From councils to charities, there are organisations that can step in when someone’s hit with a sudden financial shock and help stop things from spiralling.”

Review your budget to prevent future shocks

When things feel a bit calmer, taking a step back to look at your overall finances can help. Unexpected bills are frustrating, but they also show how quickly costs can change – especially when money already feels tight.

Building an emergency fund doesn’t have to be unrealistic. “Even putting aside £10-20 a week, when possible, can create a buffer over time,” Andrew says.

Andrew emphasises that taking swift action is key. “Ignoring bills makes situations worse. Most creditors appreciate communication and will work with people who show willingness to resolve payment issues.”

“Financial emergencies affect almost everyone at some point. The difference between short-term difficulty and longer problems often comes down to how quickly people act and communicate with those they owe money to.”

Browse the Winter Edition of Seasons



As winter’s chill begins to settle across our three counties, there’s a certain kind of beauty that only this time of year brings.

This, then, feels like the perfect moment to launch ‘Seasons’ – our brand-new glossy magazine, created to celebrate the people, places, and stories that make Worcestershire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands such a wonderful part of the world

Pick up a copy locally for free, or simply browse on line www.seasons-magazine.com



For even more details call **01926 317118** or **0121 270 2295**

‘Seasons’ magazine is brought to you by your local ‘Observer’ Newspaper team

Each quarter, Seasons will follow the rhythm of the year – from the crisp calm of winter to the first buds of spring, the brightness of summer and the richness of autumn – highlighting the very best of local life, from independent shops and community ventures to countryside walks, home inspiration, and hidden gems worth discovering.

Our first Winter edition is all about warmth – in every sense of the word. You’ll find features that reflect the spirit of the season: comforting food, inspiring people, caring places, and ways to make the cold months glow with local charm.

This magazine is for you – our readers, neighbours and local businesses – and we can’t wait to share the year ahead with you, one beautiful season at a time.



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Calling young fund-raisers

SCHOOLS across Warwickshire are being encouraged to fundraise for The Myton Hospices.

Each year, the charity must raise over £12 million to run its services. Every donation, no matter how small, helps support people living with life-limiting illnesses and their families across the local community.

Schools play a vital role in Myton's community fundraising efforts, with a wide range of activities designed to fit seamlessly into the school day while helping students develop valuable life skills. The charity's school fundraising programmes are designed to be easy, fun and rewarding for students, staff, parents and carers. To make taking part as simple as possible, Myton provides all supporting materials, including assemblies, sponsorship packs and certificates.

The activities inspire children of all ages to have fun while building confidence, compassion and a sense of community. Younger children can enjoy playful outdoor events such as Welly Walks and Funflower Walks, with all sponsorship materials provided. Primary-aged pupils take part in activities that encourage kindness, responsibility and teamwork, supported by assemblies, resources and a prize draw for every participant.

Older students are empowered to lead their own fundraising events, helping them develop leadership skills and community awareness, with their achievements celebrated through social media and shared storytelling.

Community fundraising manager Rachael Ryan said: "Seeing schools come together to support The Myton Hospices is truly inspiring. Every activity, big or small, helps us continue providing our vital services free of charge and teaches children the importance of kindness and community. Support from schools helps ensure more people can access the care they need and deserve – from providing patient meals to counselling sessions and hospice beds. A school's involvement really can make a difference."

Visit www.mytonhospice.org/Schools for more details.

Support could help in attendance problems

SUPPORT is being rolled out across Warwickshire to help children who are struggling to attend school.

A package of practical resources, launched by Warwickshire County Council, gives schools the tools they need to work alongside families and ensure pupils who experience Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA) get the right help at the right time.

Developed with a strong focus on early support and prevention, the resources are designed to help pupils who are showing ongoing signs of distress or unhappiness about attending school. They recognise that attendance difficulties can be linked to a range of needs, including emotional or wellbeing needs, and aim to help children feel safe, understood and supported so they can engage positively with learning.

Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA) describes the difficulties some children experience in going to school or their education setting. It is not about refusal or a lack of motivation. For these children, attending school can feel overwhelming and emotionally distressing.

These difficulties are often linked to anxiety, emotional wellbeing or unmet needs and are more common for children who



Help is on offer in Warwickshire for those struggling to attend school.

are neurodivergent, have sensory differences, or have experienced challenging life events. Without the right support in place early on, these challenges can impact a child's mental health, friendships and learning, and place additional pressure on families.

The guidance offers schools clear strategies, adaptable tools and training to help identify early signs of EBSNA and respond quickly and appropriately. A strong emphasis is placed on working closely with families

and carers to build trust and agree the right support for each child.

Central to the approach is Warwickshire's graduated response to EBSNA. This provides a clear framework so that schools can assess a child's needs, plan appropriate support, take action and review progress, ensuring children receive help at the right time and in the right way.

WCC's education spokesperson Coun Wayne Briggs said:

"We understand how distressing it can be for children and families when attending school becomes a challenge. By taking a compassionate and collaborative approach, we want to ensure every child in Warwickshire feels safe, supported and able to thrive in education."

So far, 143 schools and services have either attended or signed up to attend the face-to-face EBSNA training sessions.

Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ebsna for more details.

just go holidays



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Reader Travel

Observer



Torquay, South Devon & Dartmoor National Park

Departing Mon 27 Apr '26

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- ✓ Return coach travel from Rugby, Coventry
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SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from Rugby, Coventry
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Admission to Harrogate Spring Flower Show
- ✓ En-route visit to York

2 Days by Coach **only £169**

Single Supplement £40



Eastbourne - the Sunshine Coast & Bluebell Railway

Departing Sun 19 Apr '26

Discover East Sussex from elegant Eastbourne, the UK's sunshine capital. Ride the nostalgic Bluebell Railway, explore Sheffield Park Gardens, enjoy time in Lewes and opt to visit the historic gems of Rye and Hastings. Coast, castles and cream teas await!

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from Rugby, Coventry
- ✓ 4 nights at the New Wilmington Hotel, Eastbourne (JG2+ rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the Bluebell Railway
- ✓ Excursions to Lewes & Sheffield Park Gardens

Optional excursion to Rye & Hastings (£15pp)

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Opportunity to air views on county future

An early taste of the Bard

RESIDENTS are being urged to have their say on the future of local government in Warwickshire.

Currently, the county is run by two-tiers of local government - Warwickshire County Council as one tier, and five district and borough councils - Stratford and Warwick district councils, together with North Warwickshire Borough, Nuneaton and Bedworth, and Rugby borough councils - as the second tier.

Local government reorganisation is planned for Warwickshire as central government has set out a national policy to reorganise the current two-tier system in England to one.

Options for Warwickshire include a single county authority or splitting the county in two with a south (the current Stratford and Warwick district councils) and a north (the three current borough council areas).

The consultation is being led by Government, which is seeking views on the options put forward, and the six respective councils are not promoting or advocating for any option within the current consultation.

The Government is only consulting on whether residents would prefer one unitary council for Warwickshire, or separate north and south unitary councils.

Visit consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/warwickshire/ to complete the online survey

before March 26

A statement on behalf of all council leaders in Warwickshire reads: "Back in November 2025 we submitted each councils' preferred options to Government. The Government is now looking to consult with the public and stakeholders to help them to make the final decision on LGR for Warwickshire."

"We hope you will take some time to share your views and help Government to understand what is important to you and how the reorganisation might impact you. We expect to hear the final decision later in the year and will update you further then."

"We would like to collectively thank all residents, businesses, and stakeholders across Warwickshire for supporting the process so far, as we now move towards the final stage of reorganisation of your local councils."

