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Calls for resignation over 'hate speech' email

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

A CABINET member of Warwickshire County Council's Reform UK administration has been accused of 'hate speech' for claiming the LGBTQ+ Pride movement has been "hijacked by groomers and mentally ill men".

Coun Wayne Briggs, portfolio holder for Children and Families, Education and SEND, made the claims in an email leaked anonymously to Warwickshire Pride.

Criticising Conservative council chairman Coun Dale Keeling's decision to allow the Pride flag to fly from WCC's headquarters during Pride Month, Coun Briggs said: "This movement has been hijacked by groomers and mentally ill men in dresses gyrating in front of children and pushing a delusion that you can somehow change from male to female and vice versa. This is a dangerous ideology."

"We can see the degradation of society before our eyes and I believe it is our duty to promote the 'nuclear family'."

A spokesperson for Warwickshire Pride said the statement amounted to a 'hate crime'.

They said: "From a sitting councillor, this is completely unacceptable."

"We call on Coun Briggs to apologise and resign from his position. He has demonstrated why he is unfit for the role he holds."

Warwickshire Pride has submitted a

code of conduct complaint to WCC, and reported Coun Briggs to Warwickshire Police.

WCC's Liberal Democrat Group called Coun Briggs' language 'vile and dehumanising'.

Group leader Coun Sarah Boad said: "When the councillor charged with protecting our children decides one kind of family is the only model worth promoting, every child who falls outside that ideal is being told they are second best."

Warwickshire Labour Group said Coun Briggs' views were incompatible with his role.

Group leader Coun Sarah Feeney said: "How would he direct staff in his departments to ensure appropriate support is given to a child in crisis over their gender identity whilst holding views that they must have been groomed?"

"Will there be direction to treat LGBTQ+ parents as worrying influences on their own children?"

Coun Briggs refused to apologise. He said: "It was a private email expressing my personal views. I stand by the concerns I raised."

"If I were speaking publicly as a portfolio holder or issuing a formal statement on behalf of the council, I would use different language."

"My concern is about the promotion of gender reassignment."

"I will cooperate fully with any process that may arise from any complaints that are submitted and will not be commenting further."



Alex enjoys a splash.
 Picture by
 Marcus Mings
 2626005MMR

A WARM WELCOME: THE SUN means fun for youngsters. Just add water, and life doesn't get much better as two year-old Alex proved as he took the chance to cool off and splash about during the latest heatwave to hit the region.

But it was not just about keeping cool this week, but also safe, after the scorch-

ing temperatures prompted the UK Health Security Agency to issue a rare red heat health alert for the West Midlands.

The record highest June temperature of 35.6C was set to be smashed, and with climate change and the planet warming at an alarming rate, such extremes of temperature are set to become the norm.



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LEFT: Mike Slater gets mowing at the new meadow.



RIGHT: Small Heath butterflies have been spotted. Picture by John Murray

Project helps to add rare colour

A PROJECT to create a wildflower haven for butterflies in south Warwickshire after a devastating landslip is really taking off.

Mike Slater, who volunteers for national charity Butterfly Conservation, has reported several rare butterflies at a new meadow area in Harbury.

The landslip near the railway tunnel in 2015 caused major damage and disruption which was especially worrying because much of the area is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The large mass of bare clay it

exposed was so barren that locals nicknamed it the 'moonscape'.

Since then, Mike and other members of Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire branch have worked with Network Rail to restore the site and make it more resistant to landslips by grazing sheep on it. This helps to create a dense sward of grass and wildflowers that bind the soil together, and is also perfect habitat for butterflies.

Now the team has said that the project is working so well, they want to expand it to new areas.

Mike, who is chairman of Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire, said: "Seeing the site this spring I have

been absolutely amazed. Last year it was coarse grassland full of ragwort and buddleia. This year, following grazing, it's full of bird's-foot trefoil and knapweed.

"In the past few weeks we have seen Dingy Skipper and Small Heath on the new meadow area - it's absolutely fantastic. Last year it was totally unsuitable for those species."

The SSSI is also home to numerous other butterflies including Small Blue, Green Hairstreak and Dark Green Fritillary.

Now Mike and the branch are aiming to work with Network Rail to expand that success to the sur-

rounding area.

On a second area of bare clay exposed by the landslip, Mike is in talks with Network Rail to bring in six new lorry loads of local clay-rich soil, create eight south-facing 'butterfly banks' and then scatter wildflower seeds over the lot. He is also hoping to graze sheep on the area.

This would double the area of wildflower meadow in the SSSI.

The branch also manages a meadow for butterflies just off the landslip area for a local farmer, and has agreed a plan to spread some of the benefits from that site. This autumn they will mow

the meadow, then immediately take the 'green hay' cuttings to the Churchlands meadow.

This rapid transplant offers valuable hidden benefits because, as well as transferring wildflower seeds, it also brings microbes, fungi and other living components of the meadow.

The branch has even planted disease-resistant elm trees in part of the SSSI in a bid to lure White-letter Hairstreak butterflies to the site.

Find out more about volunteering opportunities at butterfly-conservation.org/volunteering



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Going the distance to bring in the cash

by **Andy Morris**
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INTREPID 12-year-old friends from Rugby are preparing to cycle 250 miles from London to Paris to raise funds for a disability charity close to their hearts.

Iris Williams and Esmæ Pinnock will set off on their adventure on Monday (June 29) in honour of Iris's big sister Mia, 19, who has cerebral palsy and is blind.

They aim to cover the route in just five days and raise thousands of pounds for Sense, which has supported Mia since she was three.

Soon after the determined duo arrive in Paris, Mia, who has monthly home sessions with a Sense specialist, will participate in a cycling challenge of her own – the 'Tour De Sense', a fully-inclusive three-week cycling event which launches on Saturday July 4.

Iris and Esmæ will ride from the London Eye to Newhaven, catch a ferry to Dieppe, and pedal on through northern France to Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

Iris's mum, primary school teacher Fran Condry, 43, will ride alongside the girls while Iris's grandad, retired bishop Ed Condry, 73, who has twice cycled

from London to Paris to fundraise for Sense, will follow by car as their support driver and puncture mender.

Experienced cyclist and family friend Tina Downie, 57, will also join the cycling group.

Iris said: "It's really good to be doing this with Esmæ because we will keep each other company on the road and she's very motivating."

"We've been friends since we were three and went to primary school together. Now we're in year seven at different secondary schools but we still meet up and go to athletics club together."

The duo have been training hard for the ride, having never done anything like this before.

Iris added: "When we did our first 40-mile training ride, it wasn't too bad and we both thought we could cycle another 40 or 50 miles the next day, so we think London to Paris is possible."

"There's always the worry of getting a puncture though, or being late for the ferry. Luckily, we have got my grandpa coming with us. He's done the ride we're doing twice before and can definitely repair a puncture!"

Esmæ said she was excited to take on the challenge.

She added: "Our families are close and I see how Sense supports Mia so I'm very happy we're fundraising for the charity. My

friends think it's really good we're doing this – and they also think we're crazy."

"Obviously, it's going to be a really hard thing to do; I've never done a bike ride like this before. But we've been training hard, strength training in the gym every Monday and going for 50 to 60 mile cycle rides on the weekend."

"On top of that, I play for two football teams and do athletics, so I feel fit and ready."

Louis Wickett-Padgham, Deputy Head of Sense Active, said he was delighted the girls would be fundraising for the charity.

He added: "The cycle ride that Iris and Esmæ are planning is incredible. The money they raise will enable more disabled people with complex needs to be active and enjoy life to the full."

"We're also really pleased that Mia and the whole Sense community will be able to take part in our own cycling challenge, Tour De Sense."

"It's going to be a huge cycling summer for Sense and we can't wait to get started."

TOP: Iris (left) and Esmæ have been training hard for their 250 mile ride from London to Paris. Picture by Fran Condry / Sense.

BOTTOM: Left to right: Iris, her sister Mia and friend Esmæ. Picture by Fran Condry / Sense.



Crazy golf will be among the games on offer at the Houlton Family Fun Day.

It's all for mental health

A **POPULAR** annual family fun day in Houlton will raise funds for a men's mental health group which started life in the community.

Organisers of the Houlton Family Fun Day, which takes place this weekend, have chosen Back and Forth Men's Mental Health as the beneficiaries of this year's event.

The group, founded by Houlton resident Dan Phillips, started as an informal walking group aiming to bring people together for open conversations and support.

It has since expanded to run walks across Warwickshire as well as social evenings, a podcast, and talks at venues including The Tuning Fork in Houlton.

The fun day will feature inflatables, games, live music, performances, food vendors and stalls from local businesses and community groups, including the Houlton Community Gardens and Houlton WI.

Elly Henus, Community Development Lead at event sponsors and Houlton master

developers Urban&Civic, said: "Our Family Fun Day is always a well attended event, with such a great atmosphere that is testament to the hard work our Houlton Events Team put in to make it an occasion to remember for all the right reasons."

"We always support a charitable cause, but the fact that this year it is now supporting a group that started its life right here in Houlton really is lovely, and a reminder of just how supportive this community is a whole and how many great groups we have that have sprung up from the people who live here."

The Houlton Family Fun Day takes place at the Houlton Sports Fields and The Barn on from 12pm to 5pm Saturday (June 27). Tickets cost £2.50 in advance or £3 on the day. Children under three go free. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/4tkmswrf> for advance tickets.

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Initiative aiming to shape arts in the city

THOUSANDS of people across Coventry will have the chance to experience arts exhibitions, take part in events and develop new creative skills under a new initiative from Coventry University.

Shape Coventry – a new creative skills development programme – will be rolled out across Coventry over the next three years after it was launched at a Cultural Champions event at Coventry Transport Museum.

The £1.14million programme, supported by nearly \$650,000 from Arts Council England, brings together more than 20 partners, including Coventry City Council, Coventry Cultural Education Partnership, Street Art Strategy, the University of Warwick, British Council and CreaTech Frontiers, to support Coventry's creative economy and future talent.

Activities will take place at venues across the city, includ-

ing Coventry University's Delia Derbyshire Building and the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum.

Murals will also be created in public spaces across the city.

The scheme will involve more than 100 schools, aiming to give young people the chance to develop creative skills, work towards Arts Awards and discover careers in the sector by engaging with artists, industry professionals and university expertise.

The programme will also support local artists and creative professionals through paid work placements, internships, networking opportunities and business support.

Activity linked to the prestigious British Art Show 10, arriving in the city in October, will also form part of the programme.

Professor Ian Dunn, Provost of Coventry University, said Shape Coventry would build on the university's tradition of creative arts from its original roots as Coventry



Left to right: Lisa Wilson and Sinead Ouilon from Coventry University, Coun Naeem Akhtar, Saavan Tah from Arts Council England, and Mark Steele, chairman of Coventry Cultural Education Partnership, launch Shape Coventry at Coventry Transport Museum.

School of Design in 1843.

He said: "As well as offering opportunities for the people of Coventry – no matter their age or background – to enjoy creative opportunities, we want the programme to ensure the aspirations of emerging talent can be met by creating skills opportunities in Coventry."

