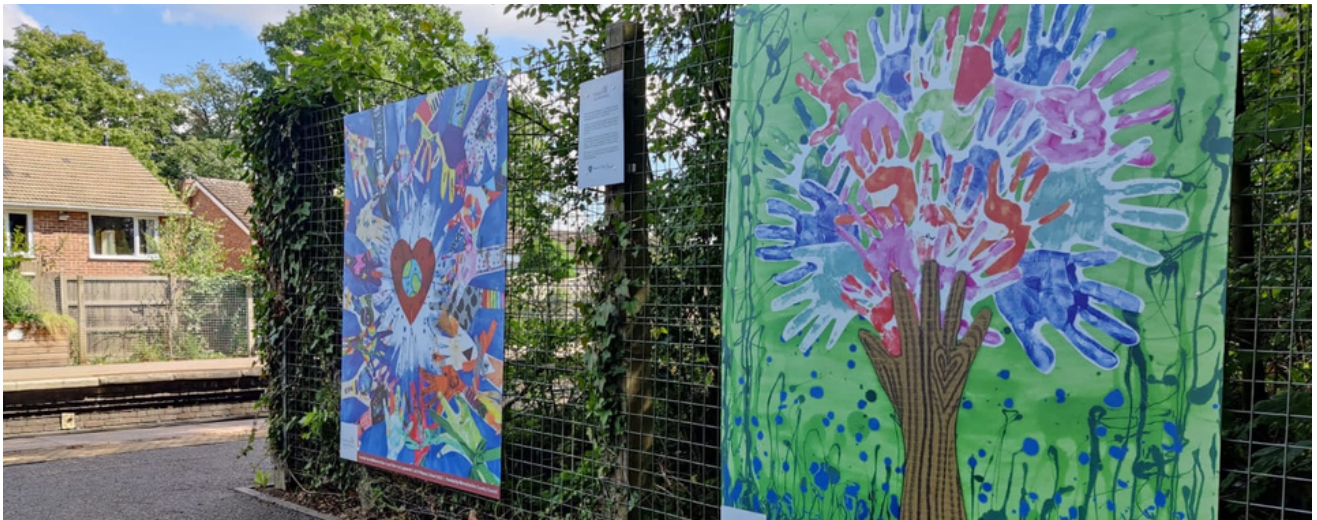


August 2023

# Stakeholder Newsletter



**"THE GREATNESS OF A COMMUNITY IS MOST ACCURATELY MEASURED BY THE COMPASSIONATE ACTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS."**

— CORETTA SCOTT KING

September is going to be a busy month for the Heart of England CRP with a clear focus on empowering local communities. Our Coventry Station Community Day is an opportunity to highlight some of the amazing local community organisations. Meanwhile in Rugby, we'll be inviting locals to shape the development of the Rugby Colour Palette. We will continue our work with newly arrived communities in Solihull and Coventry with our Railway Explorations initiative as well as developing creative and innovative projects that use the railways as a means to connect people and ideas.

We hope that many of you will be able to join us at our Stakeholder Event on the 15th September where we look forward to developing our plans of how to further support the communities we serve. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you there  
[Malcolm Holmes, Chair of Heart of England CRP](#)

## NEWS & STORIES FOR THIS ISSUE:

- [Coventry Station Community Day](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Partner updates](#)
- [Partner Events](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)



Spot the peacock at Solihull Station!

# Coventry Station Community Day

Join us on Saturday 9th September 10am - 2pm

Come and join in the fun at the Coventry Station Community Day hosted by the Heart of England CRP. There will be plenty of activities for all ages going on throughout the day, so make sure to bring the whole family. Read on to learn more about the wonderful community groups from around Coventry that will be there on the day:

## THE CURIOUS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

CBGB will be joining us for our Community Day to capture the thoughts and feelings from men of colour in relation to mental health.



Creative Kindness will be offering various free craft activities for families, including rock painting, origami, card making and emoji bookmarks.



Urban Goodies CIC will be holding a food drive on our Community Day and they'll be asking people to clear out their cupboards and bring their tins and other food items to them.

CUE are currently working on how to get more green spaces in and around the Coventry railway station and bus interchange. At the community day, they will be asking people what kind of green spaces they would like to see!