Each council in Warwickshire had to submit its full proposal for LGR to government by November for its consideration.

WDC and SDC, together with North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth were in favour of a north and south split, while WCC and Rugby borough were in favour of one single authority.

The government will make the final decision with the chosen system set to be in place for April 2028.



Illustrator Emily Sutton (left) and Dr Anjna Chouhan created Shakespeare's First Folio: All the Plays, A Children's Edition. Picture by WCC.

CHILDREN in Warwickshire are being helped to develop a love for the work of the county's most famous son from an early age.

Warwickshire Libraries has unveiled a new set of free, bespoke reading resources created to accompany Shakespeare's First Folio: All the Plays, A Children's Edition - a lavishly illustrated, child-friendly adaptation of the playwright's iconic 1623 collection.

The acclaimed special edition from Walker Books, produced in partnership with The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (SBT), brings all 36 First Folio plays to young readers aged seven and up. The abridged texts retain Shakespeare's original language, making them both authentic and accessible.

The book was conceived and edited by Dr Anjna Chouhan, former in-house scholar at the SBT and now creative producer for Warwickshire Libraries. It features illustrations by award-winning artist Emily Sutton, drawing on heritage styles to bring the plays vividly to life.

Through a special collaboration with Walker Books, Warwickshire Libraries has secured exclusive rights to create and distribute custom reading resources designed to support the book. The free materials currently include play summaries and vocabulary lists, with more to follow.

Warwickshire County Council libraries spokesman Coun Michael Bannister said: "This initiative exemplifies Warwickshire's deep connection to Shakespeare and our commitment to making literature accessible and inspiring for all ages."

"We're proud to support a resource that not only honours our local heritage but also opens the door for young readers to explore the richness of Shakespeare's work in a fun and age-appropriate way."

The full collection of resources can be accessed via the Warwickshire Libraries Catalogue at library.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-and-young-adults/shakespeare-childrens-folio



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Choosing the right box is essential to attracting birds to your garden. s



Boxing clever for garden birds

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

THIS week's national nestbox week highlights the growing challenge facing our feathered friends, who are increasingly short of nesting holes in urban areas.

The loss of trees, natural borders and traditional nesting sites means supporting our avian visitors has never been more critical. The team at British Garden Centres has put together a comprehensive guide to choosing the right nestbox to help garden birds thrive.

Choosing the right nestbox

Not all nestboxes are created equal and selecting the right one is crucial for attracting specific birds.

Nestboxes generally fall into two categories: those with an entrance

hole, which protect from predators; and open-fronted boxes.

Look for nestboxes with holes for smaller birds like the tit family, nuthatches, redstarts, and sparrows.

A 25-28mm hole is ideal for tits and tree sparrows while a 45mm hole suits larger birds, like starlings, doves, jackdaws and blackbirds. Open-fronted boxes attract robins, wrens, wagtails and song thrushes.

Material matters too, so choose nestboxes made from insulating material like wood to combat the unpredictable UK weather – and with walls at least 15mm thick.

People should also look for nestboxes that have an internal floorspace that is a minimum of 130 square centimetres, to provide ample space for nesting.

It is important that the boxes have drainage holes in the bottom and a sloped roof, to keep them dry.

Positioning your nestbox

Bird boxes should be mounted high up – away from predators like cats – on walls, tree trunks, fences and pergola posts.

Boxes with holes are best placed around three metres up, in trees, ideally camouflaged by foliage; while open-fronted boxes can be at head height. Avoid direct sunlight and face nestboxes north or east and make sure you space out multiple boxes, if you have them, to prevent territorial disputes.

Nestbox maintenance

Cleaning bird boxes at the end of each nesting season prevents disease. October or November are ideal for cleaning.

Choose nestboxes with an accessible roof or side hatch. Always wear rubber gloves, use boiling water for cleaning, and compost any old nesting material you find.

Make sure you thoroughly inspect

boxes for damage and avoid disturbing active nests during breeding season.

How to attract birds to your garden

Installing a nestbox is just the first step in creating a bird friendly garden and there are many other ways that you can attract visitors to your outdoor space.

Plant for birds by choosing native hedging such as hawthorn and holly – which provide natural nesting sites and food – along with berry producing shrubs that offer autumn nutrition and sunflowers, that provide natural feeding opportunities.

It is ideal to provide year round food through supplementary feeding, which is particularly important during breeding season. Hang feeders that offer sunflower hearts, mealworms, suet products and peanuts to support birds' nutritional needs. Water is also essential, so

maintain a shallow birdbath that is regularly cleaned, to attract numerous species and help maintain their feather condition.

Reduce hazards by using window decals to prevent collisions, keeping cats indoors during dawn and dusk, when birds are most active, and avoiding pesticides that can harm birds and their food sources.

Leave areas wild by allowing seed heads to stand, creating log piles and letting lawn patches grow longer to encourage invertebrate prey.

Paul Williams, bird care buyer at British Garden Centres, said, "National nestbox week is the perfect opportunity to make a real difference to bird populations. Engaging with nature and helping the birds in your garden live healthy lives is an important aspect of our living environment. Introducing a nestbox to your garden can significantly improve a bird's quality of life."

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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

EASY

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 7 | | 3 | | | | 6 |
| 6 | 4 | | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | |
| | | 3 | | | 7 | | 4 | 9 |
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| | | 2 | 3 | | | 8 | | |
| | 7 | 8 | | 1 | 6 | 4 | | 3 |
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HARD

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| | | 9 | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | 2 | 4 | 8 | | | |
| | | | 3 | | 1 | | | |
| 3 | | 2 | | 5 | | 8 | | 4 |

PATHFINDER

Beginning with the top highlighted letter, follow a continuous path of words associated with the given subject. The trail goes through each letter once, twisting up, down and sideways, but never diagonally.

Ben Stiller films

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | G | A | S | I | T | Z | L | A | E | N | P | L | T | T |
| R | A | D | C | U | S | O | O | N | M | D | U | E | A | H |
| O | P | A | A | R | R | U | E | D | Y | R | N | X | T | E |
| C | I | M | R | T | H | P | R | S | T | E | I | G | H | M |
| T | H | U | E | C | E | T | M | Y | W | O | T | E | S | U |
| U | H | N | D | A | B | O | H | L | E | R | M | U | A | Y |
| T | D | Y | K | S | L | E | A | L | E | H | G | H | W | T |
| C | N | A | A | R | U | G | B | E | I | H | I | E | H | O |
| H | X | T | T | S | Y | O | D | G | S | T | L | L | T | H |
| N | E | O | F | C | T | D | O | R | O | H | A | E | T | E |
| C | O | F | K | E | F | F | E | E | R | C | N | E | A | P |
| K | E | E | I | N | L | L | Y | Z | M | A | L | M | R | E |
| S | R | L | T | L | O | P | E | E | M | N | L | Y | C | N |
| S | L | L | T | I | N | G | M | G | I | N | E | F | U | T |
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Solutions opposite

CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|
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| 15 | | | | | 16 | | 17 | | | | |
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| 18 | | | | | 19 | | | | 20 | | |
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| 21 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 22 | | |

ACROSS

- Bridge (4)
- Rouse to anger (10)
- Watchman (8)
- Remain (4)
- Bad smell (6)
- Brand (6)
- Destiny (6)
- Esteem (6)
- Soon (4)
- Petition (8)
- Father Christmas (5,5)
- Sea eagle (4)

DOWN

- Walker (10)
- Tidy (4)
- Set afloat (6)
- Upsets (6)
- Urgent (8)
- Depend (4)
- Wonder (10)
- Appoint (8)
- Ditch (6)
- Ceremonial (6)
- Too (4)
- Otherwise (4)

Scribble pad

LADDER

Using the clues provided, fill in each step of the ladder with a new word, changing one letter at a time.