Liz Johnson, Midlands Area Director at Arts Council England, said all children and young people should have access to the 'inspiration and joy' that culture and crea-

tivity bring. She added: "This project will do just that in more than 100 schools across the city, building confidence and pride in the place that they live and new skills that will benefit them for life."

"It will mark a real step change, helping more people to experience, connect and take part in creativity and culture on their own doorsteps."

Coun Naeem Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities at Coventry City

Council, said the initiative was brilliant news for the city.

He said: "Not only does it bring over \$600,000 of funding into Coventry but it will also give arts and culture opportunities to thousands of our residents – including many school-aged children and young people."

"This programme will give young people valuable skills in the creative sectors, whilst supporting and nurturing local artists and creative professionals with paid opportunities in the city."

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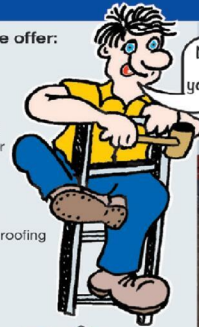
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Smuggling gang used drones to fly drugs-to-order into prison

by **Andy Morris**
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SMUGGLERS – including a former police officer – who used drones to drop drugs and other contraband items into a prison near Rugby have been sentenced.

Drones containing prohibited items were ‘flown-to-order’ into HMP Onley – and also into HMP Gartree in Leicestershire – throughout 2021 and 2022.

A police investigation uncovered that the packages inside the drones contained Class A and B drugs, tobacco, mobile phones and other contraband.

One package, recovered by a prison officer patrolling the grounds in August 2021, contained heroin with a prison value of \$22,400 and cannabis with a prison value of \$15,300.

Peter King, 53, previously of Wolverhampton; former Staffordshire Police detective constable Clare Davenport, 52, of Staffordshire; Kent George, 63, previously of Milton Keynes; and Mervyn Foster, 46, previously of Wolverhampton were identified as suspects and subsequently arrested.

At Coventry Crown Court last August, King pleaded guilty to conspiring to bring/throw/convey a List A prohibited article into/out of a



Peter King.



Mervyn Foster.



Kent George.

prison, conspiring to bring/throw/convey a List B prohibited article into/out of a prison, and conspiring to acquire/use/possess criminal property.

Kent and Foster were found guilty of the same offences following a trial which ended at Coventry Crown Court last September.

Davenport pleaded guilty at Coventry Crown Court in August to conspiring to acquire/use/possess criminal property.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court,

King was jailed for six years and six months, George for five years and six months, Foster for seven years and three months, and Davenport for two years – suspended for two years – and 150 hours of unpaid work.

A gross misconduct hearing held by Staffordshire Police in 2023 concluded that Davenport would have been dismissed if she had not already retired.

The investigation, by Northamptonshire Police’s Serious

and Organised Crime Team and the East Midlands Special Operations Unit, was led by Det Sgt Gareth Askew.

He said: “This was a sophisticated operation that sought to exploit technology to undermine the safety and stability of our prison system.”

“These individuals showed a complete disregard for the law and the harm that drugs and other contraband cause within custodial environments.”

“Through a detailed and deter-

mined investigation, we were able to identify those responsible and bring them before the courts.

“Let this case send a clear message to anyone thinking of engaging in similar behaviour – we will identify you, we will investigate you, and you will face serious consequences. No matter how sophisticated you believe your methods are, you are not beyond our reach.”

“This was a very complex investigation involving a number of agencies and I am really pleased that not only did we stop these drone drops from happening, but that the people responsible have been brought to justice.”

Lord Timpson, the Minister for Prisons, Probation and Reducing Reoffending, said: “Criminals who think they can exploit our prisons from the sky should be in no doubt – we will track you down and you will face the full force of the law. I thank our prison staff and policing partners for their work on this operation and bringing those responsible to justice.”

“Smuggling drugs and weapons into jails doesn’t just break the law, it undermines the rehabilitation of prisoners and puts lives at risk. That’s why we are backing our hard-working and diligent staff who help bring these criminals to justice with a \$40million security investment including new anti-drone measures to crack down on contraband entering our prisons.”

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A world of a difference

RESIDENTS in Warwickshire rolled and strolled 13 times round the diameter of the earth in May. They clocked up the huge distance as part of Love to Ride Warwickshire's latest offering, Roll and Stroll.

The aim of the month was to get more people to get active and move more. Residents were able to ride, walk/wheel or run anywhere, anytime in May to participate and to be in with a chance to win prizes.

At the end of the challenge, residents across the county had clocked up a huge 106,028 miles, which is the equivalent of over 13 times around the equatorial centre of the planet - 9,026 miles.

In total, 575 participants took part in the challenge from 52 workplaces across the county and, collectively, made 11,570 individual trips with 7,855 of those being transport trips that would previously have been made by car.

There are so many benefits to moving more, from improved mental and physical wellbeing to a healthier planet to more affordable and efficient travel. Roll and Stroll is all about celebrating each of these benefits and helping residents to build the small and sustainable habits that last a lifetime.

Warwickshire County Council's transport spokesperson Coun Stephen Shaw said: "Clocking up over 106,000 miles is a fantastic achievement, but the real success of Roll and Stroll Month lies in the direct benefits experienced by our residents. Choosing to walk, wheel, or cycle for everyday journeys is a brilliant way to boost both physical fitness and mental wellbeing.

"Furthermore, swapping the car for active travel helps people save money on fuel and parking costs while also easing congestion on our local road network for everyone. These small changes to our daily routines make a tremendous difference to our personal health and our wallets, and I hope the momentum from this challenge inspires even more of us to keep up these cost-effective habits year-round."

Town set to host last stage of cycling tour

LEAMINGTON is set to host the final stage of this year's Lloyds Tour of Britain Women's cycle race.

The elite race, which attracts top cyclists from around the world, will start and finish in the town on Sunday August 23.

It follows the success of last year's Lloyds Tour of Britain Men, when Warwickshire hosted a stage finish at Burton Dassett Hills Country Park.

The women's route will take in a scenic loop through Kenilworth, Wellesbourne, Shipston and Southam, as well as tackling the Burton Dassett Hills Country Park climb, before returning to Leamington for the finish.

The event builds on Warwickshire's strong history of hosting top-level cycling, including previous editions of the Women's Tour and the Commonwealth Games road races in 2022, which attracted thousands of spectators and delivered significant economic and community benefits.

Warwickshire children will also have the chance to be involved once again, with Warwickshire County Council launching a competition for under-11s to design the flag that will start the race, and the trophy that will be presented



The county has a history of hosting top-level cycling events.

to the stage winner at the end. WCC's culture spokesperson Coun Darren Cheshire said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for Warwickshire to once again showcase itself on the international cycling stage. It's

on a Sunday in the middle of the school holidays, so we really hope that everyone will make the most of what will be a brilliant family-friendly day out, cheering on the riders as they go past.

"We're really looking forward to welcoming the riders, teams and spectators for what promises to be a great day of sport."

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PC Jacob Tyler with some of the seized items.

Rarities among seized items

AN ELEPHANT skull, a rhino's foot, a turtle shell, a resin-coated pipistrelle bat, and a bag made of an iguana.

These were just some of the items Warwickshire Police seized under wildlife protection laws during investigations into both antique shops and private collections.

The elephant skull, which had been part of an entire skeleton, was seized when the owner tried to have it tied together as a full taxidermy model.

The skull was accompanied by a large haul of other banned products and taxidermies of other African Big Five animals which were being used commercially without valid importation paperwork or certificates.

The force is making every effort to repurpose these seized products for crime education, or to give them to universities for research purposes.

The team is currently in discussions with experts at the University of Bristol to take the

elephant skull as an educational and research piece.

Ivory in particular has strict laws around both its sale and its purchase. It is prohibited not only to sell, but also to purchase or advertise any product containing ivory, with some exemptions for antiques - although those looking to sell on antique ivory products need to have proper certificates to do so legally.

Not all of the seized items were exotic in origin. Warwickshire Police's current storage includes a whole pipistrelle bat which had been encased in resin and a badger rug.

Pipistrelles and badgers are protected under wildlife laws in the UK.

A police spokesperson said: "The aim of all of this is to protect wildlife both in the UK and abroad, making it as difficult as possible for criminals to profit from the death of endangered or at-risk animals and plants, preserving them for the next generation and helping keep their environments in balance."

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Inspired to back fresh campaign to raise cancer awareness



Left to right: Coun Maggie O'Rourke, Willy Goldschmidt, Gill Nelson, and Coun Jerry Rodhouse are championing a campaign to raise awareness of prostate cancer testing.

THE GRATEFUL head of Rugby's hospital charity who overcame prostate cancer thanks to a 'life-changing' new treatment pioneered in Coventry is backing a campaign to raise awareness of the disease.

Willy Goldschmidt, President of The Friends of St Cross, is encouraging residents to sign a Prostate Cancer Research petition calling for a parliamentary debate into a more comprehensive national screening programme.

Willy beat the disease after he took part in a research trial for a new type of radiotherapy treatment at University Hospital Coventry (UHC), which is soon being rolled out to radiotherapy centres across the country.

He said: "In 2017, I had no symptoms but, following a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test I was diagnosed as having prostate cancer.

"I was offered the opportunity to take part in a research trial for a new type of radiotherapy treatment which meant that I only had five courses of treatment, as opposed to the standard 20. I have been cancer free ever since.

"The side effects of the treatment were short lived and quite tolerable when compared to the alternatives."

After the success of the research trial was reported in 2024, Willy started a local campaign which resulted in the treatment being offered to local patients last year.

He said: "I believe this stimulated interest from other NHS

trusts around the country – and NHS England has announced that 48 radiotherapy centres would start offering this service 'within weeks'."

But he believes the UK National Screening Programme Committee's (NSC) latest recommendation to introduce targeted testing excludes some high-risk groups, and does not offer enough treatment options.

He added: "Awareness of this breakthrough and more open talk about prostate cancer will encourage more men over 50 to ask their GPs for a PSA blood test.

"55,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer and 12,000 die every year – and yet this disease can be cured if diagnosed early."

Willy has teamed up with The Rotary Club of Rugby Dunsmore,

the Rugby Rokeby Lions Club and Rugby Borough Councillors Jerry Roodhouse and Maggie O'Rourke to organise a charity quiz night to raise funds for Prostate Cancer Research and local testing.

The Rugby Rokeby Lions Club has organised private testing for men aged 40 and above for nine years. Of the 1,863 men without symptoms who have been tested, 148 have been referred to doctors for further tests.

Coun Roodhouse, whose PSA test led to a diagnosis of advanced Neuroendocrine Cancer, said: "Men are notoriously reluctant to discuss their health and many believe that the typical symptoms are just a sign of ageing.

"I would urge all men aged over 50 to speak to their GP or to attend the next Lions Club testing

session on September 19 at the Queens Diamond Jubilee Centre."

Coun O'Rourke's husband Brendan was diagnosed with prostate cancer 10 years ago.

She said: "Thanks to a very diligent local GP, further investigations led to his cancer diagnosis.

