



Connecting us with our neighbours in the region

CommUnity

Spring 2017

CANLEY POP-UP CAFE AND BIG LUNCH

Since February, our student volunteers have helped run games and crafts activities for children and adults at the Canley Pop-Up Cafés in Canley Community Centre.

The Pop-Up Cafés are an initiative of Nor Aziz, a Canley resident and Warwick alumna from Canley Connections, supported by Warwick Volunteers, West Midlands Police, Canley Library, and Coventry City Council. This project aims to initiate community interaction and raise awareness of cultural diversity and difference as being positive by creating spaces that encourage neighbours from the Canley area to meet, talk and share talents, stories, histories and knowledge.

Jenny Watson, from Warwick Volunteers, has organised a group of students to offer family friendly activities at each cafe.

Local children have joined the volunteers to paint a giant tree mural, create spring bunting, decorate ceramic birds and piggy banks, enjoy an Easter challenge and play countless games of Jenga. A favourite among the children was decorating cupcakes and biscuits.

We're really pleased to see children and families coming back to the café week after week, and we're looking forward to meeting even more people at the Canley Big Lunch in Prior Deram Park on 1 July. Like and follow @canleyconnections on Facebook to find out more.

Find out more about how Warwick Volunteers could help your school or organisation at warwick.ac.uk/community/volunteers/community.

WMG ACADEMY CELEBRATES OFSTED SUCCESS

Coventry's WMG Academy for Young Engineers in Canley is celebrating being rated "Good" in its first ever Ofsted report. The school works closely with WMG and the University to provide an engineering-focused curriculum for 14 to 18 year-olds.

The report said: "Pupils are well prepared for their next stages in education and for life in modern Britain.

"Pupils are confident and articulate; they work well independently and in groups. Many are excited by their studies because they understand the relationship between their lessons and their future careers."

Executive Principal Kate Tague said: "We are delighted with the Ofsted report, especially as we have been open for less than three years and this was our first ever inspection."

You can find out more about the school at wmgacademy.org.uk.

£4.25M FOR BATTERY & DRIVERLESS VEHICLE RESEARCH AT WMG

In April, Business Secretary Greg Clark and Transport Minister John Hayes announced a total of £4.25m for research into both driverless vehicles and high-energy batteries needed to replace oil and diesel power in heavier vehicles, trains and ships. The battery researchers, at WMG, will work with BMW Group and Delta Motorsport.

Experts in driverless vehicles and cyber security will work with a consortium led by the global company AECOM to help design, develop and test a new generation of autonomous and connected PODs which will be tested in on-road trials at London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.



WOMEN'S CYCLE TOUR

On 9 June, the OVO Energy Women's Cycle Tour is returning to Warwickshire and we've partnered with Warwickshire County Council to host Stage Three. The route starts in Atherstone, North Warwickshire, at 10.30am, and passes along Gibbet Hill Road before heading on to Kenilworth. The tour continues through Stratford and - 150km later - finishes in Leamington Spa at around 2pm. Eisberg Sprints in Kenilworth and Wellesbourne and Queen of the Mountain climbs in Edge Hill and Burton Dassett will add to the excitement on the day.

Using the hashtags #WT2017 and #ThisGirlCan, Warwickshire is focusing on women's contribution to sport. With a global television audience of 80,000, this leg also aims to showcase the towns and history of Warwickshire at its best.

75,000 spectators lined the Warwickshire route last year (40,000 estimated to have visited from out of county), bringing an estimated £1.25m spend to the local economy and event organisers are hoping for an even greater turnout for 2017.



CROWDS GATHER TO SUBMIT OUR CITY OF CULTURE BID

It's over 30 pages long, contains over 20,000 words and has been in the planning for more than a year and a half - Coventry's initial bid document to be UK City of Culture in 2021 is complete. The bid has been submitted to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and Coventry is expected to find out before the summer whether it has made the shortlist for the prize.

To celebrate its completion and submission, the Trust welcomed a whole host of individuals, groups and organisations from across the city to an event at Coventry Cathedral.

Coventry City Council, The University of Warwick and Coventry University are Principal Partners of the bid and are providing significant support. The Ricoh Arena is Bid Sponsor while Jaguar Land Rover, Adient, Friargate, Coventry Building Society, the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Birmingham Airport, PET-Xi, SCC, Pertemps, and CEF (City Electrical Factors) are Bid Development Sponsors.



INVESTING IN OUR EVER EVOLVING CAMPUS

We're continuing to invest in our campus with new building projects in progress and at the planning application stage.

The National Automotive Innovation Centre is due to open late this year (2017) on central campus. It will create and develop the latest advances in automotive technology to reduce dependency on fossil fuels, to reduce CO₂ emissions. It will also help to develop a stronger supplier base in the UK. Over £150m is being invested in the project by the partnership between Jaguar Land Rover, Tata Motors European Technical Centre, WMG and the University of Warwick, along with an expanding network of supplier companies.

