

CommUnity

Connecting us with our neighbours in **Warwickshire** and the region



LWS NIGHT SHELTER

LWS Night Shelter is a not-for-profit organisation, set up by students at the University of Warwick, in 2015, to provide food, shelter, and company for homeless and vulnerable people in Leamington Spa and the surrounding area.

The shelter opens each week on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:30pm to 10am serving dinner and breakfast. All volunteers aim to ensure that LWS Night Shelter is more than just a roof over guests' heads, it is a place where they can feel safe, and be treated with dignity and respect and fosters a sense of community that welcomes people from all walks of life.

Originally 'Leamington Winter Support', thanks to continued support from students and the local community, they have been able to remain open year-round (re-branding to 'LWS Night Shelter').

LWS Night Shelter feel very fortunate to be able to use the old Priors Club thanks to Tara and Co. Estate Agents - but this home is only temporary. They will soon begin a crowd-funding campaign to help raise funds for the renovation of a new, permanent premises from which to continue this very valuable service long-term. Find out more at justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lwsnightselter.

You can also find out about other ways you could help on their website at LeamingtonWS.org or contact them by email LeamingtonWS@gmail.com.



REDEVELOPING WARWICK ARTS CENTRE FOR THE FUTURE

Warwick Arts Centre has begun the first stage of its 20:20 Capital Project to update the existing 1974 building and create a new cultural and creative venue for the region with a modern, updated, larger space.

Building work to the older part of the venue began in October, with temporary closure to the theatre and studio spaces as well as Le Gusta restaurant. At the same time, Warwick Arts Centre opened its 280 seater temporary theatre - The Goose Nest - which will, over the next 9 months, host a variety of professional and student shows. Warwick Arts Centre will also continue to provide audiences with a full programme of events and shows taking place within the venue itself throughout the three year project.

The second stage of the redevelopment is scheduled to begin in October 2018 with a brand new venue frontage and extension, which will house three HD digital auditoria, a large ground floor gallery ready to exhibit some of the very best contemporary art, sculpture and photography and a spacious new-look foyer offering a welcoming environment. The plans include open spaces for eating, drinking and socialising, and the foyer will be designed to showcase the very best in art and entertainment.

Whilst some venues will be temporarily closed at certain times over the next three

years, the signature Butterworth Hall and the Helen Martin Studio will be open throughout, and all spaces within the building will be used in a number of new and innovative ways.

Andrea Pulford, Director of Planning and Operations said: "The Warwick Arts Centre 20:20 project has begun in earnest this Autumn - it's no mean feat starting a packed new season of shows, closing parts of the building for renovation and opening a temporary theatre! The finished venue will benefit not only our local communities, students, teaching and support staff, but will enable Warwick Arts Centre to become a major cultural provider in the region and to make a positive impact on the UK arts industry as a whole."

Full plans and a timeline of activity are available on the Warwick Arts Centre website www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/2020-project.

Visitors, audiences and the local community are welcome to feedback on warwick2020@warwick.ac.uk.

**FREE
EVENT**

CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE IDEAS CAFÉ

Tuesday 30 January 2018, 6pm

We're planning our first cancer research Ideas Café in January and we would love you to join us!

Come along and hear short introductions from cancer researchers about their work in an informal café-style setting; then ask questions and input your thoughts to help impact their research.

Register at warwick.ac.uk/canceropenevening for free parking, free refreshments, and a chance to really chat about cancer research.



ANALYSING OVARIAN CANCER CELLS

Thanks to donations from the Lord Mayor of Coventry's year in office and the General Charities of the City of Coventry, we're teaming up with the University of Birmingham to examine ovarian cancer cells in a new way.

We'll be collecting and processing new samples taken during surgery, and looking at the individual cells within them. We'll isolate them into droplets and use barcodes to label the cells, then apply high-throughput sequencing to get a detailed insight into their composition, finding the number of healthy and cancerous cells.

One of our new PhD students, Annika Stechemesser, will analyse the data to improve our ability to characterise individual cells, and improve personalised and targeted treatments for ovarian as well as other cancers.

All of this will help us treat ovarian cancer more effectively in future and we're incredibly grateful for the support that's made it possible.

We hold regular open evenings and you can register your interest to hear about the next open evening at warwick.ac.uk/canceropenevening.



HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

Do you run a local group?

Help us tell more people about what we do - schedule a cancer research speaker at one of your upcoming events today.

Email benefactors@warwick.ac.uk or call 024 7615 0060.



WARWICK YOUTH PHAB

Established by Warwick Students five years ago, Phab is a youth group for disabled and non-disabled children, with an aim to provide an environment where children and young adults can come together, socialise and have fun in a non-discriminatory environment.

Warwick Youth Phab is also part of 'Phab England', a charity which has been running for 60 years.

Every Wednesday night during term time from 6-8pm at the Westbury Centre in Leamington Spa our volunteers host a range of fun activities for the kids including arts and crafts, sports such as hockey, football, table tennis and snooker. The club has themed evenings such as baking, Lego, Halloween, Christmas and movie nights. Trips around the local area are very popular and these have so far included bowling and Cadbury World.

If you want to find out more you can contact the group by email warwickyouthphab.volunteers@outlook.com or on Facebook www.facebook.com/WarwickYouthPhab.

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



PREMIER LEAGUE SQUASH IS COMING TO THE LOCAL AREA

Sport of the highest level will be available to watch, live, right on your doorstep this year.

The Premier Squash League (PSL) has announced that two new teams will be joining the current league of 10 teams for the 2017/18 season. One of these new teams is the University of Warwick, in a joint venture with Kenilworth Squash Club.

Head squash coach at the University, Steve Townsend, is immensely excited by the prospect of a professional squash team. Speaking to England Squash, he said he believes that PSL 'is tremendously exciting for both the University of Warwick and Kenilworth Squash Club.' Townsend, whose enthusiasm was evident, went on to state:

'We hope it will attract elite squash-playing students to our programme at Warwick... we can't wait to get going!'

Last season the PSL was won by MB Nottingham in a co-venture with Nottingham University that has clear parallels with Warwick's new and hopefully prosperous arrangement.

Warwick's first fixture took place on 24 October, at a local derby in Birmingham, and the first home game was on 7 November against 2016-17 champions Nottingham.

Future games are scheduled for 5 December, 30 January and 13 March. Find out more at warwick.ac.uk/sport.



NEW DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS STARTING IN 2018

Degree apprenticeships are a novel education route combining the best aspects of higher and vocational training, enabling students to study for a degree whilst being employed and earning a wage throughout.

Co-designed by employers and higher education institutions, degree apprenticeships ensure students graduate with the right mix of academic knowledge and professional skills that will enable them to thrive in the working world for the future.

We're delighted that we've been awarded around a quarter of a million pounds from the new Higher Education Funding Council for England administered Degree Apprenticeships Development Fund which we will use to create around 100 new degree apprenticeships each year.

The first 80 degree apprenticeships (in Civil Engineering and Social Work) will start

in 2018, with a further 100 new degree apprenticeships starting in 2019 and 120 in 2020. This will be in addition to around 400 apprentices in manufacturing engineering degree programmes that are already studying and working with WMG here. We're also exploring whether we can create even more degree apprenticeship programmes and have four technology-based areas under active consideration.

University of Warwick Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart Croft said:

"The UK has the second lowest productivity of all the G7 countries and skills gaps are seen as one of the major contributors to this issue. Universities such as Warwick have a long history of direct engagement in both their local and national economies. We are delighted once again to be at the forefront of a programme that will deliver new opportunities for our young people which will also target local skills gaps, and will help drive economic growth in our region and the country as a whole."

