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- Black Horse Super
 Ladies Scale the Heights
 for Charity

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Kerry Finnigan

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Classical Lunchtime Concert at Hinckley Church

Hinckley music lovers can enjoy a lunchtime concert at 's St Mary's Church by two young professional musicians from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire this week.

Cellist Gen Li and accompanist Yin Yu at the piano will present a concert of light classical music in the beautiful setting of Hinckley's medieval Parish Church.

Gen Li was born in China and is currently working for his Master of Music at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

Prior to this, he earned his BMus with First Class Honours having studied with renowned cellists Julian and Jiaxin Lloyd Webber.

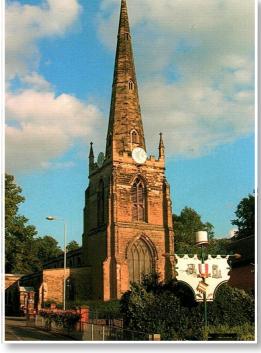
Throughout his time in the UK, Gen has been the recipient of several prestigious awards.

He is privileged to play on a Pierre Silvestre cello, built in Lyon in 1848, kindly loaned by Mr. Geoff Denyer, chairman of the British Violin Making Association.

Pianist Yin Yu was also born in China, beginning her musical journey at the Shenyang Conservatoire of Music.

In 2022, Yin graduated with a First Class Honours BMus degree from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and then in 2024 she completed her Masters (MMus) in Piano Performance with a distinction.

She has won a number of prestigious awards



and during her Masters study, was selected as a finalist for the BPO Concerto Prize, performing Prokofiev's 3rd Piano Concerto alongside the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra.

Their concert for SMARTS (St. Mary's Arts) is on Wednesday, June 4, at St. Mary's Church, Hinckley starting at 1pm until about 1.45pm.





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Hollycroft Park Alive with the Sound of Music

Hinckley's Hollycroft Park celebrated its 90th birthday on Sunday, 18 May with a live concert performance by Junction 21.

A big crowd gathered in the park to enjoy the music and the sunshine and there will be even more of the same when Proms in the Park returns on Saturday, 7 June.

The evening concert will feature a full

orchestra. Gates open at 5pm with the concert to begin at 6pm and finish 8.30pm.

People are welcome to bring their own picnic and drinks, but organisers encourage any alcohol to be drank responsibly.



The event is free to attend, and no booking is necessary, however, capacity is limited in the auditorium area and will be on a first come, first served basis.

Well-behaved dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead, and please pick up after your dog. Please queue to enter the auditorium from the



gate entrance on Hollycroft just before Westray Drive. Entry into the auditorium area is not possible from other points.

The park car park will only be available for Blue Badge holders and a member of staff will be positioned on the gate, spaces are limited.

Union flags will be handed out at the event which are made from sustainable forestry. Flags can be taken home and are 100% recyclable or biodegradable.

Friends of Hollycroft Park politely ask you to take any litter away with you or dispose of in an appropriate bin. There will be portable toilets and handwashing facilities on site and the toilets at the pavilion will be open for the evening too.

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Local MP welcomes £10m healthcare investment and urges Council not to jeopardise improvement to local services

Dr Luke Evans,
Member of Parliament
for Hinckley and
Bosworth, has
welcomed £10m funding
for a Day Case Unit at
Hinckley Hospital and
called for the Liberal
Democrat group at
Hinckley and Bosworth
Borough Council to



support local healthcare improvements, and "not jeopardise this huge investment."

Comments by the GP-turned-MP come after the Leader of the Borough Council, Liberal Democrat Councillor Stuart Bray, asked the NHS to 'reconsider Mount Road hospital plans.'

Dr Evans is urging the Council Leader not to delay the application and risk the Labour Government withdrawing this hard-won funding. The old Cottage Hospital on Mount Road is currently lying derelict and not fit for purpose.

Speciality services that are expected to be delivered at the new Day Case Unit include Breast Care, General Surgery, Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedic Surgery, Pain Management, Plastic Surgery, Podiatric Surgery, Renal Access Surgery, Urology and Vascular Surgery.

This follows a £24.6m investment for a Community Diagnostic Centre, also on Mount Road. The testing unit, which will bring capacity for thousands of MRI and CT scans, X-Rays, ultrasounds and blood tests to Hinckley, is due to open in June.

The two projects bring the total investment into Hinckley's healthcare infrastructure to over £35 million since 2019.

Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, said "Our whole community is so excited to see the new Diagnostic Centre being built, and this next stage of investment will make a huge difference.

"One of the issues people raise with me most frequently is healthcare, access to services and

how we can improve local provision, which is why I have been working with the NHS to secure investment of more than £35 million for healthcare in Hinckley.

"The old Cottage Hospital invigorated local healthcare when it opened in 1900 and has been part of our community ever since. Sadly, as I saw at the end of last year when the NHS showed me around, it's no longer fit for purpose. Rooms are partly demolished, you can see the wiring in the walls, and the reliance on an old system of using oxygen cannisters in operating theatres is no longer safe for patients or clinicians.