- Publicity
- Wish
- Manage
- Cloak
- Instance



NINER

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

- 367 gives an animal;
- 79847 gives a fish;
- 98512 gives a bird.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
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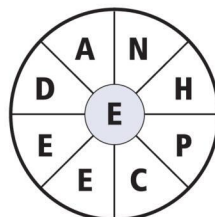
CODEWORD

This puzzle has no clues. Instead, every number printed in the grid represents a letter, with the same number always representing the same letter. For example, if 8 turns out to be a V, you can write in V wherever a square contains 8. Using your knowledge of words, complete the puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | 3 | | 21 | | 15 | | | 12 | | 16 | | | |
| A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B | 15 | 11 | 21 | 19 | | 6 | 17 | 26 | 21 | 22 | 8 | | 25 | |
| C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D | | 15 | | 1 | 21 | 23 | | | 23 | | 22 | 10 | 23 | |
| E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F | | 14 | | | 16 | | 10 | 26 | 5 | 22 | | 22 | | 11 |
| G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H | 15 | 26 | 16 | 2 | 8 | | | 21 | | | | | | 13 |
| I | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| J | | 16 | | | | 26 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 24 | 11 | 26 | 16 | 22 |
| K | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| L | | 13 | | | | 18 | | 2 | | 26 | | | | 8 |
| M | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 14 | 17 | 19 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 11 | 13 | 15 | | | | 26 | |
| O | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P | 11 | | | | | | 4 | | 16 | 26 | 11 | 4 | N | 16 |
| Q | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| R | 20 | | 1 | | | 12 | 26 | 12 | 26 | | 9 | | 7 | |
| S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T | 11 | 21 | 21 | | | 4 | | | 17 | 26 | 2 | | 23 | |
| U | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| V | 22 | | 26 | 3 | 26 | 12 | 11 | 19 | | 15 | 5 | 11 | 16 | |
| W | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Z | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

WORDWHEEL

You have 10 mins to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the hub letter and at least 3 others. Letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 9-letter word to be found.

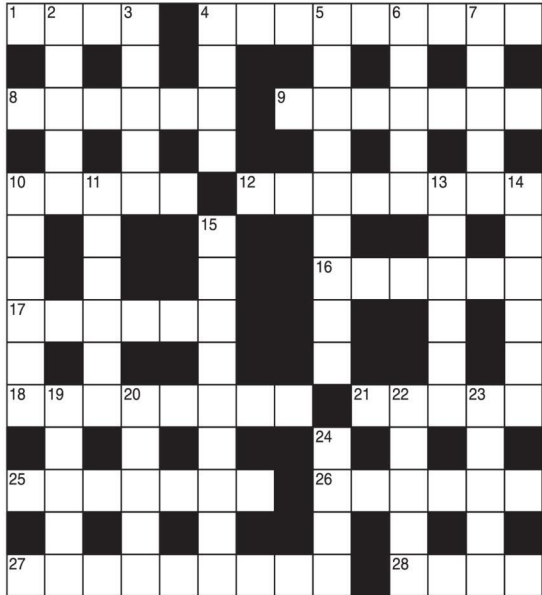


How you rate
 15 words: average
 25 words: good
 35 words: very good
 40 or more: excellent.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1, 26 & 6. President of the U.S.A. from 1825 to 1829 (4,6,5)
- 4 & 9. Group in the Pacific Ocean, capital San Cristobal (9,7)
- 8. A butt or foil for a comedian, etc. (6)
- 9. See 4 Across
- 10. Surname of the Israeli statesmen who in 1978 shared the Nobel Peace Prize with President Sadat (5)
- 12. The department of State in charge of finances (8)
- 16. Another name for the water ouzel (6)
- 17. One who assembles the parts of a machine, etc. (6)
- 18 & 21. Novel by Nikos Kazantzakis (5,3,5)
- 21. See 18 Across
- 25. Formal writings of any facts or proceedings (7)
- 26. See 1 Across
- 27. The fiery daughter of Baptista in The Taming of the Shrew (9)
- 28. According to Genesis, the "garden" in which Adam and Eve were placed after their creation (4)



DOWN

- 2. See 7 Down
- 3. In the Bible, the mother-in-law of Ruth (5)
- 4. A narrow valley with a stream and often with trees (4)
- 5. The capital of the Netherlands (9)
- 6. See 1 Across
- 7, 2 & 11. The highest grade of knighthood in Great Britain (5,2,3,6)
- 10. The serpent in The Rikvidil Saga (6)
- 11. See 7 Down
- 13. A cricket or tennis official (6)
- 14. In Hamlet, the jester described by the prince of Denmark as "a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy" (6)
- 15. The daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon (4,5)
- 19. The last letter of the Greek alphabet (4)
- 20. An infusion of vegetable and animal substances in water, used as soup (5)
- 22. River rising in Switzerland and flowing through Germany and Holland to the North Sea (5)
- 23. Johann Franz---, German astronomer famed for his observations on comets (5)
- 24. Latin word meaning water (4)

SOLUTIONS

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS: 1 John; 4 Galapagos; 8 Stodge; 9 Islands; 10 Begin; 12 Treasury; 16 Dipper; 17 Fitter; 18 Zobia the; 21 Greek; 25 Records; 26 Quincy; 27 Katherina; 28 Eden. DOWN: 2 Of the; 3 Naomi; 4 Glen; 5 Amsterdam; 6 Adams; 7 Order; 10 Buzfuz; 11 Garter; 13 Umpire; 14 York; 15 Mary Tudor; 19 Omega; 20 Broth; 22 Rhine; 23 Enke; 24 Aqua.

Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Span; 8 Exasperate; 9 Sentinel; 10 Stay; 12 Stench; 14 Stigma; 15 Kismet; 17 Regard; 18 Anon; 19 Entreaty; 21 Santa Claus; 22 Erne. DOWN: 2 Pedestrian; 3 Neat; 4 Launch; 5 Spills; 6 Pressing; 7 Rely; 11 Admiration; 13 Nominate; 16 Trench; 17 Ritual; 18 Also; 20 Elise.

Wordwheel Pathfinder

Next of kin, Little Fockers, Stella, Along Came Polly, Zero Effect, Dodgeball, Hot Pursuit, Zoolander, Mystery Men, Duplex, Night at the Museum, Tower Heist, Highway to Hell, Anchorman, Megamind, If Lucy Fell, Meet the Parents.

INCUBATOR

Tropic Thunder, Madagascar, The Cable Guy, Stargy and Hutch, CHEAPENED

Niner

1=F, 2=Y, 3=D, 4=N, 5=K, 6=W, 7=Q, 8=R, 9=B. Type, Hype, Hope, Cope, Cape, Case, Cast

Codeword

24=Y, 25=J, 26=A
17=H, 18=Z, 19=O, 20=X, 21=L, 22=E, 23=U, 10=M, 11=L, 12=G, 13=C, 14=P, 15=S, 16=T

Ladder

Hard

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 |
| 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 8 | |
| 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 |
| 6 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4 |

Easy

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 8 |
| 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 |
| 7 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 3 |
| 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 3 |



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WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

(OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) (VARIATION NO.1) ORDER 2026

NOTICE OF VARIATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL in exercise of its powers under Section 35C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and all other enabling powers has made the Warwick District Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 1) Order 2026 (“the Order”). The Order varies the Warwick District Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2025.