"It's really good to see treatments are advancing and that we have well-known local men who are promoting awareness of testing and championing compassion in services, more treatment locally and advancing national pilots."

The quiz takes place at the Rugby Indian Centre on July 31. Visit <https://bit.ly/4uPCJ68> for tickets, or to donate.

Visit <https://bit.ly/43Sx3MH> to sign Prostate Cancer Research's petition.

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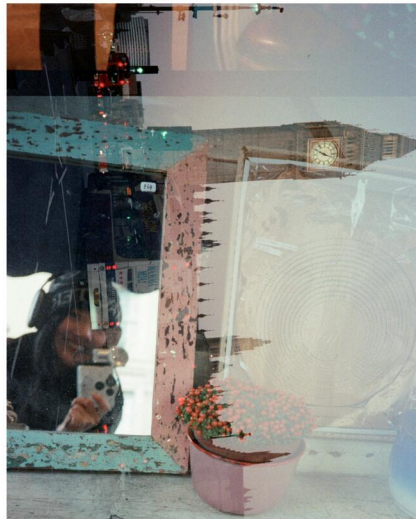
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Jiayue Wang says her work traces what she describes as the 'afterlife' of a photograph.



Exhibition takes a fresh look at some pictures

AN EXHIBITION of experimental photography and moving image is on display at Rugby Art Gallery and Museum.

After the Image, a solo exhibition by Chinese artist Jiayue Wang, is on view at the venue's Balcony Gallery.

The exhibition centres on Jiayue's single-channel video work After the Image, alongside a series of experimental photographs.

Working through physical collage and layered imagery, she traces what she describes as the 'afterlife' of a photograph – "the period after the shutter closes in which colour drifts, contours loosen, and the image slowly dissolves back into light.

"The works ask what remains of a photograph when it is no longer in the service of documentation or representation.

"Here, photography finds a different way to grow."

Jiayue Wang was born in China and is

based in London. She holds a Master of Arts in Film Studies from University College London, alongside earlier degrees in Media, Communication and Cultural Studies from Newcastle University.

Her practice spans experimental moving image, photography, and generative art, and is concerned with questions of identity, belonging, and emotional memory across cultural contexts.

In 2024, she received the Emerging Virtuoso Award at the Cityscapes International Competition.

Her work has been presented internationally, including at Aqua Art Miami, Blank Wall Gallery Athens, and the Glasgow Gallery of Photography.

Visitors only have until Saturday (June 27) to see After the Image, her first solo museum exhibition, at Rugby Art Gallery and Museum.

Robotics centre up and running

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

A MAJOR new robotics and automation centre has opened in Coventry.

The Robot Experience Centre (REC), launched by research and technology organisation the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) at its Ansty Park headquarters, was officially opened by MTC CEO Graham Hoare OBE and West Midlands Mayor Richard Parker.

Designed to make automation more accessible, the REC allows businesses to explore technologies, test applications using their own products, and assess potential benefits before committing to investment.

It features an automation and robotics area for project development and experimentation, and a collaborative robot development area.

Alongside access to robot and automation technologies, the centre will provide training and support to help businesses build skills, develop confidence and implement automation.

MTC says it will work with industry partners to guide companies from initial exploration through to deployment, and connect potential adopters of robotics with financing providers to help them find suitable funding.

The centre aims to capitalise on the relatively low adoption of robotics among UK manufacturing SMEs.

Graham Hoare, at, said: "The Robot Experience Centre is about helping busi-

nesses understand what automation can do for them in a practical and accessible way. For many manufacturers, especially SMEs, the challenge isn't recognising the potential benefits of robotics – it's knowing where to start.

"By giving businesses access to testbeds, expertise and training under one roof, we're helping them to make investments that will improve productivity, strengthen competitiveness, and ultimately, support long-term growth for UK manufacturing."

Richard Parker, Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority, said: "If we want to help more businesses in the West Midlands to modernise production, stay competitive and grow, we've got to make it easier for them to get the support they need – whether that's new technology, funding or the right expertise.

"That's why we're working more closely with organisations across the region to join things up and provide support that actually works for businesses on the ground.

"We're already doing that through programmes like the West Midlands Investment Zone Supply Chain Transition Programme, collaborating with partners including the MTC to back manufacturers and help them move forward.

"The Robot Experience Centre is exactly the kind of capability that supports this wider approach, helping more companies see what's possible, build confidence and take that next step to make the investment they need to grow with confidence."

Visit www.the-mtc.org/robot-experience-centre for more information.

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The Mudlands String Band.



AN AMERICAN-themed afternoon of live music and family fun takes place in Rugby this weekend.

The Lazy Sunday Hoedown will feature bluegrass, cajun, and old-timey Americana music from The Mudlands String Band and Jennie and the Boat Rats.

The event will also feature nature-based craft activities, a good old-fashioned shooting gallery and a football challenge.

The Hungry Trailer will be serving up loaded fries, smash burgers, bronnie bites and homemade tiramisu.

Ben Jennings, joint event organiser and member of the Mudlands String Band, said: "We are excited to share some of the most fun, exciting and interesting music you'll ever find, that is the wonderful pre-war folk tradition of the American south.

"It's a beautiful and unusual style dating

back 100 years and we are keeping it alive today in Rugby and making it accessible for the whole family. It'll be an unforgettable toe-tapping, hipshakin' hoedown of an afternoon!

"Although we plan to have you on your feet, don't forget to bring your picnic, blankets and chairs – and of course your friends and family! Why not also come dressed for the occasion?"

The event, part of the ongoing Love Rugby Festival, is supported by a Love Rugby grant from Rugby Borough Council. It takes place at Regents Place gardens from 12 noon until 3.30pm on Sunday June 28.

Visit www.rugby.gov.uk/LoveRugby for more information on the Love Rugby Festival.

Business chiefs welcome bid to boost the town

by Andy Morris
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

PLANS to support Rugby Borough's economy and the town centre – including a new skills hub in the town centre – have been welcomed by business leaders.

Coun Isabelle McKenzie, Rugby Borough Council's (RBC) Portfolio Holder for Growth and Investment, presented the details of the plans at Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce's Rugby Local Business Forum, hosted at Brownsver Hall.

She told businesses that the Economic Strategy adopted last year would deliver 'sustainable, inclusive growth; put places, people and businesses at the heart of growth; and create a prosperous, resilient and greener local economy'.

Coun McKenzie revealed that RBC had received £10million in Planning Obligations from the Frasers Group to establish a new skills hub in the town centre to help residents prepare for the jobs of the future.

She also updated on the council's wider town centre regeneration plans.

They included the Public Realm Masterplan, which aims to improve the look and feel of the town centre, and create improved pedestrian areas and areas for community events.

Attendees also heard the new M6 gateway development in the Local Plan had been sub-

mitted for examination and, once approved, would provide opportunities for smaller units for local businesses.

Coun McKenzie said: "Rugby has enormous potential, but for too long we have lacked a clear economic vision for how we unlock it.

"Our economic strategy is about turning that ambition into action – supporting local businesses, creating space for start-ups and growing firms, helping residents gain the skills they need for the jobs of the future, and making sure major investment delivers real benefits for our town.

"We are determined to make Rugby town centre a place people choose to visit, shop, work and spend time in. From bringing empty units back into use and improving shopfronts, to developing plans for a cultural quarter, better public spaces and more accessible health and community services, this is about creating a thriving, greener, fairer and healthier Rugby for the long term."

Dan Mann, the chair of the Rugby Local Business Forum, said it was good to hear about positive things happening in Rugby.

He added: "Many elements of the economic strategy have been key asks of the Chamber over the years – from town centre redevelopment through to smaller industrial units for local businesses to grow into.

"There are exciting times ahead for the borough."

There is something magical about Summer in Worcestershire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands



The days stretch lazily into warm evenings, gardens burst with colour, pub terraces fill with laughter, and the countryside seems to glow beneath blue skies and golden sunsets.

Across our villages, towns and cities, summer brings a fresh sense of energy, optimism and adventure and in line with the changing Seasons; and we are delighted to announce that the Summer edition of **SEASONS** is now available in print and online.

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If you'd like your business to be featured in the Autumn edition of Seasons, or if you would like more details - just call the **SEASONS** team on **01527 588688**

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Seasons

The Summer edition of your local **SEASONS** magazine celebrates everything that makes this region such a wonderful place to live, work, visit and explore during the sunniest months of the year.

SEASONS proudly champions local life, and promotes local businesses that make our three counties of Warwickshire, Worcestershire and the West Midlands unique, and we hope the summer edition of **SEASONS** encourages our Readers to shop local, eat local and support the incredible talent on their doorstep.

Improved police response praised

A HUGE improvement in how quickly police in Warwickshire respond to emergency calls has been praised by the police watchdog.

Warwickshire Police has answered 94 per cent of 999 calls within ten seconds, and attended 90 per cent of emergencies within the target 20 minutes – a 63 per cent increase from 2024.

The improvement has been recognised by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMICFRS).

Insp Katherine Stone said she was 'pleased Warwickshire Police had made significant progress', including improved oversight of incidents not attended within target times and

updating victims in cases where there were delays. The force also reduced its average overall response time from over 16 minutes to 13 minutes and under.

Acting chief constable David Gardner said: "Our mission is to serve and protect our communities. We're pleased that the improvements we've made to response times have been recognised and we're committed to continuing to improve."

"I'm grateful to all officers and colleagues who have been working tirelessly to provide the best service possible to the people of Warwickshire."

Philip Seccombe, Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire, welcomed the Inspectorate's comments.

He said: "This is a positive step forward and reflects the work of officers and staff, alongside regular scrutiny to support improvement."

"My role is to hold the chief constable to account for the service provided to the public, and I have kept a clear focus on response times and communication with victims as progress has been made."

"It is important that these improvements are sustained, so people across Warwickshire can be confident they will receive a timely response and be kept informed when they need help. I will continue to monitor performance closely to ensure this progress is maintained."

Warwickshire Police's acting chief constable David Gardner - "We're pleased that the improvements we've made to response times have been recognised and we're committed to continuing to improve. Picture by Warwickshire Police."



PC Scott Caswell spent ten years in the army before becoming a police officer.

Officer on honours list

A WARWICKSHIRE Police officer has been awarded a British Empire Medal for services to veterans in the King's Birthday Honours list.

PC Scott Caswell, who spent ten years in the military police before joining the civilian force, has become infamous at Warwickshire Police for his constant campaigning and annual charity challenges. In one such challenge in May, Scott ran a series of five 40-mile ultra-marathons over five days to raise money for Veterans Contact Point and Veterans Support.

In his role as Armed Forces lead, he has been instrumental in implementing the Forcer Protocol at Warwickshire Police, which introduces control room processes to improve its responses to current or ex-serving military personnel who are at risk or go missing.

Before he joined the police, Scott had a military career that encompassed deployments in Northern Ireland and in Former

Yugoslavia – direct experience which has informed his approach to his roles within the police and his advocacy.

In 2025, Scott travelled to Worcester on behalf of the force and its internal Armed Forces Network to collect the Gold Defence Employer Recognition Award, which recognises employers who provide the best levels of support for veterans and reservists.

