

Charity recognition for battle on blood cancer

by **Tristan Harris**
tristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

THE OWNERS of the Bodenham Arboretum near Kidderminster have been recognised by Blood Cancer UK after supporting the cause continuously for 20 years.

James and Wendy Binnian say they have seen what progress in blood cancer means and their commitment to research is a deeply personal one.

For local visitors and tourists, the arboretum is a tranquil, 170-acre woodland, including lakes and rare trees.

But, many may not know that when Wendy was just 16 and her brother Andy was 15, they lost their mother to an aggressive form of blood cancer - acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) - in the 1970s.

This was at a time when treatment options were limited and research was still in its infancy.

Years later, in 1988, James's younger brother Ryland was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML).

James donated his own bone marrow in an attempt to save his brother's life. Sadly, his brother died in 1989.

Thanks to advances in research, treatments have come a long way and survival rates are improving. But blood cancer is still the UK's third biggest cancer killer.

And since the early 1990s, following the loss of James's brother, the Binnian family has raised more than £20,000 for Blood Cancer UK.

Their efforts include several memorable 'band in the barn' fundraisers, regular coffee mornings



Ben Binnian, Wendy Binnian, Rachel Mann Bradbury from Blood Cancer UK, James Binnian and Sam Binnian.

and a popular ongoing second-hand book sale at the Arboretum, which have brought communities together in support of life-saving research.

Wendy said: "We've lost people we loved - and that will always stay with us."

"But we've also seen what progress in blood cancer research means."

"It's research that's given people time and hopefully a cure."

"That's why we do what we do - so that one day, no one will have to go through what we did."

Rachel Mann Bradbury, from Blood Cancer UK, said: "We

are deeply moved by James and Wendy's enduring commitment to our cause."

"Both Wendy and James know what blood cancer takes and their tireless fundraising efforts have made a significant impact in advancing research and supporting those affected by blood cancer."

Town man charged following home blaze

A MAN has been charged with arson following a house fire in Kidderminster on Sunday.

Daniel Jagoda, 37, of Connaught Avenue, Kidderminster is set to appear at Worcester Crown Court on September 15.

The charge is in relation to the blaze on Connaught Avenue.

Four fire crews - two from Wyre Forest and one each from Bromsgrove and Droitwich - used water jets to extinguish the fire but the bungalow was completely destroyed in the incident.

Neighbouring properties were checked for fire spread and floor damage.

West Midlands Ambulance Service attended and one person was treated by paramedics for the effects of smoke inhalation before they were discharged at the scene.

Cadent and National Grid isolated the utilities and water was also isolated at street level.

Thermal imaging cameras were used by firefighters to check for hot spots to ensure the blaze did not reignite.

ALARM AND FIRE PROTECTION EXPERTS COVERING THE WEST MIDLANDS



Faithful Alarms



**Intruder Alarms | CCTV | Security Lighting | Fire Alarms
Access Control | Automatic Gates | Maintenance & Repairs**

Get in touch for a **FREE** security survey

01905 616784

faithfulalarms@gmail.com

www.faithfulalarms.co.uk

Faithful Alarms LLP, Unit 3C Shrub Hill Industrial Estate, Shrub Hill Road, Worcester WR4 9EL

Pete's Maypole Piece poem is brought to life in poignant film

A NEW poem and video have been launched as part of the campaign to save a much-loved piece of historic land in Wribbenhall, Bewdley.

Maypole Piece was put up for sale in June and, with fears it could be developed for housing, a campaign was launched in a bid to buy it for the community.

Worcestershire Literary Champion Pete Thompson approached the Friends of The Maypole group, which is campaigning to save the land, and offered to write a poem about the much-loved community space.

He then took the views of people that had been given to the Friends group and created 'We are the Land' from them.

It contains the words: 'Land is always worth a stand' and: 'Let us bring back the innocence and joy for all in a place that overlooks all we have'.

The poem also mentions the sports played on the land, going back to a time where people 'connected and talked' and the community and legacy it wants to leave.

He likened the battle to save Maypole Piece as the group's 'Waterloo', adding 'the troops are ready'.

Creative director and CEO of GOSH TV, Paul Barnett, put in hours of work and helped bring Pete's wonderful words to life in the short video which uses the picturesque Maypole Piece as the backdrop. The video is

available to watch on YouTube.

The film is particularly poignant as one of the contributors has since passed away.

A spokesperson for the group said: "We jumped at the chance to have his creative input, but we never dreamed of what he would help us achieve."

"Pete's opening words: 'Community fills the souls of the kindest', embodies the epicentre of this campaign, the depth of feeling this community has for the Maypole and its beautiful connection with the past, the present and the future."

"We are thrilled to be able to share this video with you."

"Please watch it, comment on it and share the heck out of it."

"Let everyone see this extraordinary piece of land and discover why it's worth fighting for."

One person who attended told the Standard: "It was a pretty emotional evening."

"Members of the campaign attended and it was very well received by all."

"It seems to have connected with everyone and reinforced the strong sense of community that already exists."

Visit this story at kidderminsterstandard.co.uk to click through and watch the video.

Go to the 'Friends of Maypole Piece' Facebook page for more on the poem, the video and the campaign.

Denise Eaton and Alysha Bourne, trustees of The Friends of Maypole Piece, with Worcestershire Literary Champion Pete Thompson who wrote 'We are the Land'. Picture by Anne-Marie Harley. s



News in brief

ENFORCEMENT officers from Wyre Forest District Council have been out removing illegal flyposting.

Over two days, around 30 unauthorised signs were taken down from the public highway and street furniture.

Community protection warnings have been issued to the owners of the signs.

Flyposting is the display of advertising material on buildings, street furniture or other public property without permission.

It is illegal, unfair to legitimate advertis-

ers and can lead to serious penalties.

Those caught flyposting can face fines of up to £2,500 with additional daily fines for ongoing offences.

A Wyre Forest District Council spokesperson said: "Fixed Penalty Notices of £500 can also be issued and we can recover the costs of removal from those responsible."

They urged anyone aware of any flyposting hot spots to report them via the Wyre Forest District Council Facebook page.

A CAR was completely destroyed by fire around 8.16pm on Saturday night.

The incident happened on Stone Hill in Kidderminster.

When the emergency services arrived, the car was well alight on the road and the flames had spread to grass verges and hedges.

One crew from Wyre Forest Fire Station attended and put out the blaze using a

water jet.

The A448 was closed in both directions until the vehicle was recovered.

The driver had left the scene.

A West Mercia Police spokesperson confirmed officers were called to the incident on Saturday evening and assisted with traffic management.

"Nobody was injured and no arrests were made."

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

STOURPORT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

Members and Non-Members Welcome

SUNDAY CARVERY

ADULTS £11.50

CHILD £8.50

SMALL CHILD £6

UNDER 5'S EAT FREE

Bingo on Tuesday Evenings

Line Dancing

Weds and Thurs from 7pm

2 full size snooker tables

Rock and Roll on Sunday Evenings

Friday 22nd of August

Find the joker and Bottle Top Bingo

Friday 22nd August

BRENDON O'BRIEN

Saturday 30th August

JAKKI

LOW DRINKS PRICES

- Madri £4.50 pint • Guinness £4.10 pint • Carling £3.80 pint
- Fosters £3.89 pint

GUEST ALES

- Wye Valley HPA • Marston's Amber • Holdens Golden Glow and Thatcher's Gold ALL £3.80 PINT

Function room 120 covers available to hire

Bar Food available Tues-Fri 5pm-8pm, Sat 12 noon-2pm

01299 822205 or 07973753005

9 Lichfield Street, Stourport On Severn DY 13 9EU

PUBLIC NOTICES

For all the latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences, Licences To Sell Alcohol and Probate Notices check out our Classified Section

Pavilion demolished in £3m park revamp

THE SONS of Rest Pavilion in Brinton Park is being demolished, with plans for a new community space, complete with cafe and outside terrace being put forward as its replacement.

The move – the latest stage of revamping the popular park – comes after the historic pavilion was damaged beyond repair by badgers living in the park.

The new building will also be done sensitively to reflect the heritage of the original building which was constructed in 1938.

This is just one of many improvements being made by Wyre Forest District Council's programme taking place over the next 12 months.

The demolition began last week

by Jeanna Karcz

with the park badgers, which caused the damage, being rehomed to an artificial sett elsewhere in the park.

Contractor McPhillips (Wellington) Ltd will deliver the near-£3million improvement programme, made possible due to £2.4million's worth of funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Stuart Mackenzie, director of McPhillips Ltd, said: "We're excited to get started on this phase of works at Brinton Park, which will ultimately deliver a vibrant and modern space for the whole community."

"And while it is sad that original Sons of Rest Pavilion could not be saved, we're confident that Wyre

Forest District Council's vision will ensure that the park's heritage is preserved for years to come."

The Sons of Rest planning application is to be determined at the council's planning meeting this October.

Coun Tracey Onslow, Wyre Forest District Council's Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Arts and Community Safety, added: "Over the next 12 months, the park will see significant visual and practical improvements."

"The Sons of Rest project is now in progress, as is the digging out of the new ornamental pool which will be located where the original paddling pool was. Further work in the extensive improvement programme includes refurbishment of the existing toilet block, improvements to



Work is under way to demolish the Sons of Rest Pavilion in Kidderminster's Brinton Park. s

the footpaths and a new planting and landscaping scheme to add colour and refresh the flora and fauna of the park."

Visit brintonpark.com or visit [facebook.com/BrintonParkHF](https://www.facebook.com/BrintonParkHF) to see the park's gradual improvement.

Work on paddling pool set to start

STOURPORT Town Council has announced work has started at the popular Riverside Paddling Pool.

The first phase of the planned works to the underground pipework began last week.

Additional fencing will be placed around the site to keep everyone safe whilst the work takes place.



How the pool used to look. s

The council notified residents in April the pool would not be fixed in time

for this summer season.

This was due to complex repairs on the pool which required the attention of specialist contractors.

The plan now is to have the paddling pool re-open in time for the 2026 summer season but the council added, it was reliant on clearly dry weather in order to re-lay the pool's surface.

Hyundai car stolen from roadside

A BLACK Hyundai Getz was stolen from Kidderminster at some time between last Monday (August 11) and Monday (August 18).

The vehicle, which had the partial registration number: 'DY*6 VM', was accessed without keys as it was parked on the roadside in St John Street.

A SHED was broken into in Kidderminster in the early hours of last Friday during an attempted theft.

The raiders struck at the property in Yellowhammer Court, Spennells.

A crowbar was used in a bid to get in but the shed lock was reinforced.

Police are investigating the above incidents and are urging witnesses or anyone with information or video footage to call officers on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Alternatively, visit the police website at west.merica.police.uk and report it there.

MORETON IN MARSH SHOW
SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2025
The Countryside in a Day!

FREE Car Parking

LIVESTOCK FIRST PRIZE
CLASS _____
NAME _____
YEAR _____
Officially sponsored by TAG

www.moretonshow.co.uk

Saturday 6th September 2025

Fun for all the family:

Broke FMX, Attwell Farm Park, Premium Livestock Showing, Arena Eventing Competition, Welsh Axemen, Sheep Shearing Competitions, Vintage Tractor Display, Top Show Jumping, Oxford Sandy & Black Pig Display, Rural Crafts & Fabulous British Food!

PLUS lots of free activities for all to enjoy!

Showground Opening Hours 8.30 - 17.30

	01.03.2025 - 31.07.2025	01.08.2025 - 05.09.2025	Show Day
Adult	£27.50	£30.00	£35.00
Child (5-15)	£13.75	£15.00	£17.50
Family (2 adults & up to 3 children)	£68.75	£75.00	£87.50

Butler Sherborn
The Cotswold property specialists

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY SHOW TICKETS!

BUY TICKETS ONLINE:
www.moretonshow.co.uk
or call 01608 651908



Bill praised for work as a 'heritage hero'

A VOLUNTEER who is based at Kidderminster Police Station has been recognised for his work in protecting the area's heritage.

Bill Matthews attended the Heritage and Cultural Property Crime Awareness Workshop.

Bill is part of West Mercia's Heritage Watch which helps police officers to protect historical sites, monuments and artefacts across the three counties from heritage related crime.

Bill, who has volunteered with the force for more than two years, said the course taught him heritage was not just limited to churches and listed buildings but that it could also include signifi-

by **Tristan Harris**
tristan.harris
@bullivantmedia.com

cant sites of interest nowadays. He was presented with his certificate by Insp Liz Warner from the force's Problem-Solving Hub at Kidderminster.

Mark Harrison, head of heritage crime at Historic England, said he was delighted to recognise Bill's commitment and contribution.

"Bill's dedication to protecting our shared heritage is a shining example of how community volunteers can make a real difference."

"Heritage crime is a serious issue that threatens the places and objects that connect us to our past."

"Volunteers like Bill play a vital role in supporting police officers and heritage professionals to safeguard these irreplaceable assets."

"His work in north Worcestershire – visiting culturally and historically significant sites, engaging with local communities, and reporting concerns – demonstrates the proactive and collaborative spirit that Heritage Watch embodies."

"It's particularly encouraging to see Bill's understanding of heritage broaden through the workshop, recognising heritage includes not only traditional landmarks like churches and listed buildings, but also contemporary sites of cultural significance."