Our new Mathematical Science Building is now also under construction, adjacent to the existing maths and stats building, and due to open next year. We've won £2m in funding from the Wolfson Foundation for the facility to support the continued growth of, and collaboration between, our Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences departments in their work - work that can have a profound impact on our society, our communities and our cities.

And we're just beginning work on our new Sports Hub, on Leighfield Road on the Warwickshire side of main campus. Our plans for this new Sports Hub are a part of our wider strategy to encourage a healthy University life and to bring world-class facilities to our international campus. Once complete, it will be available to our students, our staff and the general public.

Finally, we plan to invest £90m in our on campus accommodation. We're currently building an extra 270 rooms in the Sherbourne Halls of Residence to be open for the coming academic year. We have submitted a planning application (ref W/17/0395) to Warwick District Council to build 756 beds in a modern Townhouse style of residences, replacing our Hurst (demolished a little while ago) and Redfern (still in operation this year) Halls of Residences. If our planning application is successful we hope to start work this autumn to be ready for October 2018.

Keep up to date with our plans for campus at warwick.ac.uk/community.

A SHARED VISION IN LEAMINGTON SPA

We're working with Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council, Leamington Spa Town Council and many other Leamington-based organisations to develop a shared vision for the future of the town centre as part of the Leamington Town Centre Forum. We're also a member of the Steering Group of the Leamington Spa Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan will help shape the future development of the Town, especially in relation to key issues such as social housing, retail development, community space, road infrastructure, cycleways and renewable energy projects. Find out more at leamingtonspatowncouncil.gov.uk

INTRODUCING THE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Hello! We're the new Public Engagement Team and hopefully you'll be seeing more of us and some of the activity we're going to be supporting in the next few months. Launched in Spring 2017 the team are supporting Warwick's academic staff to get better at talking about their research projects to the people outside academia. We're also encouraging them to do this in a way which allows the outside world to influence what they research and how they do it leading to more societally relevant research. These are just some of the projects we're pleased to be working on so far:

FAB LAB COVENTRY

Fab Lab is a hidden gem based in the City Arcade in the city centre. Funded by Warwick, and other partners including Coventry City Council and Coventry University, the Lab is a city centre resource, accessible to anyone. Its aim is to provide the people of Coventry with the opportunity to turn ideas into reality through helping them build skills in advanced manufacturing.



Warwick academics will be using the space to run events for the community around their research. We're looking forward to sessions around the science of make-up, for both children and adults, and also supporting a team from our Department of Chemistry, Voluntary Action Coventry, and Grapevine Coventry & Warwickshire Limited to run craft events for people affected by long term long term conditions (for example diabetes or cancer) to get together.

Details are still being finalised but keep an eye on the Fab Lab website covfablab.org.uk or our website warwick.ac.uk/publicengagement for more information in the next few weeks.

ALSO FESTIVAL PARTNERSHIP

We've partnered with Also Festival, from 30 June - 2 July at Park Farm, Warwickshire, to help bring to life the biggest and boldest ideas from art, science, psychology and philosophy with immersive talks and experiences.

Warwick academics will present their research and ideas at this festival for the mind in dynamic and engaging ways. Visitors can engage with ideas first hand, presented by authors and professors including topics like assessing the meaning of dreams, Brexit one year on, ancient mythology, psychoactive substance laws, embracing past experiences, analysing the ways radicals use tech and much more.

For more information visit also-festival.com.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN LEAMINGTON SPA

ActiTeas is one of the newest projects led by our students through Warwick Volunteers. Two to three times a term, student volunteers visit residents at Queensway Court, a residence for the over 55's in Leamington Spa, for afternoon tea, games and activities, providing friendly conversation and companionship.



The project aims to connect older and younger generations and help ease loneliness and isolation. Together with the volunteers, residents have played board games, indulged in cakes and enjoyed themed activities such as an Ice Cream afternoon, an Alice in Wonderland Tea Party and making masks for Carnival.

The sessions have seen an increasing number of participants, who look forward to the next visit of our volunteers.

Find out more about how Warwick Volunteers could help your school or organisation at warwick.ac.uk/community/volunteers/community.

PIONEERING CANCER RESEARCH

Our Cancer Research Centre open evening on 26 April gave members of the local community a chance to hear about our research into better ways to grade cancers to determine the best treatment.

Guests were welcomed by Lawrence Young, Director of the Warwick Cancer Research Centre, David Snead, an expert pathologist, and computer scientist Nasir Rajpoot, with an overview of their research before an exclusive laboratory tour.