Acting Chief Constable David Gardner said "The sheer amount of work that PC Scott Caswell has done during his career in the support of veterans both inside and outside the force is beyond impressive, and we're so proud and pleased that he has been awarded the British Empire Medal."

"On top of his day job serving and protecting the people of Warwickshire, he's been a key figure in improving how we support veterans and reservists inside and outside the force, and we're grateful for his continued drive in this area."





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Records tumble at Spa Car show

ALL records were smashed at the annual Cars at the Spa festival in Leamington on Sunday.

There were more classic cars, some 300, more people and more money raised than ever before.

Show committee chairman Simon Evans, of organisers Leamington Rotary Club said: "It was definitely our biggest show yet. There was an amazing turnout of clas-

sic cars from across the Midlands and huge and enthusiastic crowds.

"There was plenty of entertainment on the bandstand, as well as drinks and snacks stands and our new picnic area on the grass by the river.

"We haven't got a final total yet as money is still coming in but it's already more than the previous best of £11,000 plus we raised last year.

"We are grateful to all those who helped us in the preparations for this event and, of course, all the classic car owners who have generously supported us, enabling the show to be such a success.

"I would like to express our thanks for the wonderful sponsorship from a number of local companies, including our two headline sponsors, Startin Kia - Warwick and Motor Hub Warwick, as well as Leamington BID."

Mr Evans also thanked all those who advertised in the programme, the army of Rotary volunteers and programme sellers, and those members of the public who donated money on the day.

The beneficiary for this year - and next year's show - is Achieving Results in Communities (ARC) which works with more than 500 people each year, supporting some of the most vulnerable members of the local community; its programmes help people struggling with mental or physical health challenges, social isolation and addiction recovery.



Clay modelling at Cowley in 1947.

Grant puts fans in the driving seat

FUNDING of almost £150,000 will help put more people in the picture at the British Motor Museum.

The Gaydon-based centre is one of 24 across the country to receive a share of £4million through the DCMS/Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund.

The fund brings together £2million in match funding from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and independent grant making charity the Wolfson Foundation.

A total of £147,700 has been allocated to the British Motor Museum which will be used to develop and deliver 'Grasping the Image: digital accessibility to heritage images' - a project that will enhance accessibility to photographs held in the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust Archive.

The project, running until early next year, will provide access for visually impaired visitors to a historical collection of 20th Century photographic negatives.

The project will produce digital twins of a currently inaccessible collection using advanced imaging and create innovative tactile/audio models.

Cat Stuart-Yapp, head of fundraising at the Trust, said, "We're delighted that we have been successful in our application to receive this funding.

"Using advanced digital capture solutions, the project will use our extensive collection of photographic negatives to generate 3D images, which can in turn be used to create tactile models with sensors to generate audio. This means that more people will be able to encounter, experience and enjoy our collections, in more ways."



This year's Cars at the Spa broke all records.



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What is Dupuytren's Contracture?

Dupuytren's Contracture is a condition that causes the fingers to gradually bend toward the palm, making it impossible to straighten them. While it isn't usually painful, it can significantly interfere with daily tasks like shaking hands, putting on gloves, or typing.

It begins with small, hard nodules forming under the skin of the palm. Over months or years, these nodules can develop into "cords" of toughened tissue.

When should you seek help?

A simple way to test for the progression of the disease is the "Tabletop Test." Try to lay your hand flat on a hard surface. If you cannot get your palm and fingers to touch the table, it is time to consult a specialist.

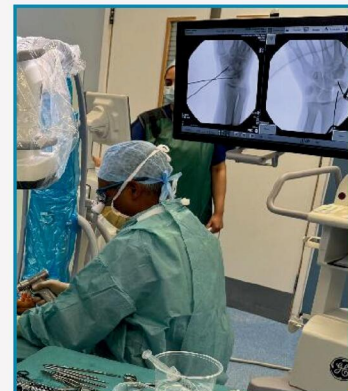
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Dupuytren's has a high rate of recurrence if not treated correctly. Choosing a specialist hand surgeon like Mr Shyamalan, ensures that the delicate nerves and blood vessels surrounding the cords are protected during the release.

What are the treatment options?

Midland Hand Clinic offer several ways to address the contracture based on the severity:

- **Needle Fasciotomy:** A minimally invasive procedure where a needle is used to break the cords of tissue through the skin. This has a very fast recovery time.
- **Open Fasciectomy:** For more severe cases, the affected tissue is surgically removed to allow the finger to straighten.
- **Dermofasciectomy:** In cases where the skin is also involved, the skin and the cord are removed and replaced with a small skin graft to prevent recurrence.



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Make a day of it this summer at Compton Verney

The perfect summer day out is closer than you think. One ticket unlocks a full day of art, nature and discovery.

There's a moment, just after you arrive at Compton Verney, when the everyday starts to fall away.

Admire the giant redwoods as you make your way past meadows alive with butterflies and buzzing insects. Consider the sculptures thoughtfully placed along your route, hinting at the art waiting within the house ahead. Birdsong carries you onwards, towards the carved stone sphinxes positioned on the picturesque bridge over the lake, marking your arrival somewhere extraordinary. Sunlight dances across the water, and the house offers a warm invitation to come closer and discover more.

The rush and noise of ordinary life have already faded. You're breathing deeper. It's time to take from the day what you need: to unwind, recharge, feed your curiosity or nurture your creativity. All of that is possible during a visit to Compton Verney.

Within easy reach of Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Leamington Spa, Evesham and Solihull, Compton Verney is more than meets the eye. At first glance, it might appear to be a traditional stately home: hushed, sincere and wrapped in its own history. Venture nearer, though, and prepare to be surprised. While the chapel, landscape, Women's Library and Adam Hall speak to the site's rich heritage, the unique combination of spaces, wildlife, art, activities and a relaxed, friendly atmosphere create a memorable day out, without the cost, crowds or travel time of a big city visit.

Inside the galleries, discover outstanding exhibitions without the hustle and bustle. This summer's programme includes Troublemakers and Prophets: Elizabeth Allen and Other Visionary Artists, alongside The Pattern of Life: Enid Marx and Modern British Design, opening from Saturday 18 July. Together, they offer colour, pattern, design and fresh perspectives, with plenty to engage visitors who love art, textiles, craft and print. On the ground floor, the Modern Masterpieces display offers a rare and precious opportunity to look closely at six paintings by artists including Van Gogh and Renoir.

Outside, the landscape is a living masterpiece. Take a gentle walk, pull yourself across the lake on the chain ferry, explore Sculpture in the Park, or take children to the adventure playground. The beauty of a day at Compton Verney is that it doesn't have to follow one route. Begin with coffee, head into an exhibition, picnic on the grass, drop in to an activity, learn a new craft in a workshop, browse the shop, then return to the café before one last walk.

For families, the school holidays are packed with things to make, try and explore. From Saturday 18 July to Monday 31 August 2026, Summer of Print, Pattern and Play brings together a lively programme of outdoor activities inspired by the season's exhibitions and the wider landscape.

Younger children can get stuck in at Get Mucky Get Making, a weekly Forest School-style session with nature crafts, leaf crowns, petal printing, digging, bug hunts and free play in the mud kitchen. Everyone is invited

to drop in to the collaborative (and likely messy!) Artist Print and Play Days each Thursday, while specialist bubble performers will conjure giant bubbles to drift, float and pop above the lawns. Emerging from the tall grasses of the meadow, The Weave invites visitors to help create a textile installation that will grow throughout the six-week holiday, becoming a larger-than-life material sculpture.

For the final week of the holidays, Wednesday 26 to Monday 31 August 2026, Luminarium brings a spectacular experience for all ages to Compton Verney. Created by Architects of Air, this winding inflatable maze of paths and soaring domes invites visitors to step inside a world of light and colour, explore at their own pace and reconnect with a sense of awe and wonder.

This balance is what makes Compton Verney special. Children are encouraged to make, play and explore, but the experience never loses its cultural quality, and adults can enjoy the art, landscape and atmosphere at their own pace. It's stimulating for younger visitors and rewarding for adults. Whether you come for inspiration or restoration, the

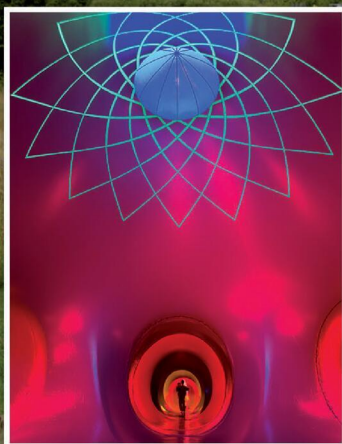
art, food, fresh air and time together mean you leave feeling better than when you arrived.

Planning the day is simple. A day ticket includes access to the grounds, indoor galleries, shop and café, with free parking on site. Arrive any time from 10am and shape the visit to suit your pace. Under 19s go free, with concessionary prices for 19-25s, those in receipt of Universal or Pension Credit, and anyone arriving by bicycle, bus or on foot. Day admission can be booked online or over the phone in advance for the best price, or bought when you arrive to keep things flexible.

This summer, from Thursday 25 June to Monday 31 August, full-price tickets and children's meals in the café have been reduced as part of the government's Great British Summer Savings scheme, making a full day out at Compton Verney even better value for summer visitors.

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The puppies have been named after players from the England team. s

Ready to join the team

WEST MIDLANDS Police have named their newest litter of puppies after some of the England squad playing in this years World Cup.

The litter of eight Belgian Malinois were born last month, and called Jude, Nico, Morgan, Rogers, Declan, Saka, Ezri and Jordan.

The puppies are based at the puppy development scheme in Balsall Common.

Insp Rachel Crump, who heads our police dog unit, said: "It's always an exciting time when the World Cup is on and we wanted to be a part of the feel-good mood too.

"We want our police dogs to be committed,

courageous and to show off their abilities, which is something we all hope the England players will be able to do this summer.

"Our new pups have big reputations to live up to, but we're confident they will progress to become stars themselves in fighting crime and keeping the public safe."

It's hoped the dogs will become fully operational within the next 18 months and we will provide further updates on their progress.

Visit westmidlands.police.uk/police-forces/west-midlands-police/areas/about-us/about-us/dog-unit2/puppy-fostering for more information.

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2 MINUTES FROM THE GEORGE ELIOT HOSPITAL

Up for two more awards

THE MYTON Hospices' GP Information Clinics are in the running for two more national awards.

The charity has been shortlisted as a finalist in two categories at the national Palliative and End of Life Care Awards - The Partnership Working Across Health & Social Care Award and The Innovation in End-of-Life Social Care Award.

Both categories recognise Myton's GP Information Clinics, which are designed to ensure people with life-limiting illnesses are connected with the right support earlier in their illness. Working in partnership with Primary Care Networks, they help streamline referral pathways, build a better understanding of hospice care, and support patients and their carers to feel more confident in accessing available support from the point of diagnosis.

Importantly, the clinics also strengthen relationships with GP practices, ensuring more healthcare professionals understand the full range of services Myton offers.