He added that awareness was crucial in ensuring the

approach to heritage protection remained inclusive and forward looking.

Mr Harrison commended West Mercia Police for their continued support of Heritage Watch and for promoting volunteer opportunities which empowered local people to take an active role in preserving the places that mattered most to them.

"Bill's achievement is a testament to the value of training, community engagement and partnership in tackling heritage crime," he added.

"Congratulations, Bill – and thank you for your service."

Anyone wanting to sign up to a heritage site they are part of should email Bill at william.matthews@westmercia.police.uk or call 07483 351442.



Bill Williams with his award and Insp Liz Warner from West Mercia's problem-solving team based at Kidderminster Police Station. s

Man sent to prison for possessing Taser

A BIRMINGHAM man found in possession of a conducted energy device – a Taser – in Stourport last Friday has been jailed for six months.

Tom Ryan, 23, of Bromford Road, Birmingham pleaded guilty at Kidderminster

Magistrates' Court on Monday. Police said Ryan was arrested overnight between Friday night and Saturday morning in Stourport.

In court, he was jailed and also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £154. The weapon was seized.

Det Insp Colin Berry, from north Worcestershire CID, said: "We are pleased to get this swift result and an immediate custodial sentence for Ryan."

"West Mercia Police will not tolerate weapons on our streets and will

always take action to bring those who are in possession of them to justice which was the case here."

"We would also like to reassure residents this was an isolated incident and did not pose any wider risk to the public."

Laptop taken from car

A LAPTOP and bank cards were stolen from cars while they were parked in Kidderminster.

The thieves targeted the vehicle in Lyndholm Road in the early hours of last Tuesday morning.

Police are investigating and have urged witnesses or any-

one with information to call PCSO Simon Gallagher on 07773 043075 or email him at greenhill.snt@westmercia.police.uk with what they know.

Drivers are also urged to remove all valuable items from their vehicles when leaving them unattended.



WILSON SECURITY SYSTEMS

KEEPING YOUR FAMILY HOME SAFE & SECURE

Wilson Security Systems is a family owned business based in Worcester.

Stay Secure This Spring & Summer!

Why Choose Us?

• **New Customers Welcome!**

Experience personalised service from our dedicated family team.

• **Existing Systems Serviced:**

We provide expert maintenance and upgrades for your current setup.

• **Spring & Summer Solutions:**

Keep your home protected while you are on holiday.



WSS Ltd are a SSAIB
Registered firm

Get in touch for **FREE** advice & a no obligation quote

01905 864182 - 24hrs

wilsonsecuritysystems.co.uk



INTRUDER ALARMS • CCTV • SECURITY LIGHTING
• INSTALLATIONS • SOLUTIONS • MAINTENANCE & SERVICING •



UNCOMPLICATED SECURITY FOR COMPLETE PEACE OF MIND



Patient Pauline releases a butterfly. As the butterflies take flight, they will offer a heartfelt tribute and symbol of remembrance.

Pictures by the KEMP Hospice.

Butterfly wings flap for KEMP

PEOPLE and families across Wyre Forest can celebrate the life of someone special and raise funds for KEMP Hospice by dedicating a butterfly in their memory.

The 2025 KEMP Butterfly Release will take place from 10.30am to 11.30am on September 13 in the beautiful grounds of Bodenham Arboretum.

Now in its fourth year, the peaceful and poignant event provides a great way to remember lost loved ones.

The release will feature a service of remembrance, including poetry and songs from the famous

by **Tristan Harris**
tristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

Kidderminster Male Choir, before participants are invited to collect their butterfly from the KEMP team.

As the warmth awakes the butterfly from its rest, it will take flight, symbolising a heartfelt tribute and symbol of remembrance.

By donating, people and families will ensure the hospice's services can continue and be there for anyone in the Wyre Forest community with a life-limiting illness when they need KEMP the most.

A spokesperson for the charity added: "Your gen-

erosity means we will continue to be by our patients, their family and loved ones for today and the future.

"At KEMP Hospice, we understand how deeply the loss of a loved one can be felt – not only in the moments following their passing, but in the ongoing journey of grief that follows.

"Every day, we help individuals and families across the Wyre Forest, providing care to those living with life-limiting illnesses and supporting those coping with bereavement through our specialist services."

Visit kempshospice.org.uk/butterfly-release for more and to donate and dedicate a butterfly.

MOT'S ONLY £39.99

Harriers MOT

& SERVICE CENTRE LTD
(next to football ground)

ALL MOT'S £39.99
FREE RE-TEST
FREE COLLECTION & DELIVERY FOR REPAIRS AND MOT'S

Diagnostics, Clutches, Brakes, Steering, Servicing
ALL MECHANICAL REPAIRS TO ANY VEHICLE AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
• **COMMERCIALS & CARS BOUGHT & SOLD**

Tel: 01562 823656 for MOT's
Tel: 01562 823738 for Repairs

Unit 2 Steve Morris Buildings, Stadium Close, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 1NJ

OFTEN IMITATED BUT NEVER EQUALLED

While all costs are going up - **OURS ARE STAYING DOWN**



Due to our customer friendly services of No Door Salesmen, No Showroom and little overheads

NEW FLUSH WINDOWS

BEAUTIFUL COMPOSITE DOORS
Fully fitted
Competitive Prices



UPTO 30% OFF ALL WINDOWS



ALL PRODUCTS HAVE A 10 YEAR INSURANCE BACKED WARRANTY

BILL MOORE'S WINDOWS AND DOORS
A NAME YOU CAN TRUST

1 Brookside Close, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9PL

01789 415171 • 07729 689239 • www.billmooreswindowsanddoors.co.uk



There were a variety of standards on parade at the VJ Day 80 commemoration at Wyre Forest House. Pictures by Wyre Forest District Council and Kidderminster Town Council. s



Standards were on parade during the evening service and wreaths were laid at the war memorial. s



The mayors of Kidderminster, Coun Doug Hine, Bewdley, Coun Nicole Harper, and Stourport, Coun John Thomas, were among those in attendance at the evening ceremony. s

A day of dignity and respect

by Tristan Harris
tristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

SPECIAL services were held in Kidderminster last Friday to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

A ceremony was held at St Mary and All Saints Church on the evening. The service was led by the Mercian Volunteer Regimental Association and supported by the Royal British Legion Kidderminster, Wyre Forest District Council and Kidderminster Town Council.

Standards were on parade and wreaths were laid at the war memorial.

Music was provided by the Kidderminster Male Choir which delighted those gathered as the



Kidderminster Male Choir performed at St Mary and All Saints Church. s

community came together to honour the courage and sacrifice of all those who served.

Kidderminster Town Council thanked everyone who went along, adding: "Your presence helped us mark this important occasion of remembrance with dignity and respect."

Another event took place last

Friday outside Wyre Forest House.

Council chairman, Coun Paul Harrison, was joined by members of the public, representatives from the armed forces and other dignitaries for the special flag-flying ceremony.

There were also a number of military standards on parade.

The commemoration remembered the day on August 15, 1945, when Japan officially surrendered to the Allied forces, marking the end of the Second World War.

Whilst Victory in Europe (VE Day) happened earlier in that year, there were still soldiers fighting on the frontline in the Far East for months afterwards.

Other events took place across Kidderminster and Bewdley to mark the poignant occasion.

The events were organised by Kidderminster Town Council, Royal British Legion and Mercian Volunteers Regimental Association, with the district council's support provided through grant funding.

* Visit this story online at kidderminsterstandard.co.uk for more pictures from the events.

Council Chairman, Coun Paul Harrison, marks the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. s

Upgrade to
Quartz
worktops
for **Free!**

Summer
SPECIALS

50% OFF
kitchens

Nothing to pay until 2026

PROUD WINNER
2025

We're BKU's Independent Kitchen Retailer of the Year!

★★★★★

"So pleased with my Aristocraft kitchen,
can't fault them."

Brierley Hill Showroom
21-22 Enterprise Trading Estate,
DY5 1TX

01384 262710
www.aristocraft.me

ARISTOCRAFT
Est.1982



LEFT: Bewdley Mayor Nicole Harper spoke at the VJ Day event. s

RIGHT: Wreaths were laid at Bewdley War Memorial. s



Bewdley's civic members pay tribute on the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. Pictures by Sara Jennings. s

Marking VJ Day 80 years on

by Tristan Harris
thtristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

A CROWD gathered outside St Anne's Church in Bewdley last Friday morning for a special service to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VJ (Victory in Japan) Day.

The event was organised by Bewdley Town Council and it was attended by representatives from local organisations, councillors, civic dignitaries and local residents.

Coun Nicole Harper, the Mayor of Bewdley, addressed the crowds with a heartfelt speech in memory of those who fought for our country.

Rev Melissa Beynon conducted the



Bewdley flies the VJ Day 80 flag over the town hall. s

service which also featured a two-minute silence.

Wreaths were laid at Bewdley War Memorial and the special VJ Day 80 flag was flown above the town hall in the week leading up to the event.

Following the service, invited guests had refreshments inside St Anne's Church.

VJ Day took place on August 15, 1945 and was months after VE (Victory in Europe) Day.

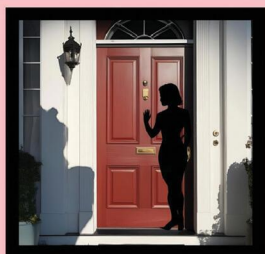
The fighting continued in the Far East for a number of months after the conflict had concluded on our continent.

Thousands of British soldiers were held as prisoners of war (POWs) in Japan, suffering physical and mental abuse. Around 30,000 British POWs perished in captivity and the death rate was much higher than those captured and held in Europe.



The fallen were remembered during the service. s

A GREAT OPENING PLAY FOR THE ROSE THEATRE: There's A Murderer In The House!



THE UNFRIEND

A COMEDY

BY STEVEN MOFFAT

*She's charming, chatty
and possibly a killer...*

8th - 13th September 2025

THE ROSE THEATRE, KIDDERMINSTER
Box office 01562 743745 / www.rosetheatre.co.uk

The Nonentities Society opens the new season with a terrific comedy penned by one of our finest modern writers. Steven Moffat's play *The Unfriend* takes a hilarious and satirical look at middle-class England's disastrous instinct always to appear nice. It was first performed at the Minerva Theatre, Chichester, in 2022, before transferring to London's West End starring Lee Mack. Moffat is well-known for his TV scripts for *Dr Who* and *Sherlock* – rest assured you're in for a treat.

What's it all about? While on holiday, Peter and Debbie befriend Elsa: a lusty, Trump-loving widow from Denver, USA. She's less than woke but kind of wonderful. They agree to stay in touch – because no one ever really does, do they?

When Elsa invites herself to stay a few months later, they decide to look her up online. Too late, they learn the truth about Elsa Jean Krakowski. Deadly danger has just boarded a flight to London! But how do you protect all that you love from mortal peril without seeming, well, a bit impolite? Because guess who's coming... to murder! The Nonentities are joined by actors from

KRYPT, Kidderminster Rose Young People's Theatre, to provide that teenage authenticity to the family group!



The play runs from 8th-13th September. For more details on how to book visit the web-site www.rosetheatre.co.uk or call 01562 743745



LEFT: The event was held by the Cleobury Mortimer Royal British Legion branch. s

RIGHT: After the ceremony, led by Rev Ashley Buck, everyone walked to Talbot Yard. Pictures by Paul Serrell-Cooke. s

BELOW: More than 80 people watched the poignant beacon lighting. s



Marking end of the war 80 years on

LIVE MUSIC: THERE will be live music at Stourport's Riverside Meadows from 2pm to 4pm on Sunday, August 24.

The tow-tapping afternoon of folk, jigs and reels is part of Wyre Forest District Council's Summer of Music.

The event is free to attend and will feature The Jamesons, including incredibly talented Barret Hadley. He was recently crowned 'Best Multi-Instrumentalist in the Wyre Forest'.

Sharon Hill will also be performing during the event at the bandstand.

The event has been billed as 'the best in traditional folk with the sounds of guitar, banjo, mandolin and whistles filling the air'.

People are urged to bring their friends, a picnic and their dancing shoes.

THE OFFICIAL end of the Second World War was remembered in Cleobury Mortimer last Friday with events to commemorate VJ (Victory in Japan) Day.

The organisers said before the day that, although VE (Victory in Europe) Day in May was important, VJ Day was equally so and deserved similar prominence.

The Cleobury Mortimer branch of the Royal British Legion held the celebrations and the Town Council flew the special flag on the town flag pole – a Union Flag overlain with 'VJ Day 15 August 2025'.

The flag pole stands at the western end of the War Memorial Garden and it was there a brief ceremony took place, led by the rector, Rev Ashley Buck.

Eight members of the Royal British Legion branch, complete with the standard, stood in the War Memorial Garden, while



about 45 members of the public watched from outside the garden.

Following this short ceremony, everyone walked up to the Talbot Yard where several

dozen others joined in a procession up to the Sports Field.

There, the beacon had been loaded during the afternoon.

Watched by more than 80 people, a second prayer ceremony was held by the rector before past chairman Jim Hulme declaimed the Loyal Exhortation, chairman and bugler David Taylor sounded the Last Post and the Reveille, Mr Hulme then recited the Kohima Epitaph and the beacon was lit by Mark Baldwin.

