

CommUnity

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



FAMILY DAY AND CHALLENGE+

Our science-themed Family Day attracted more than 8,000 people to campus on Saturday 14 September. Visitors explored, discovered and experimented their way through the day. Highlights included Maddie Moate's *Mission to Mars*, The Space Shed and experience zones from Family Day sponsor Jaguar Land Rover.

For older children (aged 11 to 16) we hosted an evening event called 'Challenge+' that was curated by students from Finham Park 2 school. There was lots to see and do with liquid nitrogen ice cream, drone racing, e-sports and pyrotechnics.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT FAMILY DAY! Sunday 1 December 10am-5pm

Step into a Winter Wonderland at our very special Family Day this December. It's for all families and children from ages one to 16, with storytelling, interactive performances, craft making, an Asian Drumming workshop, gingerbread decorating, face-painting and henna tattoos – plus the opportunity to learn about the science of winter!

BRITISH SCIENCE FESTIVAL COMES TO COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE

More than 16,000 people took part in the week-long British Science Festival in September, which took place across Coventry and Warwickshire. The University hosted the event, including talks, debates, discussions and activities across campus and in Coventry city centre.

Evening events included a secret garden of science at The Botanist, Sci-Fi productions in the Albany Theatre, the Bootstrap Cook at Coventry Cathedral, and a holographic dance party in FarGo Village. There was also a special live recording of the BBC's *The Sky at Night* at Warwick Arts Centre, and sports science events at our new Sports and Wellness Hub.

'Cook together, Eat together' – a free cooking club for over 55s in Coventry – was a feature of the week, focusing on healthy eating skills while tackling the growing problem of social isolation. Local organisations also ran their own events, thanks to Community Grants they'd been awarded jointly by the University of Warwick and the British Science Association (which organises the festival). Grant winners included Vanny Radio, Ayriss Recovery Service, West Indian Heritage Community Action group, ILEAP, The Smallpiece Trust, Coventry Men's Shed, BLAST Fest, and

Food Union. They ran events on topics including science, media coverage, drug and alcohol abuse education, climate change, mental health and ecology.

Students from 12 local schools attended the festival. They had the chance to meet local employers and took part in employability skills workshops before exploring the festival.

We would like to thank our principal partners Cadent, Jaguar Land Rover and Lubrizol for making it such a memorable week.

"It was fantastic to see so many of you joining us on campus and at nearby events. We are excited to see many more of you as we look forward to Coventry 2021!"

Jane Furze, Director of Regional Strategy and Public Engagement

WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter, or any suggestions about how we could improve it please call 024 7615 0708 or email community@warwick.ac.uk

To find out more about our activities visit warwick.ac.uk/community

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT SIMILAR EVENTS, GET IN TOUCH!

Register your interest at public-engagement@warwick.ac.uk



A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD INVENTOR SEES HER MACHINE MADE REAL AT FAMILY DAY

Among our 8,000 visitors to Family Day was seven-year-old Evie Williams who won the University's Rube Goldberg machine competition.

"A Rube Goldberg machine is a very special one because it accomplishes a simple task through a series of very complex mechanisms. Over the summer we went to lots of events and challenged kids from across the region to come up with the best and most fun Rube Goldberg machine and we were delighted with the response. We loved all the entries, but we had to pick a winner and Evie's took the prize."

Jane Furze, Director of Regional Strategy and Public Engagement

Evie, who lives in Warwick, designed her machine at Art in the Park in Leamington in August. She saw her design made into a real working machine and come to life at the Family Day. Evie is proud to have won the competition.

Evie said: "It is awesome! When I first saw the machine I liked how it was made and how it worked. It was clever how the balls moved around and made other things happen, so I wanted to design my own. It turned out well in real life."

She added: "If I could invent a real machine that could do anything, it would tidy up my bedroom for me!"

WALKING THROUGH TIME - ART AND HISTORY TRAIL ON CAMPUS

FREE event
Until September 2020
Open all day, every day

A new art and history trail 'Walking Through Time' is open to explore across our campus. You'll find new and existing sculptures from our Art Collection, plus discover some fascinating, and at times gruesome, facts about the history of the site.

Don't miss The Good and The Bad dinosaurs on the trail – two giant corten steel dinosaur sculptures made by the acclaimed British artists, Jake and Dinos Chapman. The dinosaurs resemble huge children's model-making kits and appear clumsy and lovable!