See next page for their list of what's needed



Coventry Men's Shed will be hosting a workshop where you will be able to create and decorate your own railway station signs.

[Click here for more info](#)

More to see on the day...



**Herbert**  
Art Gallery & Museum

**COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM**  
Driving curiosity



**HIGHLYSPRUNG**  
THEATRE THAT MOVES

If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [heartcrp@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:heartcrp@warwickshire.gov.uk)



# Urban Goodies CIC Food Drive

## Shopping List for Food Drive

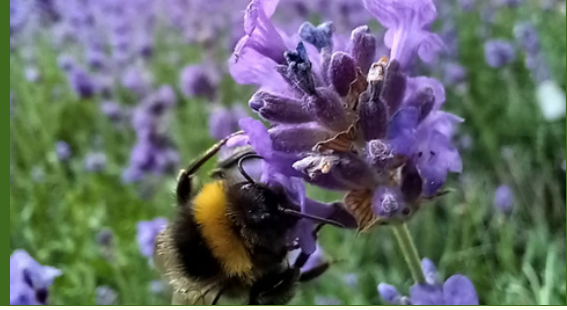
Please have a clear out of your cupboards for our community fridges & ready meals projects and bring down to Coventry Station on Saturday 9th September

### We are in need of the following:

- Basmati rice
- Pasta
- Chopped tomatoes
- Chickpeas
- Baked beans
- Tuna
- Toiletry products (male and female)
- Cereal
- Biscuits
- Gluten free versions of above
- Household cleaning products
- Feminine products
- Crisps and snacks
- Tomato sauce
- Canned fruit

Thank you so much  
for your kind donations

## Upcoming Events



September is a busy month for the CRP with a variety of events that we are attending and organising, so do come along and say hello at any of the following:

### Eco Fest - 2nd September

Warwick District Council are celebrating everything eco with their Eco Fest on Saturday 2nd September in Leamington's Pump Room Gardens. Running from 10:00 - 17:00, there'll be a host of activities and information stands, including us, to help you learn how to be more environmentally conscious. Internationally renowned dance-circus company Motionhouse will be performing 2 showings of WILD.

[Find out more here](#)



heritage open days

### Heritage Open Days - 9th September

As part of the Coventry Heritage Open Days, we'll be hosting two heritage workshops at our Coventry Station Community Day on the 9th September. At our stand, we'll be engaging the public with the history of the parcel depot built in the 1960s, which was used to carry large amounts of post between Coventry and London. Whilst delving into a little-known piece of Coventry Station's past, participants will also be invited to look to the present and future, imagining their next rail travel destination or recent trip using postcards. Participants will be able to design their own postcard using pens and watercolour pencils, remembering a recent trip or drawing somewhere they would love to go.

The Herbert will also be holding a special Reminiscence Memory Box Session as part of the event!

### Stakeholder Event - 15th September

Our annual stakeholder event will be taking place at Northgate House, Warwick on the 15th September. Join us from 13:00 - 14:30 to find out more about the work of the Heart of England CRP in Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull, meet some of our funding and project partners and share your thoughts on the work of the CRP and how we can continue to ensure that the CRP is supporting the communities it serves. This event is open to all so please do share!

[Register for our Stakeholder Event](#)

### Local History Heritage Day - 16th September

Another Heritage Open Day event, this time with the Leamington History Society who will be hosting their Local History Heritage Day from 10:30 - 15:30. There will be a range of local history exhibitions from partners and societies - and all in the splendid All Saints Parish Church, Leamington Spa.

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## Projects



### Rail Trails Films

We now have a promotional film for our Rail Trails. In July, we joined [BA Events](#) and [Danielle Wilson](#) out on the trails to film not only our main video, but also two shorter social media videos. We'll be using these films to promote our Rail Trails and to encourage people to stay active and get outdoors over the winter months.



Rail Trails Promotional Video 2023

### Name the Line

After over 200 suggestions, 3 shortlisted names and 1100 votes, the public have voted for the Nuneaton - Leamington Line to be named the Elephant & Bear Line. The name refers to the symbols of Coventry and Warwickshire. This is the only railway line that only serves the two areas and the elephant and bear have cultural and historical significance along the line. With the new name, the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership will now work with Local Authority and Train Operating Company partners and more to promote the line and capture the imagination of those who travel on it.