The AGM of the Branch takes place at 7pm on September 10.

The active Cleobury Mortimer Royal British Legion branch always welcomes new members.

Anyone interested should call 01299 270110 for a membership form.

Re@d @ll @bout it!



Check out our e-edition at kidderminsterstandard.co.uk

Knife crime, e-scooters and police on the streets are among concerns

MORE than 100 residents turned out for a 'Community Conversation' with West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion to discuss issues affecting Stourport-on-Severn.

The consultation was held last Wednesday and was called by Mr Campion after he received an increase in correspondences into his office and saw comments on social media, along with hearing concerns raised by people at in-person engagements in the town.

The event took place at Areley Kings Village Hall and gave the public the chance to speak up, listen to and raise concerns with the PCC and senior officers from West Mercia Police.

Among the issues raised were knife crime, anti-social behaviour, e-bikes and e-scooters, and police visibility.

Following the session, the PCC has contacted the Chief Constable to make him aware of the community feeling, whilst also calling for the force to deliver a cross-partnership action plan.

Mr Campion thanked everyone who attended the Community Conversation in Stourport, adding he heard and



West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion was joined on the panel by senior officers. s

saw an increase in the number of concerns being raised.

"As the voice of the public in policing, I really value hearing people's thoughts and experiences on the service they receive from their police force.

"This is then used to shape the decisions I make on the public's behalf.

"I heard the Stourport residents loud and clear, so it's

now about ensuring those views and concerns shape the changes they want to see.

"That's why I am committed to using the powers available to me to work with the Chief Constable to ensure the hard-working policing team is set up to succeed, whilst acting on the public's calls to work with myself and the police to address their priorities.

"I want to reassure the pub-

lic that work is already happening and it will continue to do so at pace over the next six months when I will return alongside the force to provide updates and review whether the residents feel progress has been made."

The meeting was also filmed and is available to watch in full on YouTube by searching for 'Stourport Community Conversation'.



This knife was seized from a teenager in Kidderminster town centre during a police stop search. s

Police take knife from teenager

THIS KNIFE was confiscated from a teenager in Kidderminster.

Police were on patrol in the town centre when they encountered a 16-year-old.

Intelligence suggested he had recently been carrying a knife.

After a brief conversation with the officers, he tried to flee. He was then caught and a stop search was carried out.

The knife, which had a blade of more than 15cm, was found. The boy was arrested for possession of a blade.



The Will Partners

Over 30 years' experience in the Will writing business



10% discount with this advert

Wills, Trusts & Power of Attorney

OR

Free review of your existing Will

- Protect your home and everything that you have worked hard for...
- Friendly and experienced local people
- Free Home Visits

Call us Today

01299 488 577

Email: hello@thewillpartners.co.uk
www.thewillpartners.co.uk

PD Indy is training as Victim Recovery Dog and will become one of only a handful in the country. Picture by West Mercia Police. s



Scent on training course

A WEST Mercia Police dog is currently undergoing training for one of the most demanding roles in policing.

PD Indy is set to become a Victim Recovery Dog (VRD). The training will enable her to learn to detect human scent beneath the surface of the water. It is a skill so rare that only a handful of dogs in the UK are qualified to do it.

Once trained, she will be able to assist officers in searching lakes, rivers and other bodies of water for missing people, helping bring answers and closure to families during heartbreaking times.

She will join fellow VRDs PD Lupo, PD Jabba and PD Maggie

whose incredible noses can pick up scent from a submerged body - even in deep or fast-moving water.

From the edge of a boat or a river bank, they alert their handler and guide divers to the exact location.

West Mercia Police said: "This is one of the toughest disciplines in the police dog world and Indy's progress is a huge credit to her dedicated handler and trainers."

Such will be Indy's skillset, she will not just serve West Mercia - she will support other forces across the country too.

The force added: "We're so proud of her and the vital work she'll be doing."

Planting a chance to boost the garden

A FREE Late Summer Plant Fair takes place at Bodenham Arboretum near Kidderminster next Saturday, August 30.

The Plant Hunters' Fair will be held from 10am to 4pm, giving people the chance to browse a variety of late flowering plants to perk up beds and borders and fill the garden with scent.

Organiser Martin Blow said "It's been a fab summer and we've all been making the most of our outdoor space.

"The nurseries will have thousands of plants to choose from with just the right plant to set your summer garden ablaze with colour, plus there is lots of expert knowledge on hand to help you choose the best for your own unique garden.

"So, if your garden needs a late summer lift, or you've been inspired to dig a new border then this is the place to find some different and exciting plants lovingly grown by passionate plantspeople. Plus, there will be a great range of garden accessories to choose from for all those finishing touches."

"The plant fair is completely free to enter so you can just pop along and browse the plant stalls.

"So, whether it's alpines, shrubs, bee-friendly perennials, herbs, wildflowers, bulbs, plants for shade or foliage plants you are sure to find something to fill those gaps and create a blooming brilliant garden."

The lakeside restaurant will also be



The free-to-enter Late Summer Plant Fair takes place at Bodenham Arboretum next Saturday, August 30. s

open, serving hot and cold drinks, lunches and snacks using produce from the arboretum's own farm.

People can also explore the 156-acre arboretum but there will be a separate admission charge for those wanting to enter.

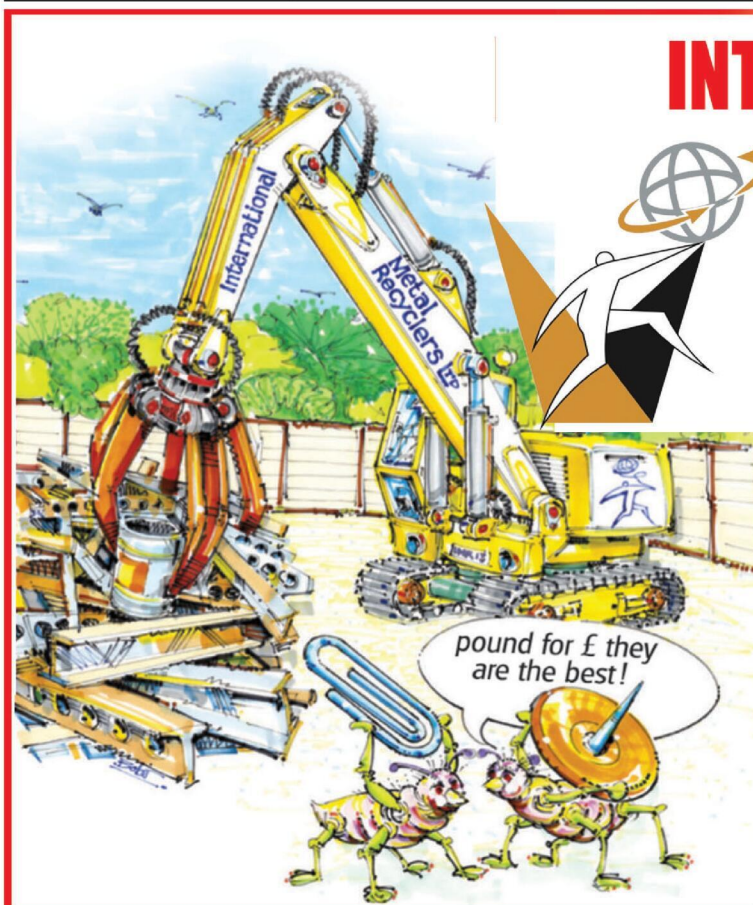
The Plant Hunters' Fairs were started in 2007 by plantaholics Janet and Martin Blow from Hankelow, Audlem, Cheshire.

The fairs are special and different

because entry costs are kept low - many are free to enter.

Where an entrance fee is charged all the entrance money goes to the garden hosting the event, often Charitable Trusts, raising much needed funds to help maintain these lovely gardens into the future.

Visit planthunterfairs.co.uk for more information.



INTERNATIONAL METALS & CABLE RECYCLING LTD

We purchase all Ferrous and Non Ferrous Metal Batteries and Cables

Collection Service Available

Long Marston Road, Long Marston, Stratford Upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 8AQ

01789 721 288

david@imrltd.co.uk

Open Mon/Fri - 8am - 5pm

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE

MASSIVE BANK HOLIDAY SAVINGS THROUGHOUT STORE



ADJUST-A-BED
MADE IN THE UK

20% OFF

ADJUSTABLE BEDS, ALL SIZES AVAILABLE, VAT EXEMPTION WHERE APPLICABLE



FREE ARMCAPS

Celebrity

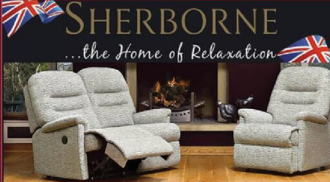
DUAL MOTOR / CLOUD ZERO RISER RECLINERS AVAILABLE IN 3 SIZES



Cloud Zero
3 motor lift and tilt

20% OFF

Exemption where applicable
ZERO GRAVITY RISER RECLINERS IN STORE



SHERBORNE
...the Home of Relaxation

RANGE OF RISER RECLINERS IN STORE



Sleepeeze
MADE IN THE UK

MODELS IN STORE



Silentnight
sleep great, Britain

this sleepember with
20% off

Silentnight mattresses, beds & headboards

shop now



HIGHGROVE

4'0" / 4'6" DIVAN SET PACKAGE DEALS FROM £399

MADE IN THE UK



HYPNOS
THE MOST COMFORTABLE BEDS IN THE WORLD

SUMMER SALE

KING SIZE FOR THE PRICE OF A DOUBLE OR SUPER KING FOR THE PRICE OF A KING

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



NEW BEDROOM RANGE COMING SOON!
AVAILABLE IN GREY MIST OR WHITE WITH SOLID OAK LIGHT TOPS



NEW LIVE EDGE DINING SET IN STORE



OAK LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM RANGE



UK MADE FULLY ASSEMBLED BEDROOM RANGES



LA Z BOY
Live life comfortably

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE

HUGE STOCK CLEARANCE IN STORE
MANY SOFAS, CHAIRS, BEDS & FURNITURE
AT MASSIVELY REDUCED PRICES



NEW IN, FULL LEATHER SWIVEL RECLINERS WITH FOOTSTOOL



UK MADE, BESPOKE SIZES AVAILABLE



LA Z BOY
Live life comfortably

RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



CUSTOM SIZES AVAILABLE TO ORDER



IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY



NEW CHAISE SOFA IN STORE



LUXURY SOFA BEDS IN STORE



FROM £495

RISER RECLINERS

£399

LARGE RANGE IN STORE



SALE £4495 NOW £995 !! LIMITED STOCK

UK MADE CORNER GROUP, MANAGERS SPECIAL

01905 796507 • info@svfonline.co.uk
21-29 HIGH STREET, DROITWICH SPA WR9 8EJ

Free customer parking at the rear of the shop - Free local delivery, installation & disposal available. 35+ years trading experience

Open 7 days Monday - Saturday 9am - 5.30pm. Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm





LEFT: Baxter College students Sophie Nicholls who is reading history at Aberystwyth University and Isabelle Curry going on to do ecology and wildlife at the University of Cumbria. s MIDDLE: Emily Rowlands taking childhood and educational studies at Kidderminster College, Maya Hipkiss, reading fine art at Manchester Metropolitan University and Anna Hughes, reading law at Birmingham City University after taking their A levels at Baxter College. s RIGHT: Sophia Rose, Miracle Russello, Alfie Barrett and William Wheatley from Stourport High School sixth form who were celebrating last Thursday. s

Success opens the doors to next step

HARDWORKING students from Kidderminster and Stourport celebrated their A level results last week and making it into university.

Baxter College

At Baxter College, a total of 21 from 22 students applying for university courses made it into their first choice establishment.

Top performers included Marc Bernabe, who will read medicine and surgery at Lancaster University, having achieved B grades in maths, chemistry, biology and his extended project qualification (EPQ).

With Bs in environmental science and geography and Cs in biology and her EPQ, plus a D in core maths, Isabelle Curry will read ecology and

wildlife at the University of Cumbria. Alfie Venencia achieved A* in criminology, Cs in history and his EPQ, a D in business, along with a B in core maths to take him to the University of Derby to read football journalism.

Grade Bs in criminology and history, Ds in business and her EPQ, plus E in core maths, have earned Anna Hughes a place at Birmingham City University where she will read law.

And Ashley-James Phillips is heading to Wolverhampton University, where he will also read law, after gaining a B in criminology, and D*, D in business, while Darcie Carey achieved a D*, D in health and social care and a C in criminology to read occupational therapy at Worcester University.

Among the top performing subjects were dance, criminology, English lit-

A Level results

erature and psychology.

Headteacher Katie Beech said everyone was delighted and wished the students the very best as they embarked on their next chapter.

Stourport High School Sixth Form

Students at Stourport High also excelled in their A level and BTECs.

Highfliers included Chloe Finlow, who achieved three A A levels, plus A in her extended project qualification (EPQ). She is heading to Oxford University.

Maddox Lowe secured A*, A, B, Vadim Dyson got A*, A, C and Safina Watter gained grades A, A, B, plus an

A in EPQ.