"The plans double the site's capacity from 1,000 patients per year to 2,000 and promise to speed up waiting times, building on the legacy of the Cottage Hospital from when it opened 125 years ago. Now it is over to the NHS and Borough Council to come together. The Lib Dem Leader and his Party must not squander the opportunity that this funding brings."

The NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (ICB) says "We have explored options to integrate the existing building into the scheme, but we have concluded that it is not viable. The layout of the existing hospital was not suitable for the services that previously existed within it, and it would not be suitable for Day Case Surgery services.

"We've therefore concluded that the best option is to replace it with a new building that can be developed to modern standards to treat double the number of Day Case Surgery patients than were treated in the existing hospital in an efficient, accessible, patient friendly and energy efficient environment that will meet modern healthcare requirements, including current standards for air flow, ventilation and infection control."

The planning application was submitted in May 2025. If permission is granted, the NHS foresees that work will start on site this year (2025), and anticipates completion of the Day Case Unit will be next year (2026).



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Dementia Clinics Held in Hinckley

Dementia specialist Admiral Nurses have been hosting clinics at Nationwide's Hinckley branch, offering tailored support and guidance to anyone affected by the condition.

Nationwide and Dementia UK's free face-to-face clinics returned to Hinckley offering specialist support in a safe, comfortable and

private space for people to discuss any aspect of dementia

The clinics were open to anyone impacted by dementia, offering life-changing support to families and individuals in the area.

The clinics took place over three days in May offering advice on everything from worries about memory problems, understanding a diagnosis and how the condition can progress to help with financial and legal issues.

Dementia UK, the specialist dementia nursing charity, has shared tips on how to discuss dementia with a loved one and encourage them to visit their GP if they are showing signs or symptoms of the condition.

Someone develops dementia every three minutes in the UK, and it is often a challenge to obtain an accurate diagnosis of dementia.

Act – if the person suddenly becomes upset or frustrated with themselves, this can be a good opportunity to have a conversation with them about their symptoms and if they'd like support with seeking help

Explain – signs and symptoms of dementia are often shared with other conditions. Explaining this and encouraging the person to seek advice



from their GP can be less daunting than suggesting they seek a diagnosis of dementia. You can also explain that a prompt diagnosis will help them seek the right support sooner

Support – seeking support can be tough, and people will appreciate help in arranging the appointment and attending it. You can also help them to keep a symptom diary which will support a healthcare professional to make an accurate and timely diagnosis

Ruby Guild, Admiral Nurse at Dementia UK, said: "The Fairer Futures partnership is helping us bring face-to-face support to people in a familiar location."





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Fond Farwell to Vardy

Ours is a football loving area - and many of those supporters wear the blue of Leicester City FC.

The end of the season may have been hugely disappointing with the side being relegated but the last home game on Sunday 18 May was a day of celebration.

It was a celebration of the last game of the club's greatest ever

player Jamie Vardy – and he marked it with his 200th goal, helping the team to a 2-0 win against Ipswich Town.

At full time, fans were asked to stay in the stadium to say goodbye to Vardy.

Surrounded by teammates past and present, his family and accompanied by Chairman Khun Top, Vardy emerged at full-time for a Guard of

He was presented with an array of gifts, and, as one last surprise, Leicester City's 24/25 Player of the Season award.

Speaking to the crowd, Jamie Vardy said: "Thank you. For taking myself and family in as one of your own. Hopefully I've repaid you for that."

In the crowd was die-hard Leicester City fan



Sam Russell, from Hinckley. He said: "Vardy's last game at the the King Power was a great send off. The whole day felt more like a celebration of his Leicester career rather than a farewell. And there was never a doubt in anyone's mind that he'd get his 200th goal for the club. He's always thrived off those big moment occasions.

"There's not many big characters like Vardy left in modern day football. In fact they're a bit of a dying breed.

"A true legend on and off the pitch that will be in the hearts of all Leicester City fans forever.

"I'm sure I speak for all LCFC fans when I say I wish him the best for the rest of his career wherever that may be (as long as it's not Forest).

"Jamie Vardy, Leicester City's GOAT."

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New Bus Service Between Hinckley and Fosse Park



A new bus service has been announced linking Hinckley with Fosse Park.

The service is one of four serving Fosse Park, the city and Leicestershire towns announced by operator Arriva to be launched this summer.

The other services will connect Coalville to Leicester, Ashby to Loughborough, and Witherley to Measham.

Arriva said the services would launch over the next two months, and would run in addition to the existing journeys offered by the company.

The operator said it had worked "closely" with Leicestershire County Council to "shape services that truly meet the needs of local people".

Each of the new services is "fully accessible", Arriva said, and customers can purchase single and return fares or use any valid Arriva ticket or app product "within the relevant boundary areas".

Jonathan Wills, network manager at Arriva Midlands, said: "These new routes are about better connecting communities – whether you're commuting, shopping or meeting friends, there's a bus for that.

"We've worked closely with Leicestershire County Council to make sure people have more reliable and regular options so they can get where they need to go.

"We really hope these routes will make it easier for people to choose the bus over the car. It's a small improvement that can make a big difference to our roads and our environment."