The effect of the Order is to:

1. Increase the fees and charges to all Warwick District Council (WDC) Car Parks, with a reduction in charges partly at Adelaide Bridge, Myton Fields and Hampton Road car parks.
2. Increase season ticket and permit charges across all district car parks by 10% with the exception of Hampton Road, Warwick.

| Royal Leamington Spa | | | Warwick | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| Location of off-street parking place | Existing charges Monday–Sunday | Varied Charges Monday–Sunday | Location of off-street parking place | Existing charges Monday–Sunday | Varied Charges Monday–Sunday |
| Bedford Street car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.70 – 1 hour £3.05 – 2 hours £4.55 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | New Street car park and West Gate car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.70 – 1 hour £3.05 – 2 hours £4.55 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Chandos Street car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.70 – 1 hour £3.05 – 2 hours £4.55 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Castle Lane car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.70 – 1 hour £3.05 – 2 hours £4.55 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £9.10 – 10 hours £13.65 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Covent Surface car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.55 – 1 hour £2.80 – 2 hours £4.15 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Myton Fields Picnic area car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – Day rate | £1.00 – 1 hour £2.00 – 2 hours £3.00 – 3 hours £4.00 – 4 hours £9.00 – Day rate |
| Rosefield Street car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.70 – 1 hour £3.05 – 2 hours £4.55 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £9.10 – 10 hours £13.65 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | St Nicholas Park car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) Up 2 hours free (6pm to 8am) | £1.55 – 1 hour £2.80 – 2 hours £4.15 – 3 hours £5.40 – 4 hours £8.30 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Adelaide Bridge car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.25 – 1 hour £2.50 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Hampton Road car park | £2.00 – Day rate £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) Charges for Coach/ Motorhome (where there are designated spaces) £11.00 Day rate (8am – 6pm) | £2.00 – Day rate £2.00 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) Charges for Coach/ Motorhome (where there are designated spaces) 11.00 Day rate (8am – 6pm) |
| Bath Place, Court Street, and Packington Place car parks | £1.10 – 1 hour £2.20 – 2 hours £3.30 – 11 hours £4.50 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.25 – 1 hour £2.50 – 2 hours £3.75 – 11 hours £5.10 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Vittle Drive car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £4.60 – 4 hours £5.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £4.60 – 4 hours £5.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Covent Multi Storey car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.80 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.55 – 1 hour £2.80 – 2 hours £4.15 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £8.30 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Bread and Meat Close car park | Free – 0 to 2 hours £2.70 – 2 to 3 hours £4.00 – 3 to 4 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Free – 0 to 2 hours £2.80 – 2 to 3 hours £4.15 – 3 to 4 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| St Peters Multi Storey car park | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.80 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.55 – 1 hour £2.80 – 2 hours £4.15 – 3 hours £5.90 – 4 hours £8.30 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Priory Road car park, West Rock car park, The Butts (in front of Church Wall) car parks | £1.50 – 1 hour £2.70 – 2 hours £4.00 – 3 hours £5.20 – 4 hours £8.00 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.55 – 1 hour £2.80 – 2 hours £4.15 – 3 hours £5.40 – 4 hours £8.30 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Station Approach (Surface and Roadway) | £1.10 – 1 hour £2.20 – 2 hours £3.30 – 11 hours £4.50 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.25 – 1 hour £2.50 – 2 hours £3.75 – 11 hours £5.10 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | | | |

Kenilworth

| Location of off-street parking place | Existing charges Monday–Sunday | Varied Charges Monday–Sunday |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Abbey Fields car park | Free – 0 to 2 hours £3.20 – 3 hours £4.10 – 4 hours £7.30 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | Free – 0 to 2 hours £3.30 – 3 hours £4.25 – 4 hours £7.60 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Abbey End car park | £1.40 – 1 hour £2.30 – 2 hours £3.20 – 3 hours £4.10 – 4 hours £7.30 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.45 – 1 hour £2.40 – 2 hours £3.30 – 3 hours £4.25 – 4 hours £7.60 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |
| Square West car park | £1.30 – 1 hour £2.20 – 2 hours £3.10 – 3 hours £4.00 – 4 hours £7.30 – 10 hours £12.00 – 24 hours £2.30 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) | £1.45 – 1 hour £2.40 – 2 hours £3.30 – 3 hours £4.25 – 4 hours £7.60 – 10 hours £12.45 – 24 hours £2.75 – Overnight fee (6pm to 8am) |

Season Tickets

| Car Parks | Current Annual Charge | Current Monthly Charge | New Annual Charge | New Monthly Charge |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| LONG STAY | | | | |
| Adelaide Bridge, Rosefield Street, Court Street, Packington Place, Bath Place, West Rock, St Nicholas Park, Hampton Road, Vittle Drive, Myton Fields, Abbey End and Square West | £1133 | £117 | £1246 | £129 |
| Leamington Spa | | | | |
| St Peters Multi Storey | £871 | £101 | £958 | £111 |
| Adelaide Bridge, Rosefield Street car park | £712 | £101 | £783 | £111 |
| Leamington Spa Old Town | | | | |
| Packington Place, Court Street, Bath Place Station Approach and Station Approach Lower Road car parks | £689.70 | £101 | £759 | £111 |
| Warwick | | | | |
| St Nicholas Park, Myton Fields (weather permitting), West Rock, Vittle Drive, Priory Road | £712 | £101 | £783 | £111 |
| Hampton Road | £153 | £22 | £100 | £22 |
| Kenilworth | | | | |
| Square West, Abbey End, Abbey Fields | £631 | £92 | £694 | £101 |

| Car Park | Current Annual Charge | New Annual Charge |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Resident 12-month permit - Abbey Fields | £44 | £48 |
| Overnight Permits All WDC pay and display car parks (Except Myton Fields) | £64 | £70 |
| Car Park (School Term Time Only Parent Drop Off) Bedford St car park (St Peters School Parking) and St Nicholas Park car park (Coten End School Parking) | £55 | £60 |

The Order will come into force on 1 April 2026.



Darren Knight
Deputy Chief Executive

Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa
Dated: 20 February 2026



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www.careerfinder247.co.uk

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Closing date: Sunday 1st March 2026
Interviews: Tuesday 10th March 2026

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES



**Notice of Compulsory Acquisition under Section 134(7) of the Planning Act 2008
A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS (WALSGRAVE)
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER
For the attention of persons occupying or having an interest in the land described below**

Notice of authorisation of compulsory acquisition

The above Order, made under the Planning Act 2008 by the Secretary of State for Transport and published on 4 February 2026, includes provision authorising the compulsory acquisition of land, existing rights over land, of a right over land by creating a new right over it as described in Schedule 6.