Alfie Barrett, Izzy Jones, Ruby Lawrence and Will Wheatley all achieved three distinctions and/or distinction*s.

Miracle Russello and Freya Bevan both secured three B grades and Sofia Rose achieved grades A, B and C.

While training and representing England Rugby, Harry Wright managed to achieve 160 UCAS points which is equivalent to A*, A*, A.

All students who were targeting university in September achieved their places, with 71 percent of the sixth formers continuing with further education, while others head off onto apprenticeships and the workplace.

Assistant headteacher and head of the sixth form college, Angele Parker, said: "We are incredibly proud of all

our students.

"Completing two years of level three qualifications is an achievement in itself and each of our wonderful young people has overcome individual challenges along the way.

"It has been a privilege to be part of their journey and we know they are now fully equipped to face the exciting challenges ahead."

Matthew Carpenter, chief executive of the Severn Academies Educational Trust group which Baxter College and Stourport High School are members of, congratulated all the students and wished them well for the future.

"I would also like to thank the staff for their guidance and dedication and the families for their support."

Visit this story at: kidderminster-standard.co.uk for more pictures.



Wyre Forest District Council

Find out about events in our parks and across the district
www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/events

For even more ideas of what's on locally visit

www.visitsevernvalley.uk

www.bewdley-museum.co.uk



Visit Severn Valley

Bewdley Museum

For more information, or to book, please call
03332 342 514 Quote **osg**

★★★★★ Trustpilot

Reader Travel

ELF THE MUSICAL EVENING SHOW & LONDON

Departing Sat 15 Nov '25, Sat 22 Nov '25, Sat 6 Dec '25, Sat 13 Dec '25, Sat 27 Dec '25

Get ready to sparkle! Join Buddy the Elf on his hilarious, heart-warming quest to spread Christmas spirit. With time for sightseeing or shopping, this magical trip is snow joke!

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Kidderminster, Stourport
- Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) outside London with breakfast
- Grand Circle ticket (evening performance)
- Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

2 Days by Coach only £199
Single Supplement £50

WARNER HAYLING ISLAND EXPERIENCE

Departing Mon 24 Nov '25

Treat yourself to a fantastic Warner break on Hampshire's Hayling Island, perfect to get in the Christmassy mood.

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Kidderminster, Stourport
- 4 nights at the Warner Lakeside Coastal Village, Hayling Island (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- Welcome drink & mince pies
- Free bar (6pm-midnight) on selected drinks
- Daytime activities
- West End-style entertainment every evening
- Use of leisure facilities
- Excursions to Portsmouth & Chichester

Optional excursion to Winchester Christmas Market (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £439
Single Supplement £130

These packages are subject to last Go! Holidays terms & conditions. Coach bookings are protected by Bonded Coach Holidays & the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers (ABTO). A holiday price is per person, based on two people sharing a room & based on bookings made up to 7 days prior to publication, after which prices may fluctuate. Choices of date, hotel, airport or pickup location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.

Visit us online at justgo-holidays.com/OSG

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

What if **we** could transform your kitchen in just **one day?**

using our made to measure replacement
Kitchen Doors & Worktops System

Very little mess - Very big Savings!



Plus
**Special
Offer!
FITTING
half-price**

ONE WEEK ONLY

Offer ends Midnight Thursday 7th August 2025



“The most amazingly thing we’ve ever done
for our home - everybody loves it”

Jason & Jacqui - Sutton Coldfield W.Mids. Verified Customer

Beautiful Kitchen makeovers start from around £3000

**Request a brochure today to see how you can transform your kitchen
for much less than a total replacement and in less than half the time -
But for **Half Price Fitting** you must move fast so you **don't miss out!****



Request a brochure 01384 293654

Book a home visit 0330 321 0461

Visit us online

www.doorsandworktops.com



The wait is over as results day brings smiles and celebrations

GCSE students from Kidderminster and Stourport are celebrating and looking forward to the next stages of their educational journeys.

Baxter College

Baxter College saw a massive 10 per cent increase in the basic measures of English, maths and science and had many individual successes.

Among the top performers were Kian Mair who achieved all grade 7 and 8s, including grade 8 in English language, maths, science and art and Rosie Mayall who was awarded grade 8s in English literature and art and grade 7s in sociology, science and English language.

Hugo Stevenson achieved grade 7s in English literature and language, geography, physics and grade 8 in maths while Eden Pitt achieved a Distinction in dance, a grade 9 in religious studies and grade 7s in English literature and language and history.

Florence Powell achieved grade 8 in English literature and grade 7s in English language, religious studies, history and sociology and Rigby McCall achieved grade 7s in English language, geography, science and grade 8 in maths.

Delighted headteacher Katie Beech said she was so pleased the students' hard work and dedication had paid off, adding there were numerous examples of effort, diligence and resilience in overcoming personal challenges.

"Our students should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved both academically and in their personal development."

Holy Trinity School and Sixth Form

Students at Holy Trinity were 'delighted' with their results.

Among those performing well were Jack B, Jacob C, and Grace K, who achieved grades 7 and above in all of their GCSEs.

Other notable results were achieved by Hugo G, Rose L, Gideon L, Brogan M, Faith N, Alex P, Gethin R, and Katie W.

Deputy head Rebecca da Costa said: "We have seen some excellent results again this year - English and maths have continued to improve and are expected to be above the national average."

"It has been fantastic to work with these young people over the course of their GCSEs, observing them grow in confidence, determination, and resilience."

Headteacher Ian Williams added he was pleased to see the results and thanked the staff for their hard work in supporting the students.

"It has been a pleasure to work with the Year 11 students during my first full academic year as headteacher at HTS."

After achieving a comprehensive set of qualifications, the school wished them all the best they embarked on their sixth form journeys and future careers.

Stourport High School and Sixth Form

Stourport's headteacher Dr Lizzy Ford said everyone was especially proud of the many students who achieved their potential and exceeded their own personal goals through their commitment and unwavering effort.

"This is a celebration of the jour-

ney they have taken and the character they've shown."

"This year's results are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our whole Stourport High Family."

Toby Minor who achieved two grade 9s, two grade 8s, three grade 7s, one grade 6, one grade M2, and one grade D2 and Maddy Andrews who received a grade 8, four grade 7s, a grade 6, a grade 4 and a grade D*.

Angelin Sebastian achieved three grade 8s, two grade 7s and four grade 6s while Joel Stobbart achieved two grade 9s, three grade

7s, four grade 6s and a grade 5 and Chloe Webber achieved a grade 8, six grade 7s, two grade 6s and a grade 5.

Dan Riches achieved two grade 8s, four grade 7s, three grade 6s, a grade 5 and a grade M2 and Florin Hammerton was awarded two grade 8s, four grade 7s, three grade 6s.

Beth Manning achieved two grade 8s, four grade 7s and four grade 6s and Grace Smith received three grade 8s, two grade 7s, three grade 6s and a grade 5.

Visit this story at kidderminster-standard.co.uk for more success stories and photographs.



Eden Pitt and Florence Powell from Baxter College with their results.



Celebration time for students at Kidderminster's Holy Trinity School and Sixth Form.

NOW AVAILABLE

ALBION OVER 55's LIVING MEADOWS COME LOOK AROUND



Looking for the perfect place to enjoy your retirement? Albion Meadows offers spacious one and two-bedroom apartments designed for the active over-55s, providing the ideal balance of independence and comfort with 24-hour support in a beautiful countryside setting.



Albion Meadows is situated in the delightful village of Hanley Swan, Worcestershire. We aim to create homes that have deep links with the surrounding community and a real sense of belonging. Hanley Swan, a quintessentially English village with a duck pond, has many amenities such as a well-stocked shop, and thriving pub.



The village is located near to the historic Malvern Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, as well as the excellent Three Counties Show Ground. Nearby is also the delightful riverside

town of Upton-Upon-Severn with the M5 close at hand.



The apartments provide well-appointed homes rooted in the surrounding countryside with spacious balconies, a kitchen garden, and easily accessible walks in the grounds. The design of the new homes has practical living at the heart, with easily controllable underfloor heating throughout, level access wet rooms, a separate utility and ample storage space. All that modern retirement living requires. There is also an owner's lounge, hairdressers, restaurant, formal gardens and gym on site for you to enjoy.



Albion Meadows,
Hanley Swan, Worcestershire,
WR8 0DN



01684 310 626

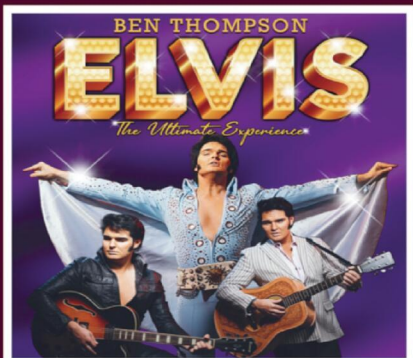


enquiries@albionmeadows.co.uk
www.albionmeadows.co.uk



**PALACE
THEATRE**

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS
Box Office 01527 65203



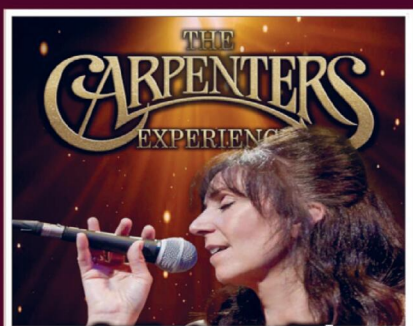
THUR 4 SEPT : 7.30PM



SAT 6 SEPT : 7.30PM



WED 10 SEPT : 7.30PM



FRI 12 SEPT : 7.30PM



WED 17 SEPT : 7.30PM



FRI 19 SEPT : 7.30PM

PHA
paul holman

**Children's TV Legend
& Masterchef
DAVE BENSON PHILLIPS**

**Emmerdale &
Coronation Street
BILL WARD**

**THE MAGICAL
PANTOMIME
ADVENTURE**

**SIMON
BASHFORD**

**INDIYA
PAYNE**

**NIALL
GRAY**

**LAURA-DENE
PERRYMAN**

**Britain's Got Talent
TONY RUDD**

Aladdin

SCAN ME
FOR TICKETS

**PALACE
THEATRE**

**BOOK
NOW**

8 DEC '25 - 4 JAN '26
BOX OFFICE 01527 65203
REDDITCHPALACETHEATRE.CO.UK

ONLINE BOOKING www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk

Carer support work praised

EFFORTS from Worcestershire County Council to support unpaid carers across the county have been praised by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE).

The council has developed a pioneering project focused on better supporting unpaid carers when the people they care for are discharged from hospital.

Alongside Worcestershire Association of Carers, Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB, and Taking Care Ltd, the council is using assistive technology to ensure carers are able to access vital information and support at the point of hospital discharge.

Kathryn Marsden OBE, chief executive of Social Care Institute for Excellence said: "Worcestershire's work in this area stands out as a strong example of how local systems can take practical steps toward transformation, particularly when those with lived experience are meaningfully engaged."

The aim of the project is to provide carers with relevant information, signposting, support, access to assessments and assistive technology so they are able to access the right services if and when they need them.

The project was initially trialled at Evesham Hospital's Stroke Ward and is now expanding to other sites. Efforts are also ensuring carers have access to assistive technology that can support people at home.

Assistive technology has enabled carers to continue working alongside their caring role, as well as allowing carers to take time away from caring to have a meaningful break, offering them peace of mind when they are not at home and a chance to maintain their own wellbeing.

The Social Care Institute for Excellence also highlighted the joined up working approach across social care, health, local authority, voluntary sector, and how technology has made the project more meaningful and sustainable.

Councillor Susan Eacock, cabinet member with responsibility for adult social care at Worcestershire County Council said: "Unpaid carers make an extraordinary contribution every day—often with little recognition and limited support. This project demonstrates how practical collaboration, and new approaches can make a real difference."

The Council was awarded over £500,000 from the Department of Health and Social Care's Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF) in April 2024 to lead innovative work designed to improve adult social care across the region.

Karen Edwards, CEO of Worcestershire Association of Carers added: "The partnership working across the systems in Worcestershire and the commitment to improving the experience of hospital discharge for Carers has really been key to the success of the ARF Programme, as well as the valuable insight and experience of unpaid Carers which is essential to the innovation and transformation within social care."

In addition, a countywide volunteering portal and a new network of 'information first aiders' are helping to create a stronger, more connected support system.

In recognition of their success, Worcestershire Association of Carers was recently invited to SCIE's Coproduction Week Conference and at a Parliamentary Reception at Westminster.