Myton spokesperson Olivia Bowskill said: "We are absolutely delighted to be shortlisted for these national awards. Our GP Information Clinics represent a significant shift in how we deliver palliative care, bringing specialist care directly into GP practices so people can access the right support at the right time."

"This recognition reflects the strength of our collaboration with Primary Care Networks and our shared commitment to improving experiences and outcomes for patients and families."

The GP Information Clinics have previously received national recognition, winning the Innovator in Care Award at the Hospice UK Awards.

The winners of the Palliative and End of Life Care Awards will be announced at the awards ceremony on July 2.

* THE MYTON Hospices latest fundraiser is win-win.

Launched to help raise an additional £250,000 to fund their vital services, the raffle gives play-



ers the chance to win £25,000 - all while supporting their patients living with life-limiting illnesses, and their families across Coventry and Warwickshire.

Supporters can purchase tickets online at www.mytonhospice.org/Jackpot, as well as in any of The Myton Hospices' 25 charity shops across Coventry and Warwickshire or at one of its three hospices.

The Summer Jackpot Draw will take place on Friday July 31.

The Myton Hospices has been shortlisted as a finalist in two categories at the national Palliative and End of Life Care Awards.

Transport service helps many across the county

THE HOSPITAL to Home service continues to support residents across Warwickshire.

The Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service-operated service made more than 1,200 collections in the past year, helping patients return home safely following a stay in hospital.

The Hospital to Home service, which launched in 2018, aims to support elderly and vulnerable patients following treatment at hospital.

Hospital staff contact the service when they identify a patient is ready to leave hospital but do not have someone who can pick them up and need support with the transport to get home.

The service collect the patient and drive them home, support them into the home and check on the safety and well-being of each person.

As part of the service, when the Hospital to Home team support a patient to return home, they will also carry out a Safe and Well check. It involves looking for potential hazards in the home that can cause slips, trips and falls, carrying out a check for possible fire hazards, inspecting electrical sockets to ensure

they are safe to use, checking smoke alarms are working or installing new alarms where there are none.

The team will also refer patients to support services if they believe that the patient could use the support to help them remain independent in their home.

WCC community safety spokesman Coun Robert Gisbourne, said: "The Hospital to Home service is a great example of the work our crews carry out all year round to keep the public safe."

"It's great to see the impact the Hospital to Home service has on our more vulnerable residents, not just helping them to return home but also allowing us to ensure they get the support they need in the home so they can continue to lead independent lives, all while helping to reduce the risk of a fire in their home."

Hospital to Home collects from Warwick Hospital, George Eliot Hospital, University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire, Rugby St Cross and Leamington Rehabilitation Unit.

Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fireandrescue for more information.

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- Free bar (7pm-10pm on local brands (spirits, beer, wine, soft drinks & tea & coffee)
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PM exit underlines need for stability says Chamber

A LEADING business figure in Coventry and Warwickshire says firms are crying out for stability after prime minister Sir Keir Starmer announced he will stand down.

The prime minister set out a timetable for his departure outside Number 10 Downing Street just days after Andy Burnham won a by-election in Makerfield.

Corin Crane, the chief executive of Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, said the PM's decision came under the weight of mounting pressure but that businesses in the region want to have certainty.

"It's ten years since the Brexit vote and we've had a decade of uncertainty and instability ever since. Much of that has been driven by global events but we've also seen a raft of new prime ministers, which has made it extremely difficult to see a long-term vision.

"As a chamber, we avoid party politics but act as a voice for businesses to decision-makers at a local, regional and national level.

"There is absolutely no doubt, that businesses want to be able to plan ahead with



Statement from Prime Minister Keir Starmer

Sir Keir Starmer announced outside Downing Street on Monday that he would be standing down.

a clear understanding of what the policies of the government of the day are and what they mean to the economy.

"We have welcomed some of the changes that the current Government under Sir Keir Starmer has enacted such as planning reforms to help

deliver economic growth, but we've also made it clear the impact that policies such as raising National Insurance for employers have had.

"Ultimately, with such instability around the world, a stable foundation is what all businesses are crying out for

and delivering that is the challenge for the next leader of the Labour Party – our next Prime Minister.

"So, while we might push back on policies or lobby for greater support for business, what we all really need is stability and greater certainty."

Firms urged to consider scheme

EMPLOYERS across Warwickshire are being encouraged to get involved in a new initiative designed to support staff who balance work with unpaid caring responsibilities.

MyTime, a programme delivered by the charity Local Solutions, has launched in the county to connect carers with local businesses and organisations who offer complimentary leisure, cultural and well-being experiences.

Many employees juggle their professional roles alongside caring responsibilities for family members, friends or neighbours, which can place significant demands on their time and wellbeing. Whether it's a relaxing meal, a trip to the cinema or an overnight stay, MyTime provides an opportunity for employers to support these members of staff by enabling them to access meaningful breaks, helping carers to rest, recharge and maintain their wellbeing.

By partnering with MyTime, Warwickshire businesses can play an active role in supporting not only their own workforce but also carers across the wider community. The scheme offers a simple way for organisations to contribute by donating experiences such as meals, event tickets or short breaks, which can then be accessed by unpaid carers in recognition of the vital role they play in local communities.

Supporting employees with caring responsibilities can have a positive impact on staff wellbeing, engagement and retention. Enabling carers to take time for themselves, even in small ways, can help to reduce stress and allow them to return to work feeling more focused and supported.

Warwickshire County Council's social care spokesperson Becky Hale said: "Unpaid carers make an invaluable contribution to our communities, often balancing significant responsibilities alongside their working lives. The launch of MyTime in Warwickshire is a positive step in recognising that commitment, giving carers the opportunity to take well-deserved breaks and look after their own wellbeing, and I encourage employers across the county to get involved."

Visit mytime4carers.co.uk/get-involved/for more details.



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Hot advice on keeping cooler

IN THE wake of another summer heatwave, and with more likely to come, an expert has shared crucial tips to keep your home cool.

During a heatwave, indoor spaces will heat up quickly during the day and hold onto that warmth well into the evening, making homes feel unbearable long after the sun goes down.

Andrew Mitchell, Group Design Project Manager at Wain Homes, says small details can make a difference to how hot your home feels during a heatwave.

He said: "When a heatwave arrives, simple everyday choices can help stop homes becoming hotter than they need to be."

Here are Andrew's five tips for keeping your home cooler during a heatwave.

Avoid adding extra heat indoors

It's easy to focus on the heat coming in from outside, but everyday tasks inside the home can add to the problem too.

Andrew says: "Ensuring loft spaces are properly ventilated and avoiding unnecessary heat-generating activities during peak temperatures can also make a noticeable difference."

That means thinking about when you use the oven, hob, tumble dryer or other appliances that give off heat. During the hottest part of the day, swapping a hot meal for something lighter or leaving laundry until later can help stop rooms feeling warmer than they need to.



Be selective about where you let the sunshine in

While it's tempting to open the curtains and let the sunshine in, during a heatwave this can cause rooms to heat up quickly and stay warm into the evening.

Andrew says: "Keeping blinds or curtains closed during the hottest parts of the day can reduce solar gain, particularly on south- and west-facing elevations."

If you still want the room to feel bright, try letting light in through cooler-facing windows where the sun is less direct. You don't need to sit in the dark all day, but closing blinds in the rooms that get the

strongest sun can help stop heat building up.

Time your fresh air properly

When a home heats up, opening every window can feel like the obvious fix. But if the outside air is still warm it can have the opposite effect.

Andrew says: "Ventilating homes during cooler periods, such as overnight and early morning, can help remove accumulated heat. Cross-ventilation is particularly effective where windows on opposite sides of a home can be opened safely."

Where possible, it's about timing - using the cooler parts of the

day to let air move through the home, then closing windows again before the temperature outside starts climbing.

Create shade outside as well as inside

Keeping a home cool isn't just about what you do indoors. The space around the house can affect how warm everything feels too - especially during long, dry spells.

Andrew says: "Smaller urban gardens can often become significantly hotter due to surrounding buildings and hard landscaping."

"Outside, planting trees, installing pergolas or creating shaded

seating areas can help cool both gardens and the surrounding microclimate."

If your garden starts to feel like a sun trap, adding more planting or creating a shaded corner can help make it more comfortable - while also reducing the heat around the home.

Check heat isn't getting trapped upstairs

If bedrooms feel stuffy by the evening, the problem might not just be the weather outside. Heat can build up at the top of the house during the day, making upstairs rooms harder to cool before bedtime.

Andrew says: "Ensuring loft spaces are properly ventilated and avoiding unnecessary heat-generating activities during peak temperatures can also make a noticeable difference."

It's not the most glamorous heatwave tip, but it can make a real difference when you're trying to sleep in a room that still feels warm hours after sunset.

Why there's no one-size-fits-all heatwave advice

As Andrew says: "The most successful developments respond to their local environment rather than applying a one-size-fits-all approach." For homeowners, the same thinking applies on a smaller scale.

Keeping cool isn't just about one quick fix, but understanding where heat builds up in your home and making small changes before rooms start to feel uncomfortable.



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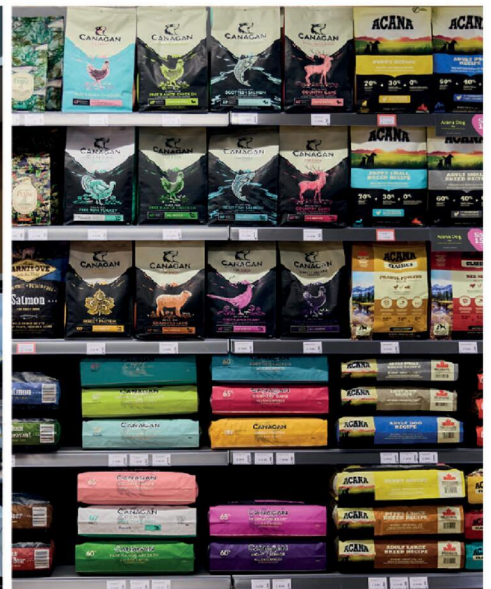
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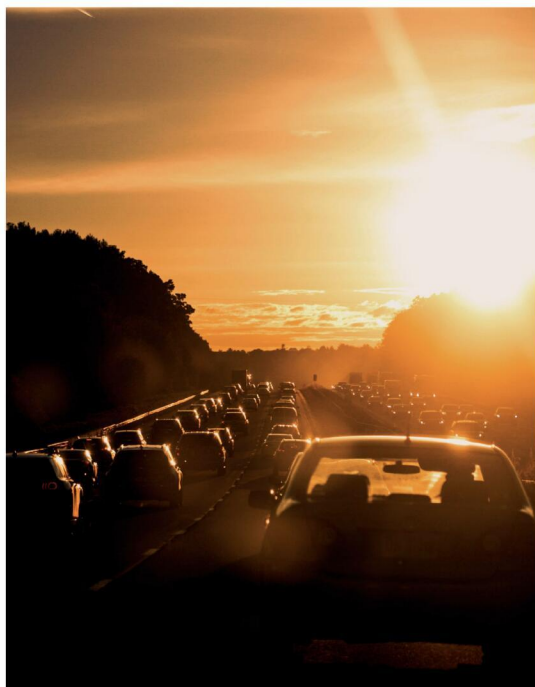
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How to stay on the safety road when the going gets too hot



AS TEMPERATURES climb across the UK, drivers are being warned that heatwaves can pose far more risks than simply making journeys uncomfortable.