### New adopters at Coventry Station

We'd like to welcome citizens from the Life Path Trust into the wonderful world of station volunteering. From September, the Life Path Trust will regularly be at the station looking after the planters and learning more about the railway industry. We can't wait to see what they do!



### Railway Explorations

Chiltern Railways have awarded us funding through their Community Investment Fund to deliver our Railway Explorations project. Working with newly arrived communities in Solihull and Coventry, this project aims to provide rail confidence building sessions and days out by rail to showcase the many opportunities that are accessible by train.

### Rugby Colour Palette

Avanti West Coast have awarded us funding to develop a Rugby Colour Palette. Based on the success of the Leamington and Warwick Colour Palette schemes, we'll be working with artist Stacey Barnfield, Ruby Road Productions and local authority partners to create a Rugby Colour palette based on suggestions from the local community.

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# Upcoming Partner Events



## **Community Rail Network:**

### **Community Rail Awards – Drop-in Support Sessions.**

**Date: Weekly, from 18 September - 9 October**

Drop in to one of our weekly online support sessions on Zoom and consult with our team on all aspects of submitting an entry to the Awards. Whether you need some advice whilst preparing your entry, or you need more practical help, do make the most of these valuable one-to-one support sessions. [Click here to download the full schedule.](#)

### **Community engagement workshop (In-person)**

**Date: 17 Oct, 2023**

**Location: The Circle, Sheffield**

This participative workshop will explore why and how community rail organisations engage with their local communities. We'll look at community engagement models and theories and share our thoughts and ideas about how they could be used in our local settings. There will be plenty of opportunity to hear from each other and share your own learning and experiences.

This workshop is for Community Rail Network members only. It is aimed at Community Rail Officers but station adopters and others from CRPs or Community Stations are welcome to attend.

The workshop runs from 10.30am to 3.15pm. Register [here](#).

## **AGM**

**Date: 7 Nov, 2023**

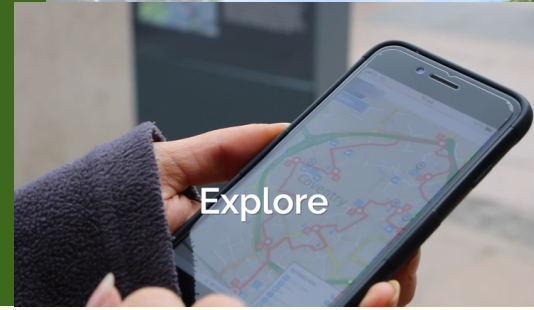
**Location: Online**

Further information coming soon.

Find out more details and register for all CRN event [here](#).

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# Funding Opportunities



## **CRP Small Grants Fund**

Over the past year we have had a dedicated Small Grants Fund for station adopters to apply for. Each station adopter group in the CRP area can apply for up to £175 a year to spend on things like bulbs, tools, CRN membership etc. Up until now there have been 4 application windows for when groups can apply, however we are now changing this so that adoption groups can apply at any time of the year. The £175 will reset at the start of every financial year (April 1st). For more information about the grant, please email us.

## **Community Rail Network**

If you are a member of CRN, then you can apply for grants of up to £1000. Membership for a year is £25 +VAT and you can find out more details [here](#)

## **Alpkit Foundation**

The Alpkit Foundation makes small awards to people, groups and schools that work to remove the barriers in getting outdoors and experience wild places. They support grass-roots direct action projects that tackle issues such as diversity & inclusion in the outdoors, participation, education, conservation and protection of our natural environment and health & well-being. Visit their [website](#) for more details.

## **Lottery Community Funding**

The National Lottery has various grants that may be suitable for community rail projects. Find out more on their [website](#).

## **Warwick District Council - [Arts Project Grant](#)**

Creative projects are becoming far more common on the railways and Warwick District Council currently have an Arts Project Grant open for bids between £500 - £2,000. Well worth looking into for groups wanting to incorporate art into their stations in the district.

## **Warwickshire County Council - [Social Fabric Fund](#)**

WCC have launched their [Social Fabric Fund](#) to invest in social infrastructure" to develop and strengthen Warwickshire's most deprived communities and, in so doing so, improve residents' life chances and reduce inequalities.

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