Carers Hospital Discharge Team Kerry Foster and Kim Terry. s

The New Ocean Hotel

WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Amazing Offers
Up To
25%
Off

FANTASTIC FIVE DAY BREAKS

****Four Nights Accommodation **Full English Breakfast**
****Four Course Evening Meal **Live Nightly Entertainment**
****Optional Coach Pick Up**

Monday 8th Sept - Friday 12th Sept	Was £335 NOW £285pp
Monday 29th Sept - Friday 3rd Oct	Was £329 NOW £279pp
Monday 6th Oct - Friday 10th Oct	Was £325 NOW £265pp
Monday 13th Oct - Friday 17th Oct	Was £325 NOW £265pp
Monday 20th Oct - Friday 24th Oct	Was £325 NOW £265pp

FREE BAR WEEKENDS

****Three Nights Accommodation **Full English Breakfast**
****Four Course Evening Meal **Live Nightly Entertainment**
****Optional Coach Pick Up **FREE BAR 6pm-10pm**

Friday 5th Sept - Monday 8th Sept	Was £329 NOW £269pp
Friday 12th Sept - Monday 15th Sept	Was £325 NOW £265pp
Friday 19th Sept - Monday 22nd Sept	Was £325 NOW £265pp
Friday 3rd Oct - Monday 6th Oct	Was £319 NOW £255pp
Friday 10th Oct - Monday 13th Oct	Was £309 NOW £249pp
Friday 17th Oct - Monday 20th Oct	Was £309 NOW £249pp
Friday 24th Oct - Monday 27th Oct	Was £309 NOW £249pp

To book or for further information please call us on
01934 621 839 • www.newoceanhotel.co.uk

Just for Pets



Just for Pets, New Road, Kidderminster DY10 1HG
(Next to ASDA)

www.justforpets.co.uk



LEFT: The female Great green bush cricket. Pictures by Wendy Carter from the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust. s RIGHT: An adult male Great green bush cricket - the older ones have a brown stripe down their backs. s

Keep your eyes on the cricket

THE UK'S largest cricket has been spotted in Worcestershire and staff from a local charity are urging people to report any sightings they have.

The Great green bush crickets can grow up to 7cm (2.7ins) in length which makes them one of the largest insects in the country.

The species are usually found in the south and east but around 10 years ago, a great green bush cricket was found in the far south of Worcestershire.

Despite that, experts have not been able to find anymore in the county - until now.

In spring, a nymph (a young cricket) was discovered in the

Sighting of rare visitor prompts call to report spottings

north of the county.

It takes a minimum of two years for the crickets to develop from the egg to becoming an adult.

This means the egg would have been laid in 2023 or earlier.

Staff at Worcestershire Wildlife Trust would like to know whether this means the species is present elsewhere in the county.

Wendy Carter from Worcestershire Wildlife Trust said "I've had the pleasure of seeing these crickets in Suffolk before, so the idea that they might be living right here in Worcestershire

is very exciting. They particularly like hanging out in tall vegetation, from meadows and hedgerows to gardens and allotments.

"It's so intriguing that one was found in the south of the county 10 years ago and now we have nymphs in the north of Worcestershire.

"Where else might they be?"

Spotting them

According to the trust, the Great green bush crickets are unmistakable - in size, they are more like a grasshopper or a crickets that

might be found abroad.

Wendy added: "This makes it much easier to know when you've found one and we'd love to hear from anyone who does."

Adults are large and green with very long wings, a brown stripe running along the back and very long antennae.

Females have a long egg-laying organ, called an ovipositor, at the end of their body that they use to lay their eggs into soil.

Readers may hear the males 'singing' to the females, which they do by rubbing their wings together

to create a long loud whirring sound.

"They can be frustratingly difficult to spot - their colouring provides perfect camouflage as they hunt through the vegetation looking for flies, caterpillars and other insects to eat."

The team at Worcestershire Wildlife Trust is encouraging residents to help them put more dots on the map to help them understand whether these giants of the cricket world are here to stay.

Anyone who spots a great green bush-cricket while out and about should take a photo and visit: worcestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife-sightings to send the details and picture via the short online form.



BY APPOINTMENT TO
HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III
MEDALLISTS
WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD
BROMSGROVE

WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD



We Buy

- Medals
- Coins
- Jewellery
- Gold and Silver



Experts available Monday to Friday.
Saturday drop off service until 12.00pm.
Home visits available on request.

01527 835375

07889757199

collectors@worcmedals.com
124 High Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8HJ





THE Searchers & Hollies EXPERIENCE

The Best Of Both Worlds

The Searchers and Hollies Experience.....The best of both worlds brings to the stage the magical hits of these two legendary harmony bands. Bringing back memories of the most high energy decade in pop music history. Let the haunting melodies transport you to that exciting era when millions of records were sold.

Over 30 hit songs are performed in this exciting 2 hour tribute show

Needles and pins / He ain't heavy he's my brother / Sweets for my sweet / Just one look / Sugar and spice / Stay /
When you walk in the room / Here I go again / Don't throw your love away / Bus stop / Goodbye my love /
Long cool woman / Love potion number 9 / Sorry Suzanne / Have you ever loved somebody / I Can't let go /
Saturday night out / Yes I will / Someday we're gonna love again / Jennifer Eccles /
Somebody told me you were crying / I'm alive / Stop stop stop
.....Plus many many more.

www.searchersandholliesexperience.com

ARTRIX

Artrix, Bromsgrove
Thursday 4 September 2025, 7:30pm

All tickets £25

Box office 01527 361324

artrixbromsgrove.co.uk

SUPPORT LOCAL



10 Reasons to support Local Shops and Businesses

It's now more and more important that we support local shops and businesses because of the threat they face from multi nationals and from on line sales - they offer so much not only to their Customers, but also to the local community as a whole.

- 1. Local Shops and Businesses** create and sustain more jobs locally and together they are the largest employer nationally. They provide jobs to the residents of our communities and in many cases, they provide better working conditions and benefits than the big chains do.
- 2. Local Shops and Businesses** are at the centre of our local economy, and shopping locally is better for the local communities as research has shown that money spent locally stays within the community and helps our local community to thrive - unlike spending with the multi nationals or online agencies based far from our community or even far from our shores.
- 3. A Better Shopping Experience** – Local Shops and Businesses offer a Better Quality of Service. Local Business Owners and their Staff offer much better service because they really care about what they do. They are far more likely to offer better, honest and realistic advice about the choice of products and services they provide – they are often far more likely to go over and above the call of duty to ensure your satisfaction.
- 4. After Sales Service and Attention** – Local Businesses are always there to call upon if you do need them after you've made your purchase for advice and attention if required.
- 5. Creative, and Diverse** – Local Shops and Businesses provide so much more choice in terms of uniqueness – so you can in turn, develop your own style and even when you are searching for that personal gift with a difference, you are much more likely to find it in a local shop rather than the same as everyone else, in a multi-national.

HILLS FORD



Scan to browse our full used car range

USED CAR
SUMMER
of LOVE

Ends 31st August



- Up to £1500 off selected used cars**
- £500 Extra for your part exchange**
- 1 Years Free Comprehensive Warranty**

See the range in person or online at hillsford.co.uk/used-cars/

Kidderminster: 01562 540 522 - Malvern: 01684 210 663

Kidderminster: Worcester Road, Kidderminster DY10 1JB

Malvern: 169 Newtown Rd, Malvern WR14 1PJ

MTCR Marketing LTD Trading as Hills Ford is acting as a credit broker and is not a lender and may receive a commission for this purpose. Mileage limits and excess charges apply - please ask for details. Retail only E&OE.



Terms & Conditions: This promotion is available to private retail customers aged 18 or over and resident in the UK who purchase a qualifying used vehicle between 1st August 2025 and 31st August 2025 inclusive. Customers may receive up to £1,500 off selected used vehicles, plus an additional £500 part exchange allowance when trading in a qualifying vehicle with a valid UK V5 registration certificate, valid MCT (if applicable) and free of any outstanding finance, unless otherwise agreed. A free 1-year comprehensive warranty is included and subject to its standard terms, conditions and exclusions. This promotion is not transferable, has no cash alternative and may not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Hills Ford reserves the right to alter or withdraw this promotion at any time without notice. Errors and omissions excepted. These terms and conditions are governed by English law and subject to the jurisdiction of the English courts.

6. Competition – A local marketplace of hundreds of small businesses is the best place to ensure low prices and competition.

7. More Environmentally Friendly – Small Independent Businesses usually source locally and they use less packaging than the bigger retailers. This in turn reduces the global footprint as they inevitably need less transportation thereby reducing 'pollution' for us all – and of course it means less waste and less goes into fill up landfills.

8. Local Shops and Businesses help build local communities and community identity. Communities are defined by their local distinctive shops and Businesses and the personalities of the Owners of these shops shines through – a Local Shopping Centre with vibrant shop fronts is a perfect place to meet and shop and interact with other members of your community – it's informative as well as the displays and services on offer, keep us all up to date with not only the tried and tested products but all the new innovations too.

9. Supporting local enterprising entrepreneurs – people like Sir Alan Sugar – love him or not, you have to admire the man who started selling car aerials from the back of a van, bought with his modest savings – he relied on the support of his local community to kick start his business during his early and difficult years – so why not support your local businesses too – who knows you may be giving other budding local entrepreneur the little nudge and help they need to succeed and create more jobs locally and even more choice within our own vibrant community.

10. It's fun to shop locally on your local High Street, your local neighbourhood Shopping Centre or Town Centre – its much more fun that looking round a large superstore. You can interact with the helpful staff as well as having the opportunity of bumping into family and friends who are also 'doing their bit' in supporting their/our local community.

SUPPORT LOCAL



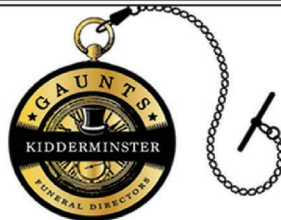
GAUNTS
of KIDDERMINSTER
THE FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Caring for families for over 125 years.

Since 1900 The Gaunt Family have been providing a first-class Funeral Service. The multi award winning Funeral Directors have Funeral Homes across the Black Country and Worcestershire.

Services including:

- 24hr Professional Services
- Bespoke Funeral Arrangements
- Local Direct Cremations
- Exclusive Modern Funeral Homes & Vehicles
- Complimentary Bereavement Counselling
- Memorials Stones
- Floristry
- Pre Paid Funeral Plans



For a full non-obligational quote, please speak to one of our Funeral Directors in Kidderminster on 01562 541 062 or in Stourport on 01299 879 090 or email info@gauntsofkidderminster.co.uk



1 Lupin Works, Worcester Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1JR. T: 01562 541062
107 The Birches, Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 9NR. T: 01299 879090
E: info@gauntsofkidderminster.co.uk W: www.gauntsofkidderminster.co.uk

Bromsgrove based Whiting Landscape Limited has just completed an energy review and are predicted to save in excess of £4,000 a year on their energy bills.



Firms enjoying free advice

SINCE launching in April, over 50 businesses across Worcestershire have benefited from a free Business Energy Advice Service (BEAS) assessment, helping them to identify areas where they can save money and reduce their operational costs.

A BEAS assessment offers businesses an opportunity to evaluate their current energy use, understand where immediate savings can be made, and map out future investment to become more efficient and cut operational costs.

Bromsgrove based Whiting Landscape Limited has just completed an energy review and are predicted to save in excess of £4,000 a year on their energy bills.

Jon Murphy, director of Whiting Landscape Limited, said: "The energy assessment was an incredibly valuable service that has provided us with a really useful baseline measure.

"The fantastic initiative has not only helped us

better understand our energy usage but has also empowered us as a company to make more sustainable choices for the future.

"Findings have provided us with a much clearer understanding of how energy is used in our business and highlighted practical steps we can take to reduce our consumption and lower our bills."

Coun Alan Amos, cabinet member for business and skills at Worcestershire County Council, said: "We're all about helping SMEs like Whiting Landscape to work smarter and more efficiently.

"The BEAS assessment helps business owners to review and evaluate their operating costs and to identify areas for investment to boost their bottom line.

"I would encourage anyone to take advantage of this opportunity."

Visit businessgrowthwestmidlands.org.uk/beas for more information.

More police roles to go in war on costs

FURTHER police staff roles are set to be cut across West Mercia as the force continues to battle funding shortfalls.

Just months ago, in June, after the force announced redundancies in non-policing staff roles which have made 'significant savings', West Mercia says its £8 million budget gap 'must be addressed'.

West Mercia's PCC, John Campion, and chief constable, Richard Cooper, broke the news to their workforce last Thursday (August 14) but have not confirmed how many roles will be affected.

The pair said Government funding is not keeping pace with inflation and a growing demand on its services.

An underestimation of its costs, alongside a recent pay deal for officers, an uplift in policing numbers and those reaching higher pay points, continues to put strain on the organisation's budgets.

Whilst the Police and Crime Commissioner, along with other PCCs and Chiefs around the country, has reached out to the Home Office to stress the financial strain in policing in general, they say this isn't a solution for this current situation. The Home Office has not responded publicly to calls from forces across the UK.

Chief Constable Richard Cooper said: "The difficult decision we have made, to make further police staff redundancies, is certainly not something we would choose to be doing.

"Protecting people from harm remains our absolute priority. We absolutely stand by our commitment to the neighbourhood policing guarantee."

Mr Campion said: "I want to reassure our communities that action is being taken to address these issues and ensure that the force is able to continue delivering an efficient and effective service and keep communities safe.

"The Chief Constable and I are making best use of all the resources and flexibilities we have at our disposal. But it is not enough.

"Let's be clear. There are wider, fundamental issues around how central funding is distributed to police forces that hasn't been fixed by the current, or previous, Governments.

"This unfairness, that I have raised on a number of occasions, has exacerbated the current challenges we face.

"In addition, there are growing mandates from the Government dictating how we should spend the grant we receive for our police force, communities and their needs."