MEET THE NEW WARWICK DISTRICT HOUSING OFFICER

After a successful pilot in Coventry last year, we've entered a new partnership with Warwick District Council to appoint a Housing Enforcement Officer focusing on student housing across the district – primarily in Leamington Spa and Kenilworth. New to the post is Becky Frazer, interviewed here.

There's no such thing as a typical day, but in brief, my role involves...

Being out and about, conducting scheduled inspections to check property standards and disrepair in privately rented student homes. I'll also be taking calls and emails from tenants, landlords and neighbours about everything from repair issues to nuisance parties to see if I can help. No two days are the same working in housing!

How does your role support – and challenge – landlords?

I work with landlords to let them know about their legal requirements and how they can ensure the tenant experience is a great one. We also hold a mirror up where the service or property is not as we would expect. Enforcement action will be considered if we're dealing with landlords who offer sub-standard properties and won't work with us to improve.

How are you working with the local community?

The Council and the University have been listening to residents' and tenants' feedback about student housing and some of the issues they face. It's helped us to identify 'hot spot' areas for some proactive inspections and offer more support with housing-related issues. I'm always happy to speak with tenants, residents or landlords



Becky Frazer

✉️ rebecca.frazer@warwickdc.gov.uk

📞 01926 456358

Area covered: Warwick District

to discuss areas of concern in regard to rented properties.

What's the impact of your work for student tenants?

We want to make our District a great place to live and work for all of our residents, and ensure the homes they live in are safe and well managed. For many it will be their first experience of renting a property and it is therefore important students can come to us to ask about their rights or responsibilities as tenants. I want to dispel the myth that students should expect a lower standard from their accommodation. If they have a good experience they may choose to stay with us after their studies.

What would you like to achieve over the next year?

I want to get in and inspect as many properties as possible to make sure they are up to the high standard that we expect. It's also important to spread the word, so residents and students know who they can contact for help and advice regarding disrepair, rights and nuisance. I will be out and about, possibly knocking on a door near you or contacting you to arrange an inspection. Feel free to contact me with any housing enquiries using the details above!



Details of 'Walking Through Time' are provided on a beautifully hand-drawn map by the illustrator Helen Cann, which can be collected from Warwick Arts Centre or downloaded from warwickartscentre.co.uk/walking-through-time

Don't forget you can also explore our 'Follow That Hare' trail, which we mentioned in the last newsletter:
warwickartscentre.co.uk/follow-that-hare

HELPING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ACHIEVE FITNESS GOALS

Our Sports and Wellness Hub has been helping members of the local community to achieve their fitness goals since opening in April.

Whether you're looking to improve your health and wellbeing, learn a new skill, meet new friends or keep the entire family active, the Sports and Wellness Hub offers something for everyone.

Visit warwick.ac.uk/sport to discover how other members of the community are using the Sports and Wellness Hub to achieve their personal goals.

CLIMATE CHANGE IDEAS CAFÉ

In June, researchers from the Global Sustainable Development Centre, School of Life Sciences and Mathematics departments attended an event at the Kenilworth Centre to discuss climate change - what it is, how it will change our food production, and how sceptics ignore the scientific data to suit their agenda.

Some 40 members of the University of the Third Age (U3A) across Coventry and Warwickshire joined in with some lively discussions, sharing their views and asking lots of interesting questions. We would like to thank the Kenilworth U3A for supporting with the organisation of this event!

WATER BEARS IN WARWICKSHIRE WITH THE WILDLIFE TRUST

There are still bears in Warwickshire, it's true. The School of Life Science's outreach team have been out bear hunting - water bear hunting!

Water bears, properly referred to as 'Tardigrades', have been the subject of Professor Kevin Moffat's recent research activities - looking at their diversity and their amazing biological abilities. The creatures are tiny - less than half-a-millimeter long - so the team uses a variety of microscopes to deliver 'extreme pond-dipping activities' to demonstrate their work.

Warwick's outreach team were given exclusive access to a number of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Sites of Special Scientific Interest. The team spent a wet day in the middle of August and one in October at Brandon Marsh, along with the public who braved the rain, showing what can be found in the moss of Warwickshire if you have the equipment to look. If you'd gone down to Brandon Marsh that day... you would have had a nice surprise!



WARWICK ARTS CENTRE AT CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, Warwick Arts Centre's exciting programme continues.

The highlight will undoubtedly be **Raymond Briggs' Father Christmas**. Our portly, slightly grumpy friend will be preparing deliveries, feeding his reindeer and getting ready for his big night from Wednesday 27 November to Sunday 29 December. Suitable for all ages 3+.