Details of the new Hinckley to Fosse Park service are:

LC14: Hinckley – Sapcote – Stoney Stanton – Fosse Park

Running several journeys each weekday and Saturday, the buses will stop at Aston Flamville, Sharnford, Broughton Astley, Cosby, Littlethorpe, Narborough and Enderby Park and Ride. It starts on Monday, June 2.





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Water Safety Advice

With the summer months now upon us there are likely to be more cases of people getting into trouble swimming in open water.

Although open water swimming is becoming an increasingly popular pastime, it is important only to do it at officially recognised sites and in organised and supervised groups, as reported in a recent Local Rock article.

Around 320 people drown in the UK every year and thousands more suffer injury, some life changing, through near-drowning experiences.

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service has issued the following advice.

To stay safe around water, always remember:

- Don't go into the water if someone else is in trouble - call 999 and ask for the Fire Service if inland or if at the coast ask for the Coast Guard.
- · Never drink alcohol and then go for a swim or attempt to jump into water.
- Avoid walking/running near water on your own or late at night – it's easier than you think to slip and fall in.

Float To Live

- · Take a minute. The initial effects of cold water pass in less than a minute - don't try to swim straight away.
- · Relax and float on your back to catch your breath.
- Try to get hold of something that will help you
- Keep calm, then call for help or swim to safety if you are able.
- · How to Float: would you know what to do if you were in trouble in the water?

What Do I Do If I See Someone In The Water?

- Dial 999 and ask for the Fire Service
- If you don't have a mobile phone, shout to raise the alarm, or go and get help.
- Try to give an exact location of where you are. Look around for any landmarks or



signs; for example bridges will often have numbers on them which can identify their position. Use What3Words to give an accurate position.

- If a person is in trouble, keep talking to them, encourage them to stay calm and float on their back.
- Keep your eyes on the spot where you last saw them so you can tell the emergency services when they arrive.
- If there is life saving equipment such as a lifebuoy or a throwline nearby throw it to them. If not, throw anything that will float.

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HINCKLEY'S SUMMER OF FUN FOR ALL AGES



The return of the Summer of Fun has been announced by Hinckley BID - a series of free events designed to entertain and engage the community.

Kicking off on 23 July families and children of all ages are invited to join in the festivities throughout Hinckley town centre.

23 JULY: SEASIDE FUN AT MARKETPLACE

Enjoy Punch & Judy shows at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm and eco-friendly make and take crafts.

30 JULY: EMERGENCY SERVICES DAY

Visit The Crescent for an interactive experience with local emergency services, showcasing their vital work in our community.

13 AUGUST: BIKE SPECTACULAR

Head to Argents Mead for a bike-themed extravaganza featuring BMX stunt shows by BMXtras, with performances at 11am, 12pm, 1pm and 2pm. Lots of cycling themed entertainment will be



on offer including bike maintenance workshops with Northside Bikes, bike tagging and security advice from Hinckley Police, and balance bikes for the younger children, plus lots of tips on active leisure thanks to Active Hinckley.

20 AUGUST: ALLSTARS SHOW

Show off your talent at our Allstars Show in

Argents Mead!
Organisers invite
local performers
to join them for
an entertaining
showcase of skills.
Local performing
arts schools will
showcase their
talent through
music, song and



dance for all to enjoy. Plus, there'll be plenty of have-a-go tasters for children in the audience to join in the fun and try something new.

All events are free and open to the public, running from 11am to 3pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to come together, have fun, and celebrate the vibrant community of Hinckley.

For more details about these free events and additional information, please visit hinckleybid. co.uk

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Black Horse Super Ladies Scale the Heights for

Charity

The aim was for a pub landlady, her bar manager daughter and a team of intrepid ladies and Ethan from the Black Horse pub to scale the heights of Mount Snowdon and raise a £1,000 for Diabetes UK.

And that has been more than achieved! The summit was reached and, at the time of writing, the figure raised stood at £1.560!

Tina, Pam, Deana, Olivia,

Dawn, Roz and Ethan made up the team, They Ranged in ages from the 20s through to the 70s – and none of them are pretending it was easy!

Landlady Tina, who yodelled all the way up the mountain to keep spirits up,said: "Thank you to my amazing team for doing this challenge, I couldn't think of a better group to do it with.

"I didn't know I could yodel so well but it encouraged us all to get to the top.

"I am super, super proud and and blown away by the money we've raised".

Now the team of ladies have got the fundraising bug and plans and discussions are already afoot for more adventures.



And there is even talk that these plans could include a skydive this summer!





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Hinckley Central - 10,200 copies, Nuneaton - 8,500 copies, and South Leicester 8,600 copies

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Leonardo Hotel and Conference Venue Hinckley Island

OINER PARTY DATES

- Friday 28th November
- Friday 5th December
- Saturday 6th December
- Friday 12th December
- Saturday 29th November
 Saturday 13th December
 - Friday 19th December
 - Saturday 20th December

PRIVATE PARTY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

JOINER PARTY PACKAGE INCLUDES

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* To include half a bottle of wine per person All group on same package – min. 10 persons

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CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & BOOKINGS *

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