The key to effective research is collaboration, Professor Young stated in his introductory talk. "We're proud of how we work together on our cancer research," he said. "It is only through combining the research from a selection of different areas of expertise that real breakthroughs can be made."

It is in the area of 'grading' the cancer, specifically, that our research is proving so helpful for scientists to determine how aggressive a cancer is and therefore how to treat it. Currently, grading of cancers is made with the human eye through a strong microscope. We're developing digital pathology - using a computer system to examine tumours to remove the opportunity for discrepancies between assessments for quicker and more accurate diagnosis.

We're looking at ways to treat cancer to keep more people living longer. Though a complete cure is still elusive, managing cancer and finding ways to live fulfilling lives despite it, is not too far away.

For more information about cancer research at Warwick, you can visit the Centre's website here: warwick.ac.uk/cancerappeal or follow us on Twitter [@WarwickCRC](https://twitter.com/WarwickCRC)

CREATIVE WARWICK: FRINGE FESTIVAL

FRI 23 JUNE

Creative Warwick 2017 is a campus-wide celebration of the 250+ student societies at Warwick to showcase all the incredible things our societies get up to.

Our first ever 'Warwick Fringe Festival' will take place on the 23 June - a day packed full of exciting performances, open to all.

Find out more at warwicksu.com/creativewarwick or follow us on Facebook @ [creativewarwick](https://www.facebook.com/creativewarwick)



OUT AND ABOUT THIS SUMMER

This summer we'll be getting out to many local events and festivals. Why not pop and talk to us - we'd love to see you! We'll be at:

Positive Images Festival, Coventry

10 June

Coventry Pride

10-11 June

Nuneaton Carnival

11 June

Positive Images Community Information Fair, Coventry

16 June

Leamington Peace Festival

17-18 June

Also Festival, Warwickshire

30 June - 2 July

Canley Big Lunch

1 July

Godiva Festival

7-9 July

Kenilworth Arts Festival Fiesta

17 September

Key Dates:

Open Days 23 and 24 Jun, 23 Sept, 21 Oct

Market Days at the Piazza 10am-3pm
24 May, 14 Jun, 28 Jun

Arrivals weekend Sat 30 Sept - Sun 1 Oct

Autumn Term Mon 2 Oct 2017 - Sat 9 Dec 2017

Spring Term Mon 8 Jan 2018 - Sat 17 Mar 2018

Summer Term Mon 23 Apr 2018 - Sat 30 Jun 2018



FAMILY DAY: FROM LEGENDS TO LIGHT YEARS

SUN 4 JUNE 2017, 10AM - 5PM

Travel through time with supersonic speed. Revel in forgotten traditions, mysteries and legends, then buzz through light years and superstars while exploring fantastical spaces and futuristic activities. This summer's Family Day is going to be out of this world! Alongside performances of The First Hippo on the Moon and Tales of Birbal expect wondrous free activities from Warwick Sport, including family swimming and climbing, lots of free activities within Warwick Arts Centre and tasty offers from the farmers' market.

Find out more at warwickfamilydays.co.uk

WARWICK SPORT HOLIDAY CAMP SCHEME

This summer take up a new sport, improve your skills or enjoy some time with friends with Warwick Sport's Summer Holiday Camps. Suitable for a wide range of age groups, our holiday camps offer activities to challenge, entertain, learn and develop, using Warwick Sport's fantastic facilities. Choose from a programme of Badminton, Swimming, Tennis, Climbing and Football. For more information and to book please check out the website warwick.ac.uk/sport/events/active-families.



FREE TASTER CLASSES AT THE CENTRE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Our Centre for Lifelong Learning is launching a brand new Lifelong Learning Open Programme this autumn and will be offering free taster classes during September.



The 2017/18 topics will be on the theme of 'change' and will include short courses, workshops, seminars and day schools, offering the opportunity to connect, discover and discuss a range of topical issues. More information will be available on our website later this summer. Taster classes are free but do please book in advance to secure your place - check back nearer the date at warwick.ac.uk/lifelonglearning

LET YOUR PROPERTY WITH WARWICK ACCOMMODATION

We are the professional property management agency for the University of Warwick and we're proud to have been a responsible and trusted partner for landlords across Coventry, Kenilworth and Leamington Spa for over 40 years.

If you currently have a property you are letting, and you are looking for a guaranteed monthly income without the hassle, then try us and put your property in safe hands.

For more information, visit warwick.ac.uk/landlords or get in touch on

+44 (0) 24 7652 3772 | offcampus@warwick.ac.uk

Comments welcome

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter, or any other aspect of the University of Warwick, please call **024 7615 0708** or email community@warwick.ac.uk. To find out more about our activities visit www.warwick.ac.uk/community.

CommUnity is normally published twice a year by the External Affairs Office of the University of Warwick.
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