Other Christmas treats include **Snow Ride! A Christmas Family Concert** (Saturday 7 December 7.30pm). All those famous classical festive tunes - from Tchaikovsky's

Nutcracker Overture to Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride* and Rimsky Korsakov's *Dance of Tumblers* - will put you in the festive spirit.

Ronnie Spector & the Ronettes will be visiting for a special Christmas show (Tuesday 17 December 7.30pm). Pop's ultimate 'girl-group' will play all the hits, including *Be My Baby* and *I Love You*, recreating Ronnie's New York Christmases from the golden era.

The Spring Season will also be on sale from early December - keep an eye out for updates at warwickartscentre.co.uk

LEAMINGTON SPA CANAL CLEAN UP

Shopping trolleys, bikes, road signs and tyres were just some of the items that a group of our students pulled from the canal in Leamington Spa on 13 October.

A total of 15 student volunteers braved the rain to help clean up the canal. The biggest find was a golf buggy that had to be removed with a crane a few days later.

"They [Warwick's student volunteers] were a credit to themselves and the University, unfailingly cheerful in the face of rain and very smelly mud. Will the police ever discover which golf course is now one golf buggy short?"

Nick Nicholson, Inland Waterways Association





MEDICAL SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Teddy Bear Hospital

On Saturday 16 November Warwick Medical School hosted the first ever 'Teddy Bear Hospital Takeover'! Children in reception, year one and year two from local primary schools were invited to take part in the event, covering healthy eating and exercise, first aid, plaster casting, mental health and more.

Teddy Bear Hospital is a society run by students at Warwick Medical School, aiming to reduce anxiety felt by young children when visiting hospital and other healthcare environments. The event in November was their biggest to date!

During the rest of the year they visit local primary schools and scout/cub groups in Coventry and Warwickshire and run sessions which include everything from first aid to 'pawscriptions', healthy living, anatomy, scrubbing in plaster casting and more! They're especially excited to have introduced two new stations to their

sessions this year, aiming to encourage important discussions around mental health and disability from an early age.

Resuscitation – Education in resuscitation

Resuscitation is an organisation started and run by Warwick Medical Students with a passion for delivering high quality CPR education in schools. They've been busy at the start of term recruiting a new batch of teachers with the right skills and enthusiasm to run engaging and useful sessions in secondary schools across the country.

To date they've delivered CPR education to almost 1,000 school pupils in the local area, and hope to double this number in the coming year. They're in the process of setting up new branches at other universities to ensure effective CPR teaching is being delivered in schools across the UK. They've recently been given official charity status so look out for fundraising events in the near future!

COMING SOON
TO THE PIAZZA BIG SCREEN

THE PIAZZA BIG SCREEN

The exciting Piazza Big Screen sporting and cultural screenings continue throughout Autumn 2019 and into 2020, including live streaming from the Royal Opera House.

The Piazza is a space for the both our campus community and the wider local community to enjoy a variety of national and international sporting and cultural events, in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

WHAT'S NEXT:

Christmas Market and the Muppet Christmas Carol

27 November 12.00-7.00pm

Join us for a Christmas market in the heart of the campus. Come along and enjoy a Christmas treat, join in with the carols and stay for the Christmas film showing at 5.30pm - *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. Wrap up warm and come enjoy some holiday fun!

Rugby Six Nations Super Saturday

14 March

The 2020 Six Nations Championship concludes on "Super Saturday" with three back-to-back matches. We'll be screening all three! First kick-off 2.15pm.

SCIENCE ON THE HILL

Your chance to come and find out more about the exciting research happening at the School of Life Sciences and Warwick Medical School on Gibbet Hill.

'Science on the Hill' is a new exciting programme of public engagement events hosted by the School of Life Sciences and Warwick Medical School.

These interactive two hour events are your window into the new research taking place at Gibbet Hill that will help not only the local community but also people nationally and internationally.

Science on the Hill events are free to attend, taking place between 6-8pm on Tuesday evenings in the School of Life Sciences atrium.

Next event: Antimicrobial Resistance - 10 December 2019.
Register online at warwick.ac.uk/scienceonthehill

KEY DATES

Market Days at the Piazza (11am-3pm)

27 November
(this date includes chocolate and gifts fair) 29 January, 12 & 26 February, 11 March

Christmas Lectures (7pm)

26 November,
3 December

Spring term 2019/20

6 January - 14 March

Family Day (11am-3pm)

1 December

Winter Degree Ceremonies

21 - 24 January

Autumn term 2019/20

30 September - 12 December

Summer term 2019/20

20 April - 27 June

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 warwick.ac.uk/community.

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