The Order includes provision authorising the acquisition for the purpose of

- Realigning the existing A46 dual carriageway through the existing at grade roundabout (which will be removed), for approximately 880m to improve the road geometry and allow for a 50mph speed limit.
- Earthworks on the eastern side of the A46 mainline to facilitate the realignment through the existing at grade roundabout.
- A new grade separated junction over the A46 mainline, approximately 800m north of the existing Walsgrave Junction to connect the B4082 with the A46.
- A new overbridge structure across the existing A46, between the dumbbell roundabouts forming the grade separated junction.
- New merge and diversion slip roads at the grade separated junction for both northbound and southbound movements.
- Realignment of the B4082 to form a single carriageway link road, for approximately 900m, to connect the local road network to the new A46 grade separated junction with a proposed 40mph speed limit.
- Road assets and street furniture such as traffic signs and lines, variable message sign (VMS), street lighting columns, vehicle restraint systems (VRS), fences, retaining walls and kerbs.
- Drainage systems including a dry detention basin and two ponds that will be designed to be permanently wet.
- Proposed new maintenance accesses to the drainage features and VMS.
- Retention of the Hungerley Hall Farm accommodation bridge (the existing bridge that provides farm vehicle access over the A46 mainline).
- Farm access track to the north of Hungerley Hall Farm to provide gated access to the B4082 link road.
- Improvements to facilities for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders (WCH) through provision of a signalised pedestrian crossing on the B4082; and providing enabling works, including the retention of Hungerley Hall Farm accommodation overbridge, for a potential future WCH route to be provided by others.
- Replacement and installation of new highway boundary fencing.
- Replacement vegetation planting to compensate for the vegetation that needs to be removed to facilitate the Scheme.

A copy of the Order has been deposited at the following locations and may be inspected at all reasonable hours.

| Deposit Location | Opening Times |
|--|--|
| Willenhall Library Hagard Community Space, Remembrance Road, Coventry, CV3 3DG. | Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Friday: 10am - 7pm Wednesday: Closed Saturday: 9am - 4pm Sunday: Closed |
| Caludon Castle School and Community Library Axholme Road, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 5BD. | Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Friday: 2pm - 6pm Wednesday: Closed Saturday: 10am - 4pm Sunday: Closed |

A person aggrieved by the Order may challenge the Order only in accordance with section 118 of the Planning Act 2008, which stipulates that any proceeding must be brought by filing a claim form for judicial review before the end of the period of 6 weeks beginning with the day after the day on which the order was published (or, if later, the day on which the statement of reasons for making the order was published).

Once the provision in the order authorising compulsory acquisition comes into force National Highways may acquire any of the land (including any existing rights and/or new rights) described in Schedule 1 below by executing a general vesting declaration under section 4 of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981. A statement on the effect of Parts 2 and 3 of that Act is set out in Schedule 2.

Any person who would be entitled to claim compensation if a general vesting declaration were executed is invited to give National Highways at:

National Highways
Post: Three Snowhill, Birmingham, B4 6WR
Email: A46coventryjcsn@nationalhighways.co.uk
Phone: 0300 123 5000

information about the person's name, address and interest in land, using a prescribed form. The prescribed form is set out in Schedule 3.

Schedule 1 - Description of the land, existing rights and new rights to be acquired

The Order land (as defined in Article 2 of the Order) is shown on the Land Plans (as defined in Article 2 of the Order) and is included in the Book of Reference (also defined in Article 2 of the Order). This notice relates to so much of the Order land as is shown on the land plans shaded pink (compulsory acquisition of all interests and rights in land (including, as required, subsoil and surface land)) and shaded blue (permanent acquisition of rights).

The Order grants National Highways compulsory acquisition powers over the Order land and such rights over the Order land may be required for any purpose for which that land may be acquired under Article 26 (compulsory acquisition of land) of the Order, by creating them as well as acquiring rights already in existence. The Order grants National Highways powers to compulsorily acquire rights and create new rights in the land, including for the benefit of the public or other parties. The Order also authorises interference with

existing rights and the breach of existing restrictive covenants over the land described and provides for the extinguishment, temporary suspension or discharge of such rights or restrictive covenants.

In accordance with Article 30 of the Order, where National Highways acquires a right over land, National Highways is not required to acquire a greater interest in that land.

National Highways may also temporarily use the Order land to carry out the authorised development (as defined in Article 2 of the Order) pursuant to Article 39 of the Order and may temporarily use the Order land to maintain the authorised development pursuant to Article 39 of the Order.

Schedule 2 - Statement on the effect of parts 2 and 3 of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981

Power to execute a general vesting declaration

1. Once the provision in A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Development Consent Order 2026 which authorises compulsory acquisition comes into force, the acquiring authority (hereinafter called National Highways) may acquire any of the land (including any existing rights and/or new rights) described in Schedule 1 above by executing a general vesting declaration under section 4 of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981 ("the Act"). This has the effect, subject to paragraphs 3 and 5 below, of vesting the land in National Highways at the end of the period mentioned in paragraph 2 below.

Notices concerning general vesting declaration

2. As soon as may be after National Highways execute a general vesting declaration, they must serve notice of it on every occupier of any of the land specified in the declaration (except land where there is one of the tenancies described in paragraph 4) and on every person who gives them information relating to the land in pursuance of the invitation contained in the notice of the authorisation of compulsory acquisition. When the service of notices of the general vesting declaration is completed, a period specified in the declaration, of not less than three months, will begin to run. On the first day after the end of this period the land described in the declaration will, subject to what is said in paragraphs 3 and 5, vest in National Highways together with the right to enter on the land and take possession of it. Every person on whom National Highways could have served a notice to treat in respect of his interest in the land (other than a tenant under one of the tenancies described in paragraph 4) will be entitled to claim compensation for the acquisition of his interest in the land, with interest on the compensation from the vesting date.
3. The "vesting date" for any land specified in the declaration will be the first day after the end of the period mentioned in paragraph 2 above, unless a counter-notice is served under Schedule A1 to the Act within that period. In such circumstances, the vesting date for the land which is the subject of the counter-notice will be determined in accordance with Schedule A1.

Modifications with respect to certain tenancies

4. In the case of certain tenancies, the position stated above is subject to modifications. The modifications apply where the tenancy is either a "minor tenancy", i.e. a tenancy for a year or a yearly tenancy or a lesser interest, or "a long tenancy which is about to expire". The latter expression means a tenancy granted for an interest greater than a minor tenancy but having on the vesting date a period still to run which is not more than the period specified in the declaration for this purpose (which must be more than a year). In calculating how long a tenancy has still to run, where any option to renew or to terminate it is available to either party, it shall be assumed that the landlord will take every opportunity open to him to terminate the tenancy while the tenant will use every opportunity to retain or renew his interest.
5. The modifications are that National Highways may not exercise the right of entry referred to in paragraph 2 in respect of land subject to a tenancy described in paragraph 4 unless they first serve notice to treat in respect of the tenancy and then serve every occupier of the land with a notice of their intention to enter and take possession after the period (not less than three months from the service of the notice) specified in the notice. The right of entry will be exercisable at the end of that period. The vesting of the land will be subject to the tenancy until the end of that period or until the tenancy comes to an end, whichever happens first.

Schedule 3 - Form for giving information

A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Development Consent Order 2026

Email: A46coventryjcsn@nationalhighways.co.uk

[[I]We]([delete as applicable] being [a person][persons][delete as applicable] who, if a general vesting declaration were executed under section 4 of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981 in respect of all the land comprised in the order cited above in respect of which notice to treat has not been given, would be entitled to claim compensation in respect of [all][part of] ([delete as applicable]) that land, give you the following information, pursuant to section 134(7)(c) of the Planning Act 2008.

1. Name and address of informant(s) (i).....
2. Land in which an interest is held by informant(s) (ii).....
3. Nature of interest (iii).....

Signed

On behalf of.....

Date.....

- (i) In the case of a joint interest insert the names and addresses of all the informants
- (ii) The land should be described concisely
- (iii) If the land is leasehold, the date of commencement and length of term should be given. If the land is subject to a mortgage or other encumbrance, details should be given, e.g. name of building society and roll number.