JustGo!
Holidays

★★★★★ Trustpilot

By Coach from Kidderminster, Stourport

Reader Travel



WICKED THE MUSICAL EVENING SHOW & LONDON

Departing Sat 22 Nov '25, Sat 6 Dec '25, Sat 13 Dec '25,
Sat 27 Dec '25, Thu 26 Feb '26

Wicked is the sensational musical that hits stages like a twister with its electrifying score, stunning sets and a story that turns Oz on its head. Full of memorable songs such as No Good Deed and Defying Gravity, this is guaranteed to leave you spellbound!

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from Kidderminster, Stourport
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel outside London (JG3 or JG4 rating) with full English breakfast
- ✓ Stalls or Circle ticket (evening performance)

2 Days by Coach only **£179**

Single Supplement £50



WARNER ISLE OF WIGHT EXPERIENCE

Departing Mon 24 Nov '25

Exclusive for our customers, treat yourself to a fantastic Warner Leisure break on the Isle of Wight, perfect to get you in the Christmassy mood! Relax and enjoy some early celebrations with great food, a free bar offer and West End-style entertainment.

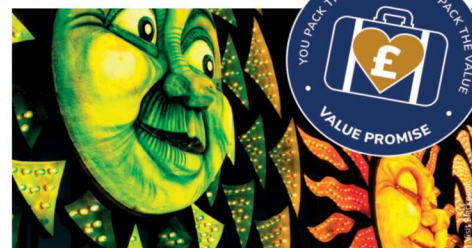
SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel & ferry crossings from Kidderminster, Stourport
- ✓ 4 nights at the Warner Norton Grange Coastal Village, Isle of Wight (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Welcome drink & mince pies
- ✓ Free bar (6pm-midnight) on selected drinks
- ✓ Daytime activities
- ✓ West End-style entertainment every evening
- ✓ Use of leisure facilities
- ✓ Excursions to Newport, Ryde & Cowes

Optional Island Highlights tour (£14pp)

5 Days by Coach only **£439**

Single Supplement £120



BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATIONS WEEKEND

Departing Fri 21 Nov '25

This great-value break includes an evening drive to see the dazzling Blackpool Illuminations, as well as a visit to bustling Fleetwood Market to grab some bargains. From strolls along the beach to lovely views of an iconic landmark, Blackpool has it all!

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from Kidderminster, Stourport
- ✓ 3 nights at the Bluewaters Hotel, Blackpool (JG2 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Blackpool Illuminations Evening Drive
- ✓ Free time in Blackpool
- ✓ Excursion to Fleetwood Market

Optional excursion to Southport (£10pp)

4 Days by Coach only **£229**

Single Supplement £75

For more information, or to book, please call

03332 342 514 Quote **osg** justgoholidays.com/OSG

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

justgohols

These packages are subject to JustGo! Holidays terms & conditions. Coach bookings are protected by Bonded Coach Holidays & the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Ltd. Air holidays are ATOL protected No. 10289. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room & no tourist on bookings made up to 7 days post publication, after which prices may fluctuate. Calls to 033 numbers are free with inclusive minutes packages, like standard rates apply. Choices of date, hotel, airport or pick-up location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.

SILVER
gaming
BRITISH
TRAVEL
AWARDS
2024
BEST COMPANY
UK COACH/TOURING HOLIDAYS

Advice is to extend Child Benefit claim soon

PARENTS who know their teenager's plans in September are being urged to extend their claim now to continue to receive Child Benefit.

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has written to 1.5 million eligible parents reminding them to extend their Child Benefit claim for their 16 to 19-year-old.

Child Benefit is worth £26.05 per week - or £1,354.60 a year - for the eldest or only child and

£17.25 per week - or £897 a year - for each additional child.

Child Benefit can continue to be paid for young people who are studying full time in non-advanced education as well as unpaid approved training courses.

More than 509,000 parents of teenagers, who are staying in full-time education or approved training, have already extended their Child Benefit claim.

A record-breaking 67 per cent have done it online to guarantee their payments will continue in September. Parents need to extend their claim by 31 August or payments will automatically stop.

Myrtle Lloyd, HMRC's chief customer officer, said: "Teenagers can be expensive and Child Benefit is an important source of income for your household. As soon as you know what your teen is doing in

September, don't miss out. You can extend your claim in minutes through the HMRC app or online to ensure your payments continue."

If either the claimant or their partner has an individual income of between £60,000 and £80,000, the higher earner will be subject to the High Income Child Benefit Charge.

For families who fall into this category, the online Child Benefit tax

calculator provides an estimate of how much benefit they will receive and what the charge may be.

HMRC say the quickest and easiest way to ensure payments continue is to extend via the HMRC app or online through the digital service.

Parents can also scan the QR code in their reminder letter which will take them straight to the digital service.

Don't pile pressure on 999 crews

AS THE bank holiday weekend approaches, West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) is urging the residents to take simple steps to protect their health and reduce pressure on emergency services.

With GP surgeries, pharmacies, and other services operating reduced hours, planning ahead is key.

WMAS is asking members of the public to:

- Order repeat prescriptions early - ensure you have enough medication to last through the long weekend.
- Restock your medicine cabinet - Be prepared for common health problems by keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home. Keep essentials such as pain relief, antihistamines, plasters, antiseptic cream, and rehydration salts at home.
- Use NHS 111 online - for urgent but non-life-threatening medical concerns, visit 111.nhs.uk for



advice on the best care.

- Only call 999 in a genuine emergency - such as chest pain, difficulty breathing, serious bleeding, unconsciousness, or a suspected stroke.

- Check in on vulnerable and elderly loved ones and neighbours - a quick visit or call to ensure

they are ok and have everything they need could make a huge difference.

- If you're travelling, be prepared - make sure you take water for long journeys, have what3words downloaded so that we know exactly where to find you in an emergency and ensure you've

packed any medications.

Paramedic, Liam Guy said: "We know that accidents and illnesses can happen at any time, but over the bank holidays we're encouraging everyone to be proactive, don't let a lack of planning ruin your bank holiday."

"Bank holiday weekends can be

notoriously busy for the service, with high demand putting extra pressure on ambulance crews, call handlers, and on hospital teams. By taking small but important steps now, you can help us make sure ambulances are available for those in life-threatening situations who need them the most."

★★★★★ 'THE KING IS BACK!' *Rolling Stones Magazine*

★★★★★ 'SIMPLY SUPERB' *North West End*

A VISION OF ELVIS

BOOK NOW!

WT

SWAN
THEATRE

FRIDAY 19 SEPT 7.30pm

01905 611427 worcestertheatres.co.uk

BROMSGROVE'S

OAKLANDS

FURNITURE



MASSIVE CLEARANCE EVENT - EVERYTHING REDUCED!

Top-quality furniture at a fraction of the price!

Trusted **BRAND** names with extra discounts on made to order items from -

Sherborne Upholstery, Harrison Spinks, Global Home, Cotswold Chairs and many more.

Suites - Sofas - Accent Chairs - Rise Recliner Chairs
Beds - Mattresses - Bedroom Furniture - Adjustable Beds
Dining Sets - Oak Furniture - Lounge Furniture

Clearance - Big brand names at unbeatable prices:

DFS • Tetrad • La-Z-Boy • Parker Knoll • Sofology • Furniture Village, Dunelm and much more!!

(Cancelled Orders • Ex-Display • Clearance Stock)

SAVE UP TO 60% OFF!

Clearance & Extra Discounts off Ordered Items.

Special Offers this Bank Holiday!

Your Trusted Local Family Run Furniture Store with over 35 years' experience!

Built on Experience, Grown on Trust.



20% OFF EVERYTHING WITH AN EXTRA **10% OFF THIS WEEK**



Was £599
NOW ONLY
£349!

Fixed Top 1.2m Table + 4 Grey Chairs
Stylish, modern & perfect for any dining space



Better
than
Half Price
on most!!

From £229

FURNITURE VILLAGE SWIVEL CHAIRS
(MANY ELECTRIC RECLINING)



NOW
ONLY
£499

Complete Double Bed

4'6" COMPLETE SET WITH 2 **FREE** DRAWERS
+ **FREE** HEADBOARD IN CHOICE OF COLOURS



Was £1299
NOW ONLY
£899
THE PAIR

Rockford 3str + 2str
RECLINING in Grey or Black



Was £1299
NOW ONLY
£899
THE LOT!

LIGHT GREY CERAMIC TABLE
1.6-2.0 & 6 X SOFT TOUCH GREY CHAIRS



From
only
£299

Collection of fireside chairs - many
brand names! many with up to 60% off



NOW
ONLY
£499

DUAL ACTION RISE RECLINER



Was £1,999
NOW ONLY
£1,499

AVAILABLE AS 2 CORNER 2 OR 2 CORNER 1 ELECTRIC
RECLINING WITH USB PORTS IN STOCK IMMEDIATE DELIVERY



WORCESTERSHIRE'S Biggest Furniture Warehouse

- ✓ YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT FAMILY RUN FURNITURE RETAILER
- ✓ OVER 150 SUITES ALWAYS IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
- ✓ WANT TO SAVE £££'S OFF STORES PRICES WITH NO WAITING?

MASSIVE SAVINGS THROUGHOUT THE STORE

Unit 35 Aston Fields Trading Park,
Sherwood Road, Bromsgrove B60 3DW

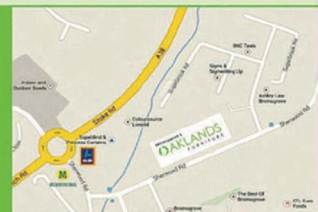
www.oaklandsfurniture.co.uk

OPEN 7 DAYS

Open Bank Holiday
Monday 10-5PM

Tel: 01527 872202

Open: Mon - Friday 9am - 5pm
Sat 10am - 5pm • Sun 10am - 4pm



Oaklands Furniture Limited is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Ideal Sales Solutions Ltd, t/a IdealFinance. Ideal Sales Solutions Ltd is a credit broker and not a lender (FRN 703401). Finance available subject to status. The rate offered is always provisional and will depend upon your personal circumstances, the loan amount and the term.



The books offer guidance which supports the mental and physical wellbeing of families during pregnancy and the early years.

Offering helpful guidance

WORCESTERSHIRE libraries have announced a new collection of books offering trusted guidance which supports the mental and physical wellbeing of families during pregnancy and the early years.

From conception to age two, Reading Well for families offers essential guidance for parents, carers, and their wider support networks throughout the crucial first 1,001 days of a child's life, where their physical, emotional and cognitive health is being formed.

Coun Ian Cresswell, Cabinet Member with responsibility for environment and communities at Worcestershire County Council, said: "We're glad to offer the new Reading

Well For Families collection.

"Supporting parents and carers during the earliest stages of their child's life is so important for the whole family. We hope these books will provide a source of reassurance, comfort and guidance when it's needed most."

The collection includes reads such as *You the Daddy* by Giles Alexander, *Hello Baby*, *Goodbye Intrusive Thoughts* by Jenny Yip, *My Black Motherhood* by Sandra Igwe, and *How to Help Someone After a Miscarriage* by Clare Foster

Visit worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/worcestershire-libraries/read-and-discover/reading-well for more information.

A Level success opens doors to the next steps

by **Sonny Rackham**
sonny.rackham@bullivantmedia.com

CHIEF of children's services in Worcestershire has congratulated pupils across the county for their A-Level achievements this year.

The overall pass rate in Worcestershire is 97.3 per cent, which is above the West Midlands regional average and in line with the national England average.

23 per cent of pupils earned top grades (A* or A), and 74.1 per cent achieved grade C or above.

The top-performing subjects (grades A and above) in Worcestershire were: Mathematics (37 per cent) Further Mathematics (58 per cent) and Philosophy (50 per cent)

Initial data provided voluntarily to the County Council by 16 out of 24 state funded schools shows that 6.8 per cent of students gained top grades (AAB or higher) in at least 2 facilitating subjects.

Facilitating subjects are those which are commonly needed for entry to leading universities (i.e. biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, further mathematics, geography, history, English literature and classical or modern languages).

Adam Johnston, Director of Children's Services at Worcestershire County Council, said: "I want to congratulate every pupil in Worcestershire on their A-Level achievements this year.

"These results reflect not only your hard work and dedication, but also the support of your teachers, families, and wider school communities.

"Whatever your next step – whether it's university, training, or entering the world of work – you should be proud of what you've accomplished and confident about the future ahead."

Anyone gaining results and wanting careers, training, skills or further education information can do so from the Careers Worcs 16-24 Careers Hubs.

The hubs are a collaboration between Worcestershire County Council and the Department for Work and Pensions, working in partnership with local training, education, work, and wellbeing providers to support Worcestershire's young adults.

These dedicated spaces are for anyone aged 16-24 looking for employment, education, training, skills, advice and support to help kickstart their future.

The supportive team can help young adults explore their options and find the right path, no matter their grades on results day.

The hubs are in The Hive, Worcester Heart of Worcestershire College Redditch campus, the Point at Kidderminster College, Seetec Pluss at Parkside, and Workpays in Droitwich.

Visit www.careersworcs.co.uk or call 0300 666 3 666 for more information.