While most motorists know not to leave children or pets inside vehicles, a motoring expert says many are unaware of the hidden dangers that extreme heat can create for their cars, passengers and even everyday items left inside.

Majid Ismailzada, Director at GM Direct Hire, is urging drivers to take extra precautions during periods of hot weather after seeing a rise in heat-related vehicle issues during the summer months.

"Most people don't realise just how much heat can affect both vehicles and drivers," says Majid.

"On a warm day, the temperature inside a parked car can easily exceed 50°C. At those temperatures, you're not just dealing with discomfort.

"You're creating conditions that can affect electronics, vehicle performance, tyre safety and even the effectiveness of medications."

Tyres may be more vulnerable than you think

Hot weather causes air inside tyres to expand, increasing pressure.

"Many drivers assume tyre problems only happen during winter, but heat can be equally problematic.

"If your tyres are already over-inflated, rising temperatures can increase wear, reduce grip and

potentially contribute to blowouts on long journeys."

Mobile phones can overheat and shut down Drivers relying on smartphones for navigation could face unexpected problems.

"Leaving a phone on a dashboard in direct sunlight can cause it to overheat and temporarily shut down. If you're travelling somewhere unfamiliar, losing your navigation system halfway through a journey can quickly become stressful."

Medication can be damaged by heat

Many motorists leave medication in handbags, gloveboxes or centre consoles without considering temperature exposure.

"Some medications are designed to be stored below room temperature. Prolonged exposure to excessive heat can affect their effectiveness, which is something many people simply don't think about."

Dashcams and phone mounts can fail

Heat can soften adhesives and weaken suction mounts.

"We regularly see reports of dashcams, phone holders and sat-nav mounts falling from windcreens during heatwaves because the adhesive can struggle in extreme temperatures."

Power banks, vapes and aerosols should never be left behind

Portable chargers, vape batteries and aerosol products can become dangerous when left in hot vehicles. "Cars parked in direct sunlight can become significantly hotter than people realise. It's always best to remove any battery-powered devices or pressurised containers before leaving your vehicle."

Electric vehicles can also feel the impact

While many people associate battery issues with cold weather, extreme heat can affect electric vehicles too.

"Battery cooling systems have to work harder in hot conditions, which can impact efficiency and potentially reduce range on longer journeys."

Drivers themselves become less alert

Heat doesn't just affect vehicles. "Even mild dehydration can affect concentration, reaction times and decision-making behind the wheel. If you're driving long distances, staying hydrated is just as important as checking your vehicle."

"Most heat-related vehicle problems are entirely preventable," adds Majid.

"A few minutes of preparation before setting off can help drivers avoid breakdowns, stay comfortable and travel more safely during hot weather."

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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.

Superheroes

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- Region (8)
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- Blend (6)
- Overstep (6)
- Kind deed (6)
- Intelligent (6)
- Disorder (4)
- Ratify (8)
- Excessive (10)
- Stop (4)

DOWN

- Scare (10)
- Delay action (4)
- Beginner (6)
- Small (6)
- Speck (8)
- Rip (4)
- Without incident (10)
- Index of technical vocabulary (8)
- Lay waste (6)
- Inexperienced (6)
- Debatable (4)
- Verve (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.

- Lean
- Fog
- Fragrant herb
- Explosive device
- Act out silently



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.

- 2744381 gives young mammals;
- 567521 gives young birds;
- 93313 gives birds.

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

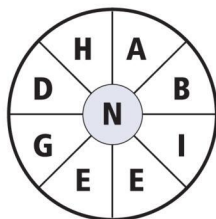
CODEWORD

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.

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

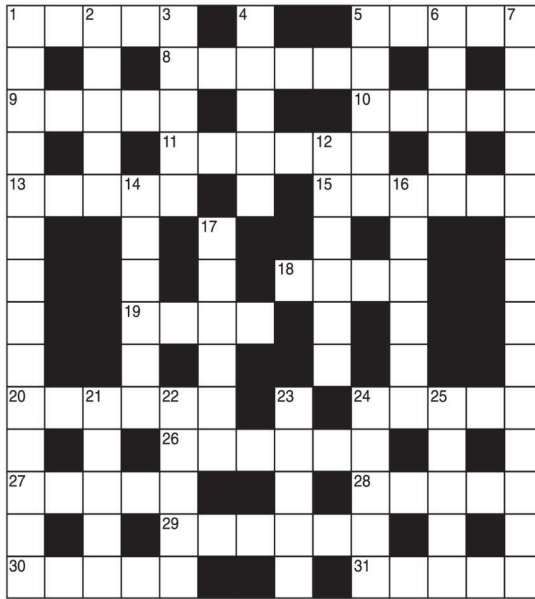


How you rate
 15 words: average
 25 words: good
 35 words: very good
 40 or more: excellent.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 'The ----', 1961 comedy film starring Tony Hancock (5)
- According to J. Milton Hayes, "There's a broken-hearted woman tends the grave of Mad ----" (5)
- Plant related to the sensitive plant (6)
- Flat, round, woollen hat worn by Basques, etc. (5)
- An influential person, a magnate (5)
- Crested bird which occasionally visits Britain (6)
- European river which flows through Lake Geneva as well as Lyon, France, where it meets the Saône (5)
- Dwarf tree cultivation, originating in Japan (6)
- A card of one of the four suits (4)
- Grass-like, marsh-growing plant (4)
- Surname of the playwright and novelist famous for The Bridge of San Luis Rey, etc. (6)
- Bird fattened for the table (5)
- West Sussex seaside resort which owes part of its name to a visit by George V in 1929 (6,5)
- North-western state of the U.S.A., chief river, the Snake (5)
- The heath genus of plants (5)
- A lump of gold, etc. (6)
- Famous Walt Disney character (5)
- The nest of a bird of prey, especially an eagle (5)



DOWN

- Poet famous for The Ring and the Book, The Pied Piper of Hamelin, etc. (6,8)
- A donkey, especially one used as a pack animal (5)
- Machine for turning and shaping wood or metal (5)
- A member of a North German people who conquered most of Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries (5)
- Gem with a figure carved in relief (5)
- See 26 Across
- English translator of the Bible (7,7)
- A dagger sign, used in referring to footnotes, etc. (6)
- A great hunter, son of Cush (Genesis 10) (6)
- Faint, misty appearance in the sky produced either by diffused gaseous matter, or a distant star group (6)
- In common usage, a small tavern in France (6)
- One of the vast steppes or plains in the northern part of South America (5)
- Heavy, hard wood, usually black, and capable of a fine polish (5)
- Lake in north-west Russia, mostly in the Karelian Republic (5)
- Large island in the Mediterranean, capital Heraklion (5)
- Officer next under an abbot in an abbey (5)

SOLUTIONS

17 Bisto; 21 Llano; 22 Ebony; 23 Omega; 24 Crete; 25 Prior.
 4 Saxon; 5 Cameo; 6 Regis; 7 William Tyndale; 8 Obeis; 12 Obeis; 14 Nimrod; 16 Nebula;
 29 Nugget; 30 Goofy; 31 Eyrle. DOWN: 1 Robert Browning; 2 Burro; 3 Lathé;
 15 Bonzat; 18 Club; 19 Russh; 20 Wilder; 24 Capon; 26 Bognor; 27 Idaho; 28 Erica;
 ACROSS: 1 Rebel; 5 Carew; 8 Acacia; 9 Beret; 10 Mogul; 11 Hoopoe; 13 Rhone;

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS: 1 View; 8 Abominable; 9 District; 10 Tour; 12 Mingie; 14 Exceed; 15 Favour;
 17 Clever; 18 Mess; 19 Valldate; 21 Outrageous; 22 Halt; Down: 2 Intimidate; 3 Wait;
 4 Novice; 5 Little; 6 Particle; 7 Tear; 11 Uneventful; 13 Glossary; 16 Ravage; 17 Callow;
 18 Moot; 20 Dash.

Crossword

BEHEADING
 Wonder Woman, Thor, Wolverine, Baraballa, Spider-Man, The Hulk, Captain Marvel, Catwoman, Silver Surfer, The Fury, Storm, Superman, Invisible Woman, She-Hulk, Hellboy, Professor X, Green Arrow, Ms. Marvel, Black Widow, The Flash.

Wordwheel Pathfinder

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

Codeword

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

Ladder

Lost, List, Mist, Mint, Mine, Mime, Time.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

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

CHURCH HILL & BROOKSIDE, STRETTON ON DUNSMORE
Order Effect: The roads will be closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: The closures and restrictions are required for the safety of the public and of the participants in the Dunsmore Village Fete.
Order Commences: 4 July 2026 for 1 day.
Access & Diversion: Will be appropriately signed.
Contact: Victoria Ledger, Tel: 07881 360381.

BILTON LANE, DUNCHURCH
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic. In addition, the one-way traffic flow on Bilton Lane, Dunchurch will be temporarily suspended.
Reason for Order: To enable cabling works, 09.30hrs - 15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 1 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 1 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Bilton Lane, Northampton Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Sunbelt Rentals, Tel: 03700 500792.

MILL ROAD, RUGBY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic 20 metres either side of the bridge.
Reason for Order: Structural examination of bridge, overnight 21.00hrs - 04.00hrs.
Order Commences: 28 June 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 29 June 2026.
Access & Diversion: Murray Road, Whitehall Road, Clifton Road, Butlers Leap, Mill Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Centurion TM Ltd, Tel: 01132 775360.

HOLBROOK ROAD, LONG LAWFORD
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works for boundary box and meter installation.
Order Commences: 2 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 3 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Round Avenue, Ashman Avenue, Holbrook Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

VARIOUS ROADS, RUGBY - RUGBY FUN RUN 2026
Order Effect: Roads, as indicated below, closed to vehicular traffic: Hillmorton Road, Rugby, Albert Street, Benn, Lawrence Sheriff Street, Caldecott, Albert Square, Benn, Sheep Street, Caldecott, James Walk, Newbold, Market Place, Benn, James Street, Benn, North Street, Newbold, Henry Street, Benn, Park Road, Newbold Regent Street, Benn, Park Walk, Rugby, Bank Street, Benn, Regent Place, Benn, Church Street, Newbold.
Reason for Order: The closures and restrictions are required for the safety of the public and of the participants in the Rugby Fun Run 2026.
Order Commences: 5 July 2026 for 1 day.
Contact: Tom Kittendorf, Rugby Borough Council, Tel: 01788 533749

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:
PUBLIC CYCLEWAY BILTON ROAD, RUGBY
Order Effect: Cycleway closed to all traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable works on water network.
Order Commences: 15 July 2026 for up to 6 months.
Anticipated Completion: 17 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Cyclists should dismount.
Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

BOURTON ROAD, FRANKTON
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to repair/replace sewer lining.
Order Commences: 13 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 13 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Fair Close, Frankton Lane, Princethorpe Road, Main Street, Frankton Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Sapphire Utility Solutions, Tel: 07775 714 473

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 25 June 2026

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

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

BUTT HILL, NAPTON-ON-THE-HILL
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works for long comm pipe repair.
Order Commences: 2 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 3 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Butt Hill, Southam Road, Daventry Road, Welsh Road East, Holt Road, Napton Holt Road, Thomtons Lane, Chapel Green Road, New Street, High Street, Hackwell Street, Vicarage Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:
PUBLIC CYCLE LANE KINETON ROAD, SOUTHAM
Order Effect: Cycle Lane closed all traffic between Westfield Road and Bourne End.
Reason for Order: Remedial works on defect.
Order Commences: 16 July 2026 for up to 6 months.
Anticipated Completion: 20 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: No diversion. Cyclists should dismount.
Contractor: SF Stefan, Tel: 07956 931226.