National Highways
05 February 2026

Classified

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

COMMON LANE, STONELEIGH

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable safe removal of a dead tree.

Order Commences: 25 February 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 25 February 2026.

Access & Diversion: Stoneleigh Road, Chantry Heath Lane, Bubbenthall Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Traffic Ltd, Tel: 08008 199 001.

D1818 PARKFIELD ROAD, KERSELEY NEWLANDS

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between Exhall Road and Shaftsbury Avenue.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and works. 09.30hrs - 15.30hrs.

Order Commences: 26 February 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 26 February 2026.

Access & Diversion: Parkfield Road, Somers Road, Beaumont Road, Exhall Road and vice versa. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

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

A45 BIRMINGHAM ROAD WESTBOUND ON SLIP, MERIDEN

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from County Boundary to A45 Birmingham Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway resurfacing and associated works, overnight 10.00hrs - 06.00hrs.

Order Commences: 6 March 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 9 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: B4104 (Birmingham Road, Hampton Lane) and A452 Kenilworth Road Northbound to Stonebridge Roundabout.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

A45 (EASTBOUND) SLIP ROAD ON STONEBRIDGE ROUNDABOUT, GREAT PACKINGTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from the County Boundary to the A45.

Reason for Order: Carriageway resurfacing works.
Order Commences: 10 March 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 22 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: A452 Stonebridge Roundabout, A45 Westbound to M42 Junction 6 Roundabout and A45 Eastbound. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

CHAPEL LANE, BARNACLE

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable works for renewal of a water pipe.

Order Commences: 11 March 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 13 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.

Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

WESTON LANE, BUBBENTHALL

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to rebuild water hydrant chamber.

Order Commences: 9 March 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 11 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: Weston Lane, Rugby Road, Kenilworth Road, Leicester Lane, Leamington Road and vice versa.

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

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/roadworks or call us 01926 412515.

S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 19 Feb 2026

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

C36 WELSH ROAD EAST, SOUTHAM

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from A425 Davenry Road to Spiffire Road.

Reason for Order: Carriageway resurfacing & associated works, 09.00hrs - 15.30hrs weekdays.

Order Commences: 23 February 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 2 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: A425, Butt Hill, Vicarage Road, Hackwell Street, High Street, New Street, Chapel Green Road, Thorntons Lane, Napton Holt Road, Holt Road, Welsh Road East and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

WORMLEIGHTON ROAD, PRIORS HARDWICK

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: Removal of overhead electrical lines and poles.

Order Commences: 23 February 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 9 March 2026.

Access & Diversion: Wormleighton Road, Welsh Road, Church End and vice versa.
Contractor: A Star Traffic Management, Tel: 08007 076 646.

HARDWICK ROAD, PRIORS MARSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between Welsh Road and Main Road.

Reason for Order: To safely enable the installation of a boundary box and water meter.

Order Commences: 23 February 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 24 February 2026.

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

Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

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

VICARAGE ROAD, NAPTON-ON-THE-HILL

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: To safely enable installation of an inline washout.

Order Commences: 7 March 2026 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 8 March 2026.

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

Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

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/roadworks or call us 01926 412515.

S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 19 Feb 2026

PUBLIC NOTICES

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

PAWANJEET SINGH trading as PUNIA LOGISTICS LTD of 81 Tallants Road, Coventry, United Kingdom , CV6 7FS

is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 4 vehicles and 4 trailers at the operating centre at **Sealand group, Oban road, Coventry, CV6 6HH**

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.

Representors 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

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
 Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:
D2128 FREEBOARD LANE, STRETTON ON DUNSMORE
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from A45 London Road to A423 Oxford Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs - 15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 23 February 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 26 February 2026.
Access & Diversion: A45 London Road, A445 Leamington Road, A423 Oxford Road, B4453 Rugby Road, B4455 Fosse Way.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.
MAGDALEN ROAD, WILLOUGHBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable the laying of new gas services.
Order Commences: 23 February 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 3 March 2026.
Access & Diversion: No diversion is available.
Contractor: Cadent Gas, Tel: 07831 706 512

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:
D3131 ST. MATTHEWS STREET, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed in its entirety from Lawrence Sheriff Street.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching works. Road closed 08.00hrs - 16.00hrs.
Order Commences: 10 March 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 10 March 2026.
Access & Diversion: No suitable diversion. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

HOUTLON WAY, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable manhole works to clear blockages.
Order Commences: 11 March 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 13 March 2026.
Access & Diversion: Houtlon Way, Crick Road, A5, Lilbourne Road, Main Street, Rugby Road, Vicarage Hill and vice versa.
Contractor: STW Sewerage, Tel: 03456 027 723.

ST JOHN STREET, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between Dale Street and Newbold Road.
Reason for Order: To enable boundary box installation works.
Order Commences: 9 March 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 10 March 2026.
Access & Diversion: Dale Street, Hill Street, Newbold Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

MERE LANE, COPSTON MAGNA & WOLVEY
Order Effect: Roads closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to renew water mains within the carriageway and verge.
Order Commences: 9 March 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 7 April 2026.
Access & Diversion: Fosse Way, Watling Street, A5, Smockington Lane, Lutterworth Road, Cloudestley Bush Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Severn Trent Water, Tel: 08007 834 444.

PUBLIC FOOTPATH HAWLANDS, RUGBY
Order Effect: Footpath closed to all traffic between properties 52 and 110.
Reason for Order: Water mains renewal works.
Order Commences: 9 March 2026 for up to 6 months.
Anticipated Completion: 19 April 2026.
Access & Diversion: Hawlands, Lloyd Road, Rydal Close and vice versa.
Contractor: Severn Trent Water, Tel: 08007 834 444.

SHAKESPEARE GARDENS, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable works for repair to wastewater pipework.
Order Commences: 9 March 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 13 March 2026.
Access & Diversion: Dunchurch Road, Overslade Lane, Shakespeare Gardens and vice versa.
Contractor: CSP, Tel: 03456 027 723.

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 19 Feb 2026

Classified

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES



Rugby Borough Council
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Application Number R26/0044
2A WARWICK ROAD, WOLSTON, CV8 3HB
 Reduction in size of an existing window, new render, and entrance door canopy
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R26/0097
32 OAKFIELD HOUSE, OAKFIELD PARK, BILTON ROAD, RUGBY, CV22 7AL
 Listed building consent to carry out internal alterations to Oakfield House (Grade II* listed) to convert the building from office (Class E) use to a dental surgery.
This development may affect a Listed Building. This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R26/0122
SWIFT HOUSE, THE GREEN, CHURCHOVER, RUGBY, CV23 0EP
 Single storey side and rear extension
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, the plans and documents submitted with it online at: www.planningportal.rugby.gov.uk or in an electronic form at: Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby, CV21 2RR between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday until 13 March 2026. 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.gov.uk (search for application number and select comment) - or in writing by that date to 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

PHILIP THOMAS SAUNDERS (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 63 Beazon Road, Coventry, West Midlands, CV6 4DQ, who died on 05/12/2025, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 21/04/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Co-op Legal Services
 Limited, Aztec 650, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SD (Ref:Z24W/7463155P/Saunders)

JAMES MARK ALEXANDER RIGG (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 Box Garden, Ripplesdale, Green Lane, Oxhill, Warwick, CV35 0RB, who died on 21/11/2025, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 20/04/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
Broadfield Law UK LLP, One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL (Ref:ANF/JEM/213794.0001)

PUBLIC NOTICES

Department for Transport
THE A46 COVENTRY JUNCTIONS (WALSGRAVE) DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 2026 ("The Order")

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTICE OF A DECISION ON AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DEVELOPMENT
 The Secretary of State for Transport ("the Secretary of State") gives notice under regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that a determination has been made on an application made by National Highways ("the Applicant") for development consent under the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") for Environmental Impact Assessment development. The Order grants development consent for alterations to the existing Walsgrave roundabout junction on the A46 (east Coventry), providing a new grade separated junction including new slip roads, and the realignment of the existing B4082 to connect the local road network to the new grade separated junction. It also allows for associated works which overall will improve traffic flows and congestion on the A46 around Coventry. In addition, the Order contains compulsory acquisition powers in relation to land and rights that would be required for the purposes of the development. The Secretary of State has determined, following consideration of the report of the Examining Authority who conducted an examination into the application, that development consent should be granted and has decided, therefore, to make an Order under section 114 (115 and 120) of the 2008 Act.