Fine Indian Cuisine
Massalla
LOUNGE

Enjoy our CHRISTMAS DAY Lunch

- ★ Papadom & Chutney
- ★ Xmas Special Starter

Choice of:

- Butter Chicken or Lamb Handi ★
- Accompanied by Seasonal Veg ★
- Rice and nan ★
- Dessert & Coffee to finish ★

Per Adult	Per Child (U10)
£39.95	£24.95

OPEN BOXING DAY 20% OFF* food only when dine in

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

BOOK EARLY Deposit is required at time of booking
All deposits are non refundable.

Email: Tables@massallalounge.com

WWW.MASSALLALOUNGE.COM

35 BROAD STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 3NH

01905 729 955 / 729 938

Gardening

Making the most of the water we have

ADVICE has been offered for gardeners wanting to keep their plots looking lush despite the lack of rain the UK has endured over the past weeks and months.

The increased sunshine and temperatures, along with four UK heatwaves already this year, has meant areas across the country are dry and usually green areas are looking drab.

Add to that water shortages and - although not in our region - hosepipe bans, keeping gardens looking fantastic can be a challenge.

Calum Maddock at HomeHow.co.uk explores ways of keeping gardens thriving in dry conditions.

Use watering cans or buckets

- The simplest and most effective method of watering gardens is using a watering can or bucket. Filling items from a mains tap is permitted and provides an albeit low tech effective solution. It also makes it easier to control where the water goes so people can prioritise plants that really suffer in dry conditions. Among these are plants growing in containers, newly planted species and pod and fruit-producing vegetables. Flowers, such as sweet peas and dahlias also benefit. Do not worry about brown lawns - the green colour return when the rain does fall.



Reuse greywater - Whilst watering cans can be effective to really conserve water, it is a good idea to make use of recycled water instead of going straight for the mains supply. 'Grey' household water from washing up, baths or laundry can be reused outdoors. It is important not to use it on vegetables and other edible plants, but it is a fantastic option for caring for your lawn and other plants. After washing dishes,

use leftover water for ornamental or garden beds - make sure it is free of strong chemicals, such as bleach or strong detergents as these will damage your plants.

Harvest rainwater with water butts - This takes pre-planning as droughts are not often forecast but if you get one installed, it can prevent future hosepipe bans. Rainwater is great for plants as it is softer and

contains fewer salts and chemicals than tap water. Install a water butt or rain barrel under a downpipe for free soft rainwater that can then be distributed to plants.

Set up a drip irrigation system - Some limited hose use is still allowed, for example, many water companies will permit watering recently planted trees and shrubs or vegetable plots, even during a ban. Automated drip

Using a watering can gives more control and makes it easier to target individual plants most in need. s

or trickle irrigation systems can also run if they meet certain conditions - the system must be fitted with a pressure-reducing valve and timer and not be handheld. The system must place water drip by drip onto soil services or beneath and must not disperse it through the air, using a jet or mist.

Mulch to lock in moisture

- Plants in containers and those planted directly in the ground will need extra care during dry spells because they lose moisture quickly. Container plants dry out faster because of roots being confined, but ground plants can also suffer if the soil gets too dry. Add a layer of mulch - such as bark chips, shredded leaves or gravel - around plants to keep moisture locked in, keep the soil cooler and reduce evaporation.

Water at the right time

- Always water early in the morning or late in the evening to prevent losing it to evaporation. This will ensure the maximum benefit to plants. Water deeply, not frequently - a good soak gives plants a better chance at absorbing it.

Gardens do not have to suffer in drought, there are plenty of ways to keep them hydrated without relying on a hose. This ensures gardens thrive - even in a heat-wave.

Quarter Jewellery and Malvern Goldsmiths



Quarter Jewellery (The most reasonable jewellers in Worcester) has now been open for 18 years, I have always endeavoured to run the shop as jewellers were run when I started in the jewellery trade 59 years ago. Five years ago we were lucky enough to acquire the lease of 28, Belle Vue Terrace, Great Malvern a beautifully fitted Victorian pharmacy, now reborn as Malvern Goldsmiths

We have a large range of new, antique and second hand jewellery in both shops.

Having had factories in both Birmingham Jewellery Quarter and Asia, we are able to make diamond rings, pendants and earrings, all of them priced to be able to beat "High Street multiples" and internet sellers.

We value for Insurance, probate and sale between parties.

We are always happy to offer for your unwanted jewellery etc, this service is free, If you have a jewellery problem, we are happy to advise without any obligation.

Malvern Goldsmiths, 28-30
Belle Vue Terrace, Malvern, WR14 4PZ

Quarter Jewellery, 27 The Shambles,
Worcester, WR1 2RA

Just Go!
Holidays

★ Trustpilot

By Coach from Kidderminster, Stourport

Reader Travel



2025 HOLIDAYS

Something for *everyone* to enjoy!


SUPERDEAL

TORQUAY SUPERDEAL

Departing Wed 25 Feb '26

Return coach travel, selected meals, a well-located hotel, happy hour and time in the beloved resort of Torquay: tick! On this great-value superdeal, we've taken the hassle out of planning so you can simply enjoy everything the English Riviera has to offer.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Kidderminster**
- ✓ 3 nights at the Ashley Court Hotel, Torquay (JG2 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ **Happy hour** (7pm-9pm) on selected drinks
- ✓ Entertainment on one evening
- ✓ Free time in Torquay



WARNER ISLE OF WIGHT ENTERTAINMENT BREAK

Departing Thu 15 Jan '26

Join us at Warner Norton Grange Coastal Village for a few days away with entertainment and a range of activities on offer. There's also the opportunity to enjoy a lovely trip to two of the island's most recognisable locations, Newport and the Needles.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel & ferry crossings **from Kidderminster, Stourport**
- ✓ 2 nights at the Warner Norton Grange Coastal Village, Isle of Wight (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Daytime activities in the resort
- ✓ Use of leisure facilities
- ✓ Entertainment every evening

Optional excursion to Newport & the Needles (£12pp)



ABBA VOYAGE LIVE IN LONDON

Departing Sun 26 Oct '25

Have you always wanted to experience the magic of an ABBA concert? Well now is your chance to say Thank You for the Music! Join us at the ABBA Arena for the incredible ABBA Voyage; where the global pop icons appear on stage as digital avatars brought to life.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Kidderminster, Stourport**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) with breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to ABBA Voyage at the ABBA Arena with coach transfers (dancefloor, standing)
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

Upgrade to a seated ticket for £30pp



BOURNEMOUTH & THE NEW FOREST TURKEY & TINSEL

Departing Mon 1 Dec '25

Let's get excited about Christmas with a seasonal dinner menu, a fantastic bar offer and entertainment every night at our hotel! From our base in Bournemouth, we also get to explore neighbouring nautical Poole and the timeless beauty of the New Forest.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Kidderminster, Stourport**
- ✓ 4 nights at a selected hotel in Bournemouth (JG2 or JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast (includes traditional 'Christmas' dinner)
- ✓ **2 for 1 bar** (6pm-9pm) on selected drinks
- ✓ After-dinner tea & coffee
- ✓ Light entertainment every evening
- ✓ Excursions to the New Forest (Lyndhurst, Brockenhurst and Lymington) & Poole

Optional excursion to Dorchester Market & Weymouth (£14pp)

4 Days by Coach only £139
Single Supplement £45

3 Days by Coach only £149
Single Supplement £40

2 Days by Coach only £249
Single Supplement £60

5 Days by Coach only £269
Single Supplement £80

For more information, or to book, please call

03332 342 514 Quote **osg**

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

justgoholidays.com/OSG

These packages are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms & conditions. Coach bookings are protected by Travelers' Club (which is the Association of British Travel Organisers) Ltd. All holidays are ATOL protected. All prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room & based on bookings made up to 7 days prior to publication, after which prices may fluctuate. Calls to OS numbers are free with inclusive minutes packages, else standard rates apply. Closure of date hotel, airport or pick-up location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.



Book Today
f justgohols

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

EASY

	3	7				8	2	
8		6		2	7			5
	5		8	4		3		7
		8		5	9		3	
1	2						7	9
6			1	7		4		
9		4					8	
	6		7	8		5		
		2					6	4

HARD

					4	5		2
	4			2	8			
			1		9		3	
		6				8		
4			2		3			9
		5				3		
	3		6		1			
			8				1	
6		7	9					3

PATHFINDER

Beginning with the top highlighted letter, follow a continuous path of words associated with the given subject. The trail goes through each letter once, twisting up, down and sideways, but never diagonally.

British Butterflies

B	T	O	L	E	D	I	T	P	E	A	R	S	H	F
R	S	N	B	R	W	H	E	P	R	M	R	A	L	R
I	M	E	M	A	I	M	R	O	L	A	Y	A	L	I
R	T	S	L	A	R	D	E	C	L	M	O	D	I	T
E	A	R	P	U	R	A	D	D	Y	S	N	W	O	O
S	K	I	A	H	P	D	L	A	B	S	I	D	O	D
W	L	O	W	E	L	E	T	N	L	U	L	E	R	A
A	L	A	T	O	M	P	A	I	S	E	K	E	G	N
D	E	I	L	C	M	A	S	K	P	E	C	T	O	W
S	L	Z	R	G	H	T	M	C	O	E	U	I	R	N
K	I	Z	I	D	Y	A	A	L	C	P	L	P	B	A
P	P	L	O	E	E	H	L	A	E	B	L	G	R	
E	R	C	U	D	L	L	H	I	T	E	A	L	U	S
E	P	K	S	S	S	O	W	R	A	S	M	L	Y	G
R	P	I	X	E	E	W	E	G	L	N	I	A	R	

Solutions opposite

CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4		5	6		7
						8			
9				10					
11					12				
13		14		15			16		17
18							19		
20						21			
22				23					

ACROSS

1. Crafty trick (8)
5. Breeding farm (4)
9. Employer (4)
10. Incursion (5)
11. Purloin (5)
12. In the fashion (1,2,4)
13. Thoughtfulness (13)
18. Charm (8)
19. Bird's home (4)
20. View (7)
21. Flaming (5)
22. Ancient Roman garment (4)
23. Protected (8)

DOWN

2. An Italian dish (7)
3. Raids (7)
4. Regaining health (13)
6. N African port (7)
7. Dark cell (7)
8. N American country (6)
13. Cigar (7)
14. Nil (7)
15. Sloping type (6)
16. Stress (7)
17. See (7)

Scribble pad

LADDER

Using the clues provided, fill in each step of the ladder with a new word, changing one letter at a time.

- Condemn
- Smack
- Cleanser
- Steep
- Item of clothing

GLAM

ROCK

NINER

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

- 87943789215 gives a bird;
- 52915 gives a second bird;
- 3568 gives a third bird.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

CODEWORD

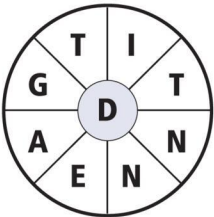
This puzzle has no clues. Instead, every number printed in the grid represents a letter, with the same number always representing the same letter. For example, if 8 turns out to be a V, you can write in V wherever a square contains 8. Using your knowledge of words, complete the puzzle.

	14	18	11	15		12		20	11	22	7	
A												
B		11			19	8	2	11	9		22	
C												25
D	12	22	10	16	17		13		10	2	24	9
E					22							10
F		1				13		20		17		15
G												
H		19	11	18	11	7	21	24	17		6	21
I												15
J	2				18		3				11	
K												11
L	22	17	15	25	17	3		21	7	2	16	17
M												22
N	24		26				19		21			12
O												
P	10	2	6		23	21	15	10	22	11	7	21
Q												
R	3		6		2		6		4			6
S												
T	21	14	25	10	6		2		21	22	22	17
U												5
V	6		11		26	21	22	1	19			22
W												
X	9	17	7	1			12			25	10	21
Y												5
Z												

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16		17	18	19		20	21	22	23	24
					E			S				

WORDWHEEL

You have 10 mins to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the hub letter and at least 3 others. Letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 9-letter word to be found.