CALCUTT LANE, STOCKTON
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Napton Road to Little Meadow Farm.
Reason for Order: Water pipe repair works.
Order Commences: 15 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 17 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: No diversion available.
Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

VICARAGE ROAD, NAPTON ON THE HILL
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Installation works on water network.
Order Commences: 18 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 19 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Vicarage Road, Hackwell Street, High Street, New Street, Chapel Green Road, Thomtons Lane, Napton Holt Road, Holt Road, Welsh Road East, Daventry Road, Southam Road, Butt Hill and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

FARM STREET, HARBURY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to install boundary box and water meter.
Order Commences: 15 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 16 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Farm Street, Mill Street, Chapel Street, Park Lane, Manor Road, Temple End and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 0330 008 0820.

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 25 June 2026

PUBLIC NOTICES

I Rimpy w/o NANAK SINGH r/o 33 Jackson Road, Rugby CV21 4LS have changed name from Rimpy to Rimpy Kaur.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

PUBLIC FOOTPATH R31 IN THE PARISH OF ANSTY
Order Effect: Footpath closed to all traffic between SP4009082461 and SP4003982346.
Reason for Order: For public safety because of the excavation works on or near the path.
Order Commences: 13 July 2026 for up to 6 months.
Anticipated Completion: 17 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: No alternative route available.
Contractor: Jacksons Geo Services, Tel: 02920 099 796.

WOOD END LANE, FILLONGLEY
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works for replacement of decayed telegraph pole.
Order Commences: 17 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 17 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Wood End Lane, Nuneaton Road, Berrifields, Coventry Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Openreach, Tel: 03700 500792.

PACKINGTON LANE, LITTLE PACKINGTON
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable works to renew pole.
Order Commences: 14 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 14 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Packington Lane, Chester Road, Stonebridge Road, A446, Coventry Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Openreach, Tel: 03700 500792.

BOCKENDON ROAD, STONELEIGH
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Construction of pumping station access.
Order Commences: 13 July 2026 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 16 July 2026.
Access & Diversion: Bockendon Road, Westwood Heath Road, Kirby Corner Road, Gibbet Hill Road, Kenilworth Road, Coventry Road, La Reine Mews, Crackley Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: M Lambie Construction, Tel: 0121 289 4222.

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 25 June 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice is hereby given that LTB SHOWROOMS COMMUNITY ARTS CHARITY has applied to Coventry City Council for a NEW PREMISES LICENCE for **PRIORY UNDERCROFTS, I HILL TOP, COVENTRY CV1 5AB**
Details of Application: To provide **SALE/SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL AND REGULATED ENTERTAINMENT AND ON/OFF SALES** (ie sale/supply of Alcohol, Late Night Refreshments and Regulated Entertainment and ON/OFF SALES). Days & Times: **(PRE-ADVERTISED EVENTS ONLY) MON/TUES/WED/THURS/FRISAT 1200-0200 & SUN 1200-0000**
Any person wishing to lodge a representation concerning this application may write to: Licensing Authority, Coventry City Council, PO Box 7097, Coventry CV6 9SL. Or send an email to: licensing@coventry.gov.uk
The application may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address and further information may be available at www.coventry.gov.uk on the public register.
Any Representation relating to this application must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority by **16TH JULY 2026**
Please note it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction for this offence is Unlimited.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003 - Public Notice
Pizza and Beer Ltd is applying for the variation of a Premises Licence for Dough and Brew, Unit 5 Westgate House, Brook Street, Warwick, CV34 4BL
If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place: **To extend the existing licence for Unit 5 Westgate House into Unit 3, Westgate House, Brook Street, Warwick, CV34 4BL**
Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to the Licensing Authority: Warwick District Council, Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 4AT licensing@warwick.gov.uk
Representations may only be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this Notice.
A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by the Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be viewed Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, and 9.00 am to 4.30 pm on Fridays, except Bank Holidays.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the Standard Scale.
23rd June 2026

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Application Number R25/1085
37B, REGENT STREET, RUGBY, CV21 2PE
Demolition of existing lean to and proposed rear single storey inner courtyard extension, part three storey and part second floor extension and associated alterations, with change of use to Class C3 Residential for 3 No. one bedroom flats
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R26/0485
THE MALTHOUSE, MAIN STREET, THURBLASTON, RUGBY, CV23 9JS
Construction of 1 no. single-storey dwelling plus single-storey side and rear extension of existing ground and associated landscaping.
This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R26/0547
23-24, MARKET PLACE, Rugby, CV21 3DU
Listed Building Consent for proposed refurbishment and alteration works to internal spaces and to external shopfront.
This development may affect a Listed Building. This development may affect a Conservation Area

Application Number R26/0598
YE OLDE SCHOOL, THE SQUARE, DUNCHURCH, RUGBY, CV22 6NU
Variation of condition 2 of R25/0436 - (Proposed replacement garage with side extension).
Changes to roof finish.
This development may affect a Listed Building. 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 from Monday to Friday until **17 July 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 Planning Officer, 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 - Strategic Director for Place

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION TO PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice is hereby given that **Matthew Mullen** has applied to Coventry City Council for a **VARIATION TO PREMISES LICENCE FOR COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM, 16 HALES STREET, COVENTRY, CV1 1JD**
Details of Application: To provide **SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON AND OFF THE PREMISES - EVERY DAY 8:00-23:00**
Any person wishing to lodge a representation concerning this application may write to: Licensing Authority, Coventry City Council, PO Box 7097, Coventry CV6 9SL.
Or send an email to: licensing@coventry.gov.uk
The application may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address and further information may be available at www.coventry.gov.uk on the public register.
Any Representation relating to this application must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority by **MIDNIGHT ON 20TH JULY 2026**
Please note it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction for this offence is Unlimited.

PUBLIC NOTICES

JOHN BRYAN BASSINDER (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 Victoria Gardens, 328 Tile Hill Lane, Coventry, CV4 9DS previously of 112 Chaco Avenue, who died on 01/05/2026, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 27/08/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
Angels Solicitors LLP, 117-119 New Union Street, Coventry, CV1 2NY

COLIN CEDRIC MCBEAN (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 5 Bridge Road, Rugby, CV21 2JH, who died on 10/04/2026, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 27/08/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
Brethertons LLP Solicitors - F&O Amber Morris, Montague House, 2 Clifton Road, CV21 3PX

WILLIAM GIBSON (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 36 Orley Park, Willoughby, Rugby, CV21 6AN, who died on 03/01/2026, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 27/08/2026, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
GREGORY ABRAMS DAVIDSON LLP, 123 PENNY LANE, LIVERPOOL, L18 1DF

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Daniel Hargreaves trading as D & D Hargreaves Ltd of 23 Plum Crescent Burbage is applying for a licence to use **36 Hawkes Drive, Warwick, CV34 6LX** as an operating centre for **1** vehicle and **no** trailers.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.
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

Classified

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A (PREMISES LICENCE/CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE)

Name of (applicant):
Three counties hospitality
 Postal address of (premises):
White Swan, Main Street, Shawell, Lutterworth, LE176AG
 Details of Application:
To permit the sale of alcohol on the premises between the hours of
11am-11pm Monday- Friday, 10am-11pm Saturday, 12pm-10pm Sunday
 During office hours arrangements may be made for the register to be viewed at the Customer Services Department, Harborough District Council, Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough, LE16 7AG
 Any representation relating to this application must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority by **21.07.26**
 It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction for this offence is £5,000.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Notice is hereby given that **AMARJIT KHANGURA** has applied to Coventry City Council for a NEW PREMISES LICENCE For **657-659 FOLESHILL ROAD COVENTRY CV6 5JQ**
 Details of Application: **To provide RECORDED AND LIVE MUSIC, SALE/SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ON THE PREMISES, LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENTS.**
 Days & Times: **Monday to Sunday 11:00 - 03:00**
 Any person wishing to lodge a representation concerning this application may write to: Licensing Authority, The Council House, Earl Street Coventry CV1 5R. Or send an email to: licensing@coventry.gov.uk
 The application may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address and further information may be available at www.coventry.gov.uk on the public register.
 Any Representation relating to this application must be made in writing to the Licensing Authority by **14th JULY 2026**
 Please note it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction for this offence is Unlimited.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM



Graham Fullwood

Sadly missed each day.
 Maureen sadly passed away, missed by family.
 Sarah her daughter misses her so much.
 No one knows what's around the corner of life, as our Mom would say. She was so special, she loved us all as we loved her so much.
 You are never forgotten and forever remembered, Graham's funny laugh, smile and jokes.
 Father's Day you should be remembered, you loved your sons, its not about money its about love.
Love Carol and family
 xxx

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DINING chairs in grey fabric from Oak Furniture Land's Isabel range. Set of 4. Located in Bromsgrove £200 07460943678

COFFEE table from Oak Furniture Land's St Ives range. Light oak top with grey base. Located in Bromsgrove £150 07460943678

FOOTSTOOL in elephant grey leather from Oak Furniture Land. Great condition. Located in Bromsgrove £125 07460943678

ARMCHAIR in iron grey suede with electric reclining modes. Very good condition. Located in Bromsgrove £200 07460943678

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2 Daily Telegraph Zero Gravity Garden Recliner Chairs (including carry bags) 1 Navy 1 Stone (Grey) £40.00 each Telephone number - 01905 769944

ROLAND Cartier leather shoes, with mesh inserts, peep toe, stiletto heels, colour pewter. Size 8, still in box. Worn once indoors, excellent condition. Original price was £65.00. Will accept £15.00. Tel: 07934132759

LADIES M & S classic fully lined summer jacket with detachable hood. Light turquoise. Hardly worn. Size 12. £3.00. Tel: 07934132759

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Tummy Onasanya will join Coventry Rugby next season.



Rae adds raft of signings to squad ahead of new season

RUGBY UNION: COVENTRY Rugby have signed a quintet of players ahead of the 2026/27 Champ Rugby season to bolster Alex Rae's squad.

Tummy Onasanya, Joe Margetts, Alex Garrett, Rhys Fulford and Marcus Rhodes will all make the move to the Nick Newbold Stadium next season.