The statement of reasons for deciding to make an Order granting development consent, which has been prepared by the Secretary of State under section 116 of the 2008 Act and regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, containing the content of the decision, the requirements imposed in connection with the development, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision is based including relevant information about the participation of the public, a description of the main features to avoid, reduce and offset any major adverse effects of the development and information regarding the right to challenge the decision and the procedures for doing so, is published on the Planning Inspectorate's website at: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR010066> It is also available at the following location: The Planning Inspectorate, National Infrastructure Directorate c/o Quadrant, 69 Buckingham Avenue, Slough SL1 4PN To make an appointment for inspection of the documents contact the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000 or email NIEnquiries@pins.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

AGM NOTICE

Sunday 8th March 11.30am
The Copper House Club Ltd
Kenilworth, CV8 2FZ

Open to fee paying members of the club for the year 2025 that continue to be a member into 2026 only.
 Membership cards required on entry.

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.....

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

R E C L I N E R CHAIR electric rise & recline £169 Manual recline chair £60 High seated chair £40 Can deliver 07703 925662

BRAND new assorted Jackets & Jumpers, some with price tags on & some waterproof size 3xxx 3 pairs of shoes size 9 £10 each one 0121 733 3263

NEW beautiful gold traditional Victorian style bath taps. Free used matching basin taps but one seized. £30. 07840 800965

REGATTA Great Outdoors Hydratort navy ladies waterproof jacket, New. Mesh lining. Size 12. £15. Tel. 0121 430 3880

D R I Z A - B O N E Australian dry wax riding coat. Navy. shoulder cape, 12-14. Rear vent for horses rump. Knee length. Lightweight, waterproof. VGC. £60. 07840800965

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CURTAIN tie backs suitable for caravan 4 sets £1 per set 01527 521363

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HORNBY 00 gauge BR Class 9F steam locomotive + tender (Cat Ref R2880) in BR black with late crest, engine driven motor. Excellent condition only test run otherwise unused, complete with original box. £55. Tel 07415322794

00 Gauge Hornby Train Packs R2697 Class 101 3 car diesel multiple unit in BR Green, R2579 Class 101 3 car dmu in BR Blue. Both packs are DCC ready, in excellent unused condition still in original boxes & wrapping. £65 each or £110 the pair. Tel 07415322794

B A C H M A N N Collectors Club catalogues & magazines comprising "World of Models" annuals (2 0 0 6 - 2 2) , " B a c h m a n n Christmas cards (2 0 0 6 - 2 2) , " B a c h m a n n Times" volumes 2013-23 (44 issues). Huge amount of interesting memorabilia-all in unmarked condition. Free to collector. Tel 07415322794

KIDNEY shaped dressing table with Mirrors, curtains and stool. Excellent condition £75 07743 929558

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Haji Wright completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot.



Wright delighted with 'statement' victory

FOOTBALL: HAJI Wright lauded Coventry City's victory against promotion rivals Middlesbrough as a 'statement performance' from the Sky Blues.

The American forward scored a hat-trick to settle the contest at the Coventry Building Society Arena as he ended a run of three games without a goal.

Victory for the Sky Blues saw Coventry complete a league double over Boro while City now lead the Championship by a single point ahead of the Teessiders.

And Wright felt Coventry's energy and aggression gave them the upper hand in the contest with Boro unable to match the home side's intensity.

Wright said: "It feels great. Top of the table, three points, playing at the CBS. Nothing is better."

"Coming off a bit of a cold streak. Scoring three goals at the CBS is a great feeling."

"We played with a lot of energy and a lot of aggression in the first half, it was hard for them to deal with."

"In the second half we played a bit more tactical and were able to just defend the lead and counter a bit more."

"It was a statement performance against a great team."

Wright opened the scoring before the break before completing his treble in the second period while Riley McGree found the net for the visitors.

The forward's second goal came via a long ball from goalkeeper Carl Rushworth while his hat-trick strike came from the penalty spot.

And Wright felt the atmosphere created at the CBS Arena meant the result would only end in a Coventry victory.

Wright added: "It's a great pass. He's great with his feet for a goalkeeper. I'm happy with the pass, thanks Rushy!"

"Not much [goes through my mind when taking a penalty], I just pick my spot, size up the goalkeeper and try and shoot with confidence."

"It was a great performance from the team and everybody in the stadium. It only felt like it could end one way."

"It's only three points. There's so many games to go until the end of the season. We want to focus on the rest of the games that are ahead of us."

Moore joins Moors

COVENTRY City youngster Isaac Moore has joined National League side Solihull Moors on a 28-day youth loan.

The Sky Blues recalled Moore from a loan spell at Forest Green Rovers in January.

However, the 19-year-old will now return to the National League

with Moors for the next month.

Moore scored two goals in 23 appearances for Forest Green in the National League and FA Trophy.

The teenage midfielder also scored once in three National League Cup appearances for Forest Green.

Travel troubles lead to postponement of Blaze's semi-final tie

ICE HOCKEY: A CANCELLED flight saw Coventry Blaze's scheduled Challenge Cup semi-final second leg tie against Belfast Giants postponed.

Blaze's scheduled flight from Birmingham to Belfast was cancelled with Coventry unable to secure alternative travel arrangements.

The game was due to take place on Wednesday (February 18) with the face-off at 7pm at SSE Arena Belfast.

However, the cancellation of the flight meant Blaze could not reach the Arena in time for the fixture.

The club have confirmed all tickets purchased for the game will remain valid for the rearranged fixture.

A new date for the second leg tie will be confirmed in due course.

A club statement reads: "We would like to extend our sincere apologies and heartfelt thanks to those of you who made the trip to Belfast."

"We know many of you invested significant time, money and energy to support us in the Challenge Cup, and we are truly sorry for the disappointment and inconvenience caused by the postponement."

"Due to a late cancellation of the team's flight, the subsequent rebooking process, and the resulting travel constraints, it unfortunately became impossible to get the team to the arena for a face off time that Belfast could accommodate."

"While circumstances were outside of our control, we fully recognize that this does not lessen the frustration for those of you who traveled to be there."

"Your commitment, loyalty, and willingness to go the extra mile to support us never go unnoticed."

"We are incredibly grateful for your dedication, and we regret that these events prevented us from competing in front of you."

Blaze hold a narrow lead in the semi-final tie after claiming a 3-2 victory in the first leg at the Skydome Arena.

ELITE LEAGUE ACTION

Last weekend, Blaze thrashed Dundee Stars on home ice before suffering a late defeat on the road against Sheffield Steelers.

Blaze romped to a 6-2 win against Dundee at the Skydome Arena as Adam Robbins netted twice for the home side.

