

Maria Petrou writes:

On March 14th Miss Coventry 2015 took place at Bedworth Social Club. I was blessed enough to win Miss Coventry 2015 (sponsored by The Establishment) securing me a place into the Miss England finals 2015.

As well as winning Miss Coventry 2015 I won 4 other titles being:

- Miss Charity queen raising £960 for 'Beauty With A Purpose' - which helps disadvantage children around the world.
- Miss Popularity Cov/Warwickshire 2015
- Miss Photogenic Cov/Warwickshire 2015
- Miss Publicity Cov/Warwickshire 2015

I worked hard alongside the community of Coventry through bag packing between university at Sainsbury's to raise money and through cupcake selling and charity events in nightclubs such as Kasbah nightclub selling glow sticks/bracelets/headbands as well as baking over 100 chocolate and vanilla cupcakes in aid to raise money for charity.

I haven't stopped my charitable work and being Miss Coventry has given me opportunities to help the public to be aware of the situations that lead the society to be hit with people that are suffering whether that's through poverty, homelessness or a disability etc. I will be looking to work with the local council to make our streets better as well as holding events to raise money for different charities.

- I attended the Pride of Coventry awards which took place at the Coventry Cathedral on March 20th 2015. Hosted by Fiona Philips the event celebrated the courage, caring and compassion of remarkable people who make a difference within Coventry.
- I set up a charitable day in which I organised a dinner for the other girls that I competed with at the Miss Coventry finals in which I asked the girls to wear yellow to support Seth Lane who is a 5 year old boy who suffers from a debilitating immune system. He suffers from a severe combined immunodeficiency in which he has to spend most of his time within a sterile environment.
- 10 hour Charity Collection for Queen Elizabeth Hospital Fisher House at Coventry Train Station 28-29/03/15 was wonderful. It was great to help this charity again that provides a home for injured soldiers and their families whilst they are recovering.
In total we made: £235.50
- I am now arranging another meal to raise money for the Kidney research foundation as part of the Miss England Crown Charity Challenge set up by the reigning Miss England 2014 Carina Tyrell. I will be asking people to attend wearing purple and to donate to raise awareness for this charity.
- I am currently raising money for the finals of Miss England 2015 for 'Beauty With A Purpose' (dates to be confirmed).

MISS WEST MIDLANDS 2014 - WHAT I DID FOR CHARITY LAST YEAR

- Raised £8160.00 at the finals of Miss England 2014 and was placed 23rd in the finals out of the top 60 girls.
- I attend the old Hill Festival in Dudley to open the festival and to help the local stalls to raise more money for the Variety Charity.
- I volunteered to help out at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Charity in the Birmingham to Bastion Challenge cycling myself 51 miles for the injured troops with 7,160 mile endurance challenge being calculated all together to help raise the grand total of £4,865 to help buy physiotherapy equipment and a place for family members to stay.
- I had raised £630 for the Acorns Children's Hospice in Selly Oak, Birmingham who provide care and support for local children and young people who have life limiting or life threatening conditions.
-

I am hoping that the local community of Stirchley, Selly Park and Moseley will help me in the chances of becoming Miss England 2015. I am hoping that donations will continue for 'Beauty With A Purpose' and that people realise the potential in which will help me to build a better community one that recognises charitable work.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and to all of you who have already supported my charitable work.

Maria.



Maria (centre) and colleagues fund raising at QEHB



Maria crowned Miss Coventry 2015