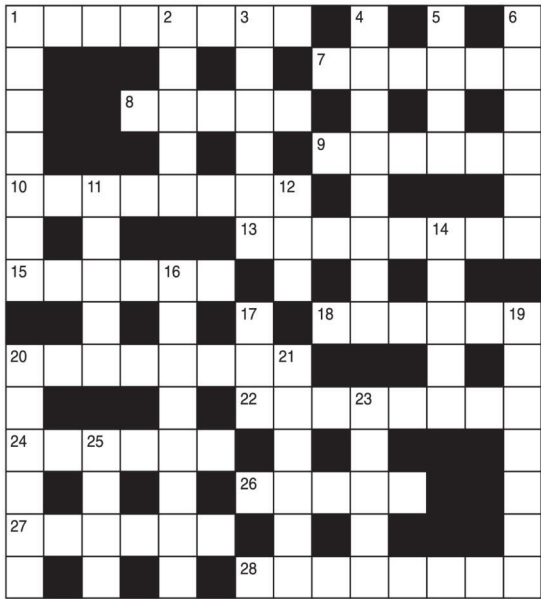


- How you rate
- 15 words: average
- 20 words: good
- 25 words: very good
- 30 or more: excellent.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 See 11 Down
- 7 A French dialect spoken in the southern US (6)
- 8 Bloodsuckers such as mosquitoes (5)
- 9 Nocturnal scavenger of the dog family (6)
- 10 Gas forming nearly four-fifths of the air (8)
- 13 Pests that attack chrysanthemums, potatoes, tomatoes, etc. (8)
- 15 A water-bottle for the table (6)
- 18 A regulation made by a local authority or corporation (3-3)
- 20 One who holds an academic degree (8)
- 22 Kind of very thin and delicate porcelain (8)
- 24 American state, incorporated in the Union in 1959 (6)
- 26 Evergreen shrub with shiny leaves and, usually, scarlet berries (5)
- 27 Coating of the teeth (6)
- 28 Indifference to pleasure or pain (8)



DOWN

- 1 Passenger liner which sank on her maiden voyage to New York in 1912 (7)
- 2 Show dance fashionable in ballrooms since about 1910 (5)
- 3 Dish served at dinner between the chief courses (6)
- 4 Location synonymous with the American theatre (8)
- 5 See 12 Down
- 6 Surname of the actor, writer, producer and director of the film Citizen Kane (6)
- 11 & 1 Across Well-known book by Henry Williamson (5,3,5)
- 12 & 5 Down Largest city in the US, in a state of the same name (3,4)
- 14 Long, narrow, trench or valley on the surface of the moon (5)
- 16 See 19 Down
- 17 Greek goddess of mischief and rash actions (3)
- 19 & 16 Down Nobel Prize winner whose books include The Sound and the Fury and Sanctuary (7,8)
- 20 Light, usually white wine of a district of south-west France (6)
- 21 Goethe play for which Beethoven wrote incidental music (6)
- 23 A ragout of gamebirds, with wine or sauce (5)
- 25 Surname of a famous family of Scottish architects (4)

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1 The Otter; 7 Creole; 8 Gnats; 9 Jackal; 10 Nitrogen; 13 Earthworms; 15 Carafe; 18 Bye-law; 20 Graduate; 22 Eggshell; 24 Alaska; 26 Holly; 27 Enamel; 28 Stoicism.

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Artifice; 5 Stud; 9 User; 10 Invasion; 11 Steal; 12 A la mode; 13 Consideration; 18 Entrance; 19 Nest; 20 Opinion; 21 Ferry; 22 Toga; 23 Defended.

Crossword

ATTENDING: 1 Artifice; 5 Stud; 9 User; 10 Invasion; 11 Steal; 12 A la mode; 13 Consideration; 18 Entrance; 19 Nest; 20 Opinion; 21 Ferry; 22 Toga; 23 Defended.

Wordwheel Pathfinder

ACROSS: 1 Artifice; 5 Stud; 9 User; 10 Invasion; 11 Steal; 12 A la mode; 13 Consideration; 18 Entrance; 19 Nest; 20 Opinion; 21 Ferry; 22 Toga; 23 Defended.

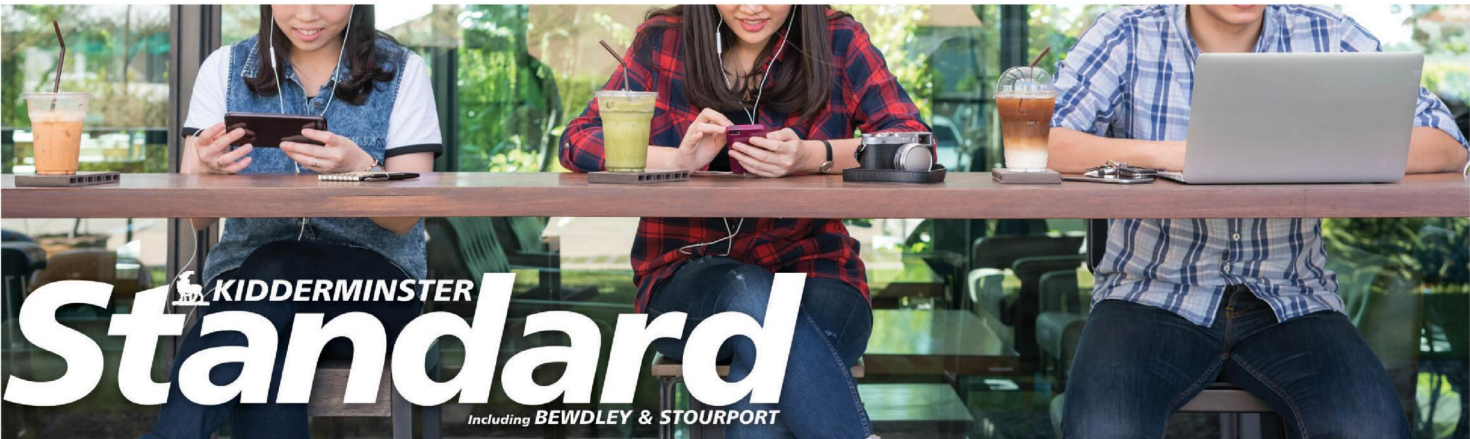
Codeword

1	8	3	7	6	4	5	9	2
5	4	9	3	2	8	1	6	7
7	6	2	1	5	9	4	3	8
4	7	1	2	8	3	6	5	9
8	2	5	4	9	6	3	7	1
2	3	8	6	7	1	9	4	5
9	5	4	8	3	2	7	1	6
6	1	7	9	4	5	2	8	3

Hard

Easy Sudoku

4	3	7	5	9	1	8	2	6
8	1	6	3	2	7	9	4	5
2	5	9	8	4	6	3	1	7
7	4	8	6	5	9	2	3	1
1	2	5	4	3	8	7	9	6
6	9	3	1	7	2	4	5	8
9	7	4	2	6	5	1	8	3
3	6	1	7	8	4	5	9	2
5	8	2	9	1	3	7	6	4



It's time
to Like,
Follow &Subscribe

Don't be LEFT BEHIND.....

X KiddStandard

f KidderminsterStandard

BREAKING NEWS

WHAT'S ON

SPORT

INTERVIEWS

Motoring

www.kidderminsterstandard.co.uk

Telephone: 01562 541500



Beware when buying new cars

WITH just over a week to go until new cars leave the nation's showrooms sporting the latest '75' vehicle registra-

tion on September 1, a motoring expert is urging drivers to avoid common mistakes and pitfalls before signing on the dotted line.

The Motor Ombudsman's Bill Fennell said: "Doing your homework lays the foundations to make the right decision when heading to the showroom."

Deciding on the type of car that will work for your commute, social commitments, and your lifestyle, needs thorough

price of eligible EV makes and models. Some carmakers also have their own discounts and incentives.

Having the very latest and accurate information on hand to make that all-important decision is essential. Bill says: "It's important to make sure that any websites referred to have up-to-date details, as some articles and sources of data can sometimes be written a while back."

"The cost of ownership can add up quickly, so have a realistic picture from the outset", says Bill.

Running a car means paying out for things like road tax, insurance, fuel and / or charging, and regular and ad hoc maintenance. It can get even more expensive once free incentives that can come with a car expire during ownership.

It's worth bearing in mind that a deposit is often not refundable, so if you have a change of heart once you have signed on the dotted line, it's unlikely you'll get your money back.

"Take the time to read through any small print before agreeing to

the sale," says Bill.

At this point, you can sample things first-hand like comfort, performance, and in-car tech. Bring along any car seats, buggies, golf clubs, and other large items that you plan to carry around to check that you have enough space. Also, don't forget to carry ID and a driving licence.

Bill says: "Don't feel rushed or pressured by offers and discounts, as a car is often a few years' commitment as a minimum, which of course impacts household budgets and how much you will be spending every month when at the wheel."

There are different ways to finance a car to spread the cost. For example, there's a Hire Purchase (HP) agreement – made up of an initial deposit followed by monthly payments, where you will own the car at the end of the term. Alternatively, there's a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) arrangement, which works in a similar way, but there's a final optional payment at the end of the term to make the car yours.

Costs and coverage will vary by provider, and premiums are also dependent on who is listed on the policy and your no claims history, for example. The price can differ too if you choose to pay for the agreement outright or go on a monthly Direct Debit arrangement.

The duration of warranties differs by brand, so keep an eye out for this, and understand the coverage and limitations of the policy in the event of needing to make a claim. It's also worth taking time to consider if you should purchase additional add-ons such as GAP insurance or paint protection.

Before leaving the retailer, have a look around to ensure the car is in perfect condition inside and out, that all the documentation is present (including the car's handbook), that any optional extras and accessories you ordered with the car are there, and it's already charged up if it's an EV. You should also get a show around by the retailer so that you're comfortable with the controls and in-car tech.

WANTED

We buy any Cars Vans Pick ups & Caravans Low or High Mileage All makes and models purchased

Free professional quote
Instant Payment - Cash or Bank Transfer

CALL PAUL ON 07377323240 FREE PHONE - 08005 026241

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS LINGARD TRADE CARS

USED CARS WANTED TOP PRICES PAID!

Older cars considered.

We can visit you and pay on the spot.

ALAN REED CARS (1976) LTD

01562 711 083

07831 245 313

If you're thinking of opting for pure battery power, there's a government grant offering up to £3,750 off the

Classified

www.kidderminsterstandard.co.uk

Telephone: 01562 541500

SALES & WANTS

MISCELLANEOUS

WHEELCHAIR
Compact folding for
car boot £40 01789
778174

ISABELLA minor
Porch Awning
with curtains £200
07708476099

MEDIUM Oak dining
table, 4 chairs, 2 fully
upholstered, and 2
leatherback; extends
to seat 8 - hardly
used. Cost £850 - will
accept £300 0no Tel:
07707 003024

PINE Glass cabinet
with 3 drawers £50
Tel: 07707 003024

BLACK plastic bonnet
guard for Renault
Kangoo Van (65
plate) Brand new
boxed £20 .Tel
07967401319

STIHL HL 75 long
reach hedge cutter
good condition well
looked after £150
07967401319

BANBOO CANES,
8ft. long 14-16 dia.
£7 for bundle of 10
01905 778926

2 side lights pink silk
shades flowered
bases bargain the lot
£20 07738740038

MISCELLANEOUS

6 Genuine Oral-B
Precision Clean
Replacement Brush
Heads (Individually
Sealed) £10 01527
853345

TWO seat cane settee
with cushions vgc
buyer collects 20
pounds Redditch
01527 541168

VINTAGE Belfast
jacket medium £30
01527 546201

JOHNSON SHP
outboard 4 stroke
engine long shaft
£195 07512162444

HARLEY Davidson
Pen In a petrol tank
shaped box Came
from America,
unused £15 07905
864294

TRUMA Ultraflow
water pump - never
used £30 o.n.o.
07753853193

JVC TV sound bar
new still in box £20
post hole digger new
£20 electric water
pump new £10 01905
759441

GOLF Balls 50 balls
for £12 all good
name & condition
01564 784171

MISCELLANEOUS

LARGE world stamp
collection in 10
large binders neat
clean £80 ono
07964999255

UNUSED continental
tyre size 185 / 60 R14
2 used tyres size 185
/ 60 R14 nearly full
tread FREE TO
COLLECTOR 0121
408 7657

WARDROBE
freestanding pine
3ft wide by 6 foot 4
tall 18" depth good
condition £95 collect
01386 438846

SHERBOURNE
recliner chair fully
electric finished in
Tuscan coffee £195
01386 438846

VINTAGE gate leg
table ideal for
restoration £200 ono
07368380945

ANTIQUE China
cabinet silk lines
ideal restoration £60
07368380945

STAG mahogany
Mintrel dresser
and bureau ideal
for restoration £150
each 07368380945

PUSH Mower. £5.
07936305705.

MISCELLANEOUS

BIKE, men's rally 18
gears Giant Rock G
/ S, hardly used £60
ono. 07950 220824

FARMHOUSE
Workshop to let
Fenny Compton.
6mx5m. For details
call Steve 07887
875826

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

MISCELLANEOUS

TWO M&S 'bucket'
shape chairs, teak
wood legs, for inside
or out. Perfect
cond. £45 each
07704640907

CONSERVATORY 3
piece suite plus side
table plus leg rest
excellent condition
£140 01527 550342

MAHOGANY
Sideboard 3 drawers,
3 cupboards 940H x
1270L x 480D Good
Condition £100 ono
07879015716

CRYSTAL drinks
decanter and 2
whisky glasses.
Glasses have never
been used, excellent
condition. £12 Tel
01527 500217

SITE safety boots
size 9 as new steel
toecaps etc £15
Redditch 01527
541168

BES metal frame
folding single bed
folds in half aged but
good condition £10
01527 524412

BES metal frame
folding single bed
folds in half aged but
good condition £10
01527 524412

BES metal frame
folding single bed
folds in half aged but
good condition £10
01527 524412

BES metal frame
folding single bed
folds in half aged but
good condition £10
01527 524412

BES metal frame
folding single bed
folds in half aged but
good condition £10
01527 524412

OFFICE TO LET

Workshop/offices

TO LET

- 600 sqft
- Stourport area
- POA

Tel : **01299 879263**
or : **07836508020**
call discuss further.

GARAGES TO LET

Lock up Garages Available

Short or long term
Bewdley area
Contact Richard

01299 879263 or 07836508020

WANTED

**WANTED: Vinyl Records CDs Cassettes

Vintage or New **

