

# Observer

The Rugby



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The Directors & Staff of Observer Standard Newspapers Ltd.  
Would like to wish all of our customers, suppliers & readers a very  
**Merry Christmas!**



## Festive fayre

A LITTLE bit of festive cheer has been sent out to elderly people in Rugby by town estate agent Newman's and the Co-op.

The two have teamed up to send 230 food parcels to put a smile on the face of pensioners by giving them some much needed provisions on Christmas Day - as well as a few extra goodies.

Newman's bought the £10 food parcels from the Co-op and they will now be delivered to vulnerable pensioners by Social Services' community support team based at Oakfield Park on Bilton Road.

A spokeswoman for the Regent Street-based estate agent said the food parcels were part of the company's annual efforts to give some Christmas cheer to those less fortunate.



Craig Walford of Newman's, Carol Linster from the Home Care Unit and the Co-op's Lokesh Patel with the food hampers. 50.05.109.MW

## Second arrest made

THE BROTHER of a man charged with the murder of Withybrook farmer Mick Boffey has also been arrested, police have revealed.

Frederick Squires, 24, of no fixed abode, was arrested in Rugby on Monday December 12 as part of the murder inquiry and appeared before Rugby magistrates two days later charged with conspiracy to steal motor vehicles and assisting an offender.

Squires' brother Ashley, of Leicester, was arrested

in September and appeared before Birmingham Crown Court on Friday, December 16, when he pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder.

Sixty-one year-old Mr Boffey was killed trying to stop thieves stealing his Land Rover Defender from Grange Farm on Featherbed Lane on August 20 this year.

The brothers will reappear at crown court for a trial date to be fixed on January 3, 2006.

# Relief road set for start in 2007



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WORK on the congestion-busting Rugby Western Relief Road could finally start in 2007, it was announced yesterday (Wednesday).

Government transport secretary Alistair Darling has now approved plans for the £26million road, which is designed to take traffic away from Bilton, Cawston and the town centre. It has been on the drawing board for over two decades.

In February last year Mr Darling expressed concern over the route of the southern section of the three-and-a-half mile road because it went across greenbelt land.

He wanted county road chiefs to reconsider building on the disused Rugby to Leamington railway line - an option they had previously ruled out to retain the railway for possible future use.

But, after a second public inquiry held earlier this year, Mr Darling has now said he too is satisfied the greenbelt route is the best

### Report by Chris Smith

option, paving the way for the final details of the road project to be formalised and construction teams to move in.

The Secretary of State's decision also means fears the southern section could be re-routed down Cawston Grange Drive have now been dispelled.

The relief road will run from the A426 Avon Mill roundabout to Lawford Road and then across agricultural land to a new roundabout near the railway bridge over the A4071 in Cawston.

Rugby MP Jeremy Wright, who lives in Cawston, welcomed the announcement and said he hoped work to build the new road would now start as soon as possible.

"Now we have government approval we can get on with it.

"The relief road is sorely needed as there is too much heavy commercial traffic going through the town,

clogging up the roads," he told the paper.

"It was inappropriate that it should go along Cawston Grange Drive and I and others have campaigned hard so that did not happen.

"Everyone has their argument over the route, but this road is

long overdue and I'm just glad now it is finally going to happen. It needs to be done as soon as possible."

A spokesman for Warwickshire County Council, which is responsible for building the road, said there were still some fine details to iron out and land to buy up, and said it was unlikely work

would start in 2006.

It is hoped work will start in early 2007, with the road opening around six months later.

What do YOU think? Write to the Observer and join the debate. Contact details are on page two and we're waiting to share your views with other readers.

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