Loosehead prop Onasanya progressed through the Sale Sharks pathway and has represented England at under-18 and under-20 level.

The 24-year-old made 43 first team appearances for Sale and also spent time on loan at Chinnor.

He began his rugby journey with Eccles Rugby and Leigh RUFC and earned representative honours with Lancashire and North of England Counties.

Onasanya said: "I'm really excited and grateful to be coming to such a great team."

"Having heard, seen and played against Coventry, I know what an amazing group of players they have and I'm looking forward to adding to that."

Coventry head coach Rae added: "Tummy is a player with huge potential and has already proved that in Premiership and European games for Sale."

"Sometimes you need to take a little step back to then push on again and we're excited to help him do that."

Experienced centre Margetts arrives at Coventry with more than 100 appearances to his name in England's second tier.

The 29-year-old represented both Hartpury and Doncaster Knights following a stint in New Zealand with the University of Otago.

He later spent time in France with USBPA Rugby before returning to Doncaster for a second spell with the Knights.

Margetts said: "I'm incredibly excited to be joining Coventry next season."

"The ambition throughout the club and the style of rugby they play really stood out to me, and I can't wait to be a part of it."

"I'm looking forward to contributing to the team's goals, playing in front of the supporters, meeting everyone, and creating some special memories together."

Rae added: "Joe's a proven performer in this league."

"He has a really good skillset and physical attributes which are going to really suit our style of rugby."

Young winger Garrett moves to Coventry after developing through the Leicester Tigers academy.

The 21-year-old came through Denstone College before joining the Tigers and later represented the University of Nottingham.

Garrett continued his development in the Champ with Nottingham RFC where he made five appearances.

He earned a place in the England Rugby Universities squad earlier this year for an annual fixture against France.

Garrett said: "I can't wait until we start in July."

"I can't wait to meet the boys and play the jove type of rugby that made me sign here."

Rae added: "As soon as I watched Alex's BUCS games, I was really excited."

"Then watching him perform in the Championship, nothing changed, which was really exciting."

"He has fantastic aerial skills and a natural ability to beat people and offload, which is what we really liked."

South African forward Fulford developed through some of his country's most established pathways before making the move to England.

The 24-year-old captained St Alban's College in his homeland and later represented Western Province under-20s.

He also captained the side when part of the highly-regarded Maties Rugby programme.

Following spells with Hamilton Rugby Club and Cambridge Rugby Club, Fulford will take the next step of his career with Coventry.

Fulford said: "I couldn't be more excited to be joining Coventry this season."

"From playing against them last year, I was so impressed by the way they approach the game and hope that I can do my bit to contribute to an even more successful season."

Rae added: "Rhys had a tough season in terms of being in a struggling Cambridge side, but we saw traits that we really liked and believe that in our environment he will really thrive."

Rhodes returns to professional rugby with Coventry following an impressive spell in BUCS rugby.

The 24-year-old back-row forward can play across the back row and at number eight.

Rhodes came through the London Irish academy before representing England at under-20 level.

He also earned recognition with England Students while studying at Durham University.

Rhodes said: "I'm extremely delighted to have signed with Coventry and to be back in professional rugby."

"It seems to be an amazing club that has come off the back of a successful season and I can't think of a better place to be coming into."

"The attacking brand of rugby suits me perfectly and I can't wait to meet the lads and get started."

Rae added: "Marcus has been a standout in the BUCS league as one of the most physical, consistent forwards in the competition."

"He's also shown his leadership abilities and now wants to kick on with us."

Sky Blues gunning for Gunners after fixtures released

by **Aaron Sutcliffe**
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

FOOTBALL: DOUG King is excited by the prospect of Coventry City facing Premier League champions Arsenal on the opening day of the season.

Coventry will travel to the Emirates Stadium for the opening game of the 2026/27 Premier League season.

The match pits Premier League winners Arsenal against Championship champions Coventry.

And Coventry owner and chairman King is looking forward to the champions versus champions clash on the opening day of the campaign.

Speaking to Sky Sports News, King said: "What can you say - I thought it'd be a big one. Away at

the champions, what a way to start it - champions vs champions.

"There was a bit of nervous tension around. It went a bit quiet afterwards but we've got to play everybody twice and we're excited to start it at the home of Arsenal."

Coventry discovered their fixtures for the 2026/27 campaign with the Sky Blues to play fellow promoted side Hull City in the club's first home game of the season.

This marks a repeat of Coventry's opening home fixture of the 2025/26 season which ended in a goalless draw at the Coventry Building Society Arena.

And King cited Sunderland's strong home form following their promotion last term as the benchmark for Coventry to try and replicate next season.

King added: "We always like Hull coming here. We've done a lot of work out there [at the CBS Arena],

it's all systems go and action stations.

"We'll need our home support hugely this year. We saw what Sunderland did at home and that's what we want to make it."

Coventry have not yet made a signing following promotion to the Premier League although the club recently saw a record £20million bid for goalkeeper Carl Rushworth rejected by Brighton and Hove Albion.

And King admits the ongoing 2026 FIFA World Cup has added an extra complication to the transfer window this summer.

King said: "We've got our plans. We know what we think we want to do, we took our time to get that blueprint there and we'll see how it unfolds."

"Obviously with the World Cup, that makes it a bit more difficult than previous years."

Ruffin returns for Blaze as club line-up friendly against Ligue Magnus side

ICE HOCKEY: COVENTRY Blaze have confirmed the return of American forward Sam Ruffin for the 2026/27 Elite League season.

Ruffin joined Blaze ahead of the 2025/26 campaign following a season split between the ECHL and SPHL.

The 27-year-old recorded 16 points (three goals, 13 assists) in 32 appearances for Blaze in his first season with Coventry.

However, he suffered an injury in January which saw him placed on the club's long-term injured reserve list.

Ruffin is expected to return to action in November later this year after successfully completing a rehabilitation programme.

Blaze head coach, Kevin Moore said: "Sam is a player who plays hard, thinks the game at a high level, and can slot into any role."

"His positive impact on our team culture in the locker room is just as important as his play."

"We are happy to have Sam back in Coventry for another season."

During his time in the SPHL, Ruffin recorded 28 points (nine goals, 19 assists) in 29 games.

The right-shot winger began his professional career with Indy Fuel during the 2023/24 season, recording 10 points (two goals, eight assists) in 30 appearances.

Prior to turning professional, Ruffin started his collegiate career at University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2018/19, playing 29 games before transferring to Adrian College.

During his time at Adrian College, he worked under Blaze coach Moore for the first time.

Ruffin enjoyed a highly successful four-year spell with the Bulldogs, helping the programme secure three NCHA Championships and the 2021/22



Sam Ruffin has signed on for a second season at Coventry Blaze. Picture by Scott Wiggins.

NCAA Division III National Championship.

And he was named NCAA Tournament MVP during the side's title-winning campaign.

Across 103 games for Adrian College, Ruffin amassed 136 points, scoring 50 goals and adding 86 assists.

His performances earned him NCHA All-Conference honours and AHCA Second Team All-American recognition on two occasions.

FRENCH FRIENDLY

Coventry will entertain French side Gothiques d'Amiens as part of the club's pre-season preparations ahead of the 2026/27 campaign.

Blaze will welcome Amiens to the Skydome Arena for an international pre-season friendly on Sunday, August 30 with the

face-off at 5.30pm.

Amiens compete in France's top division, Ligue Magnus, and finished eighth last season.

A number of players have moved between the French and British leagues in recent years.

Former Blaze forward Nick Seitz returns to the Skydome for the first time since joining the French club this summer.

And former Manchester Storm forward Tyler Hinam along with ex-Belfast Giants goaltender Alexis Gravel also feature in the Amiens squad.

Amiens recently appointed Bruce Richardson as the club's new head coach. Richardson previously served as player-assistant coach with the Nottingham Panthers between 2008 and 2010.

The French side play Nottingham the day before making the trip to Coventry.

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Henry targets gold for GB at World Cup

by Aaron Sutcliffe
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

ROWING: LAUREN Henry will represent Great Britain at the upcoming World Rowing Cup III in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The Rugby-born rower will race in the women's single sculls event for Britain on the international stage.

Henry forms part of a 14-crew 50-athlete squad which GB will send to Switzerland.

Interim performance director, Tom Dyson said: "The standard on display at the first two rounds of the World Rowing Cup series in Seville and Plovdiv has set the

Lauren Henry will represent Great Britain in Lucerne. Picture by Benedict Tufnell for British Rowing.



scene for some great racing at World Rowing Cup III.

"It is always special heading to Lucerne to race, and this year we will be joined for the first time by members of the GB Rowing Team Paralympic Programme.

"They will race alongside some crews of their compatriots who are unchanged from World Rowing Cup I, while others have undergone adjustments and will be eyeing a first test of their new combinations.

"Everyone is eager to get racing again, and we must all capitalise on the opportunity to learn in the Games qualification venue for 2027 and 2028."

Henry won Olympic gold in the quadruple sculls at the Paris 2024 Games.

She started the 2026 season with victory by just 0.14 seconds in the first World Rowing Cup event in Seville.

The World Rowing Cup III takes place from June 26 to 28 in Lucerne, Switzerland.

Desai's half-ton leads to eight-wicket away victory

CRICKET: OPENER Darshan Desai scored an unbeaten half-century as Rugby CC cruised to a dominant eight-wicket win against Bedworth.

Desai blasted Rugby to victory in just 18.3 overs at Miners Welfare Park as the visitors reached the required total with eight wickets in hand.

That came after Rugby bowled Bedworth out for just 112 in 35.1 overs as a trio of away bowlers took three wickets apiece.

The result means Rugby sit fourth in the Warwickshire County League Premier Division table.

Rugby won the toss and elected to field as Haaris Azram (19) and Ryan Parnell (15) put on a 29-run first-wicket stand.

However, Tyrese Karelse (3-45) broke up the partnership with the wicket of Azram before Noah Massey (3-22) removed Max Page (1) and Parnell in the same over.

Bedworth slumped to 41-5 in the 13th over as Daanyal Sadiq (3-27) claimed the scalps of Abdul Siddik (0) and Sree Vatsan (0) for ducks.

Karelse returned to remove Ross Parnell (12) and then trapped Arpit Vinayak (9) LBW with Bedworth in trouble on 66-7.

Jamie Parnell (19) and Ben Jones (25) showed resistance in a solid eighth-wicket partnership before Sadiq caught and bowled the latter.

Advay Pophali (1-9) bowled J Parnell before Massey took the wicket of James Ward (1) to bring an end to the innings with Bedworth all out for 112.

Rugby made light work of the reply as Desai (67 not out) and Jeevan Barhey (23) put on 79 runs for the first wicket.

Desai reached and went beyond a half-century in a 56-ball knock which included 12 boundaries with four maxims.

Danny De Souza (11) added useful runs before Karelse (11 not out) aided Desai in guiding the visitors to an eight-wicket win inside 20 overs.

Rugby are next in action against Aston Manor on Saturday, June 27 with play to begin at 12pm (midday) at Webb Ellis Road.

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