However, Coventry conceded three late goals in a 4-2 defeat against Sheffield at the Utilita Arena.



Coventry Blaze thrashed Dundee at the Skydome. Picture by Scott Stevens.

The results mean Blaze sit sixth in the Elite League standings.

Coventry put six past Dundee to claim a Valentine's Day victory against the Scottish side.

Blaze opened the scoring at 9.11 when Jack Hopkins picked out Alessio Luciani in the slot who provided the finish in a move which started from behind their own net.

However, Dundee equalised at 15.32 as Bradley Schoonbaert tipped Kameron Kiely's shot past Dershahn Stewart on the powerplay.

And the Stars completed the turnaround in the second period at 24.25 when Spencer Naas finished former Blaze player Johnny Curran's pass as Dundee capitalised on a Blaze mistake.

However, Coventry drew level at 28.21 as Grayson Constable finished a two-on-one opportunity after Dundee missed the chance to extend their lead on an odd-man rush.

And Blaze reclaimed the lead 38 seconds later at 28.59 when William Boysen scored from close range from Elijah Barriga's feed.

The home side extended their lead at 37.29 as Robbins scored on the powerplay after Grant Mismash's initial shot rebounded off Dundee netminder Emil Kruse.

And Blaze stretched their lead at 49.05 when Robbins scored his second of the game by redirecting Tallberg's shot past Stars.

Dundee lost defenceman Jackson Desouza for interference and unsportsmanlike conduct soon after before Tallberg completed the scoring at 52.38 on the powerplay.

Coventry then surrendered a two-goal lead in defeat against Sheffield after the Steelers scored three goals in the final 10 minutes.

Blaze deservedly took the lead at 19.59 when Mismash produced a clinical finish from Jordan Power's pass on a two-on-zero break.

And the visitors doubled their lead at 28.33 as Matthew Gleason found the net after Sheffield had Sam Tremblay called for roughing.

The Steelers halved the deficit at 31.28 when Mitchell Balmas scored a league-leading 25th goal of the season.

And Sheffield eventually drew level at 51.25 as Brett Ritchie turned home Mikko Juusola's pass.

The Steelers stunned Blaze at 52.34 when Jack Dougherty produced a neat move before finding the net.

And Dominic Cormier completed the scoring at 59.19 with a finish into an empty net after Blaze pulled Mat Robson for an extra skater.

Coventry travel to Dundee on Saturday, February 21 with the face-off at 7pm at Dundee Ice Arena.

Blaze then host Manchester Storm on Sunday, February 22 with the face-off at 5.30pm at the Skydome.

Cov end run of defeats with second-half comeback win at home against Richmond

RUGBY UNION: COVENTRY Rugby ended their three-game losing run with a bonus point 48-21 victory against Richmond.

The home side ran in eight tries as Allan Ferrie crossed twice while Jack Reeves, Josh Barton, Morgan Adderly-Jones, Api Bavadra, David Opoku-Fordjour and Morgan Strong all dotted down at Butts Park Arena.

And the result means Coventry sit fifth in the Champ Rugby table, eight points behind second-placed Worcester Warriors.

Alex Rae's side made the perfect start as Reeves finished well in the corner from Tommy Mathews' pass with the game just six minutes old.

However, Richmond responded with a try of their own on 12 minutes as Freddie Charles darted over from close range while Callum Grieve's conversion edged the visitors into the lead.

The lead changed hands again six minutes later when Ferrie crossed for his first try of the game with a powerful run under the posts and Mathews added the extras.

And Coventry scored a third try on 28 minutes as Barton collected Chester Owen's offload to increase the home side's lead as Mathews converted.

However, Richmond cut the deficit on 36 minutes when Donnacha Byrne scored following a length-of-the-field move and Grieve added the extras.

And Richmond stunned the home side on the stroke of half time as visiting captain Jake Monson ran a superb line and fended off defenders to score the away side's third try.

Grieve's third conversion from as many attempts sent Richmond into the break with a shock two-point lead.

However, Coventry scored their bonus point try on 47 minutes as Adderly-Jones touched down from Barton's pass and Mathews converted as the hosts reclaimed the lead.

The home side struck again on the hour mark when Bavadra powered over the line from Sam Maunder's offload.

And Coventry dotted down again four minutes later as Ferrie scored his second try of the game.

The hosts scored a seventh try on 69 minutes when Opoku-Fordjour touched down following a sweeping team move.

And Strong completed the scoring in the final minute with a powerful effort which Mathews converted.

Coventry are next in action against Hartpury on Saturday, February 21 with kick-off at 3pm at Butts Park Arena.

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Valley out of Senior Cup and in relegation zone

FOOTBALL: RUGBY Town suffered a penalty shootout defeat against Colehill Town to exit the Birmingham Senior Cup at the third round stage.

A late goal from Drew Lowe put Valley ahead at Pack Meadow only for Marvellous Onabirekhanlen to equalise for the home side which sent the game to penalties.

And Colehill triumphed 4-2 in the shootout as home goalkeeper Cameron Belford saved two Rugby penalties.

Valley handed a debut to teenage goalkeeper Xander Grieves and veteran midfielder Callum Woodward in midfield.

The home side dominated the first half as 16-year-old loanee Grieves made a string of saves to keep the game scoreless.

Grieves continued to star as he also denied Tristan Dunkley after Theo Rowe played the latter clean through on goal.

However, Valley eventually broke the deadlock on 79 minutes when Lowe vol-



leyed in Trey Charles' deep free-kick from close range to score his first goal for the club.

Colehill equalised four minutes later as Onabirekhanlen cleverly flicked Ben Usher-Shipway's cross into the corner of the net.

Grieves made a couple of crucial saves to ensure the game went to penalties only for his opposite number to have the final say.

Colehill shot-stopper Belford saved spot kicks from Woodward and Charles as the home scored all four off their penalties to dump Valley out of the competition.

That came after Rugby dropped into the relegation zone following a 3-0 home defeat against Sutton Coldfield Town last weekend.

Valley suffered a fourth straight league defeat as an early goal from Joseph Hull and a Reece Gibson brace condemned the home side to defeat at Butlin Road.

The result means Rugby drop into the Northern Premier League Midlands relegation zone, one point from safety.

Rugby are next in action against Coventry Sphinx on Saturday, February 21 with kick-off at 3pm at the Cameron Slater Arena.

Rivel Mardenborough provided some attacking threat for Valley against Sutton. Picture by Martin Pulley.

Borough stretch unbeaten streak

RUGBY Borough extended their unbeaten run to four matches with a 2-0 victory away at Long Eaton United in mid-week.

A header from Oran Jackson and a Jake Finnerty own goal saw Borough claim a hard-fought victory at Grange Park.

The result means Rugby sit 13th in the Northern Premier League Midlands table, six points outside of the play-off places.

Borough broke the deadlock one minute before half time when Jackson's header found the net.

And an own goal from Finnerty doubled the away side's lead on 51 minutes after he turned Will Grocott's free-kick into his own net.

That came after Borough played out a 1-1 draw away at Wellingborough Town last weekend.

An early goal from Tyrell Waite put Borough ahead only for Will Jones to score a dramatic late equaliser for the home side at the Dog and Duck Ground.

Borough broke the deadlock after just 14 minutes when Waite finished a ball in behind the Wellingborough defence.

However, Wellingborough equalised in the final minute as Jones beat Borough goalkeeper Marcus Bald to the ball to head in the leveller.

Rugby are next in action against Mickleover on Saturday, February 21 with kick-off at 3pm at Kilsby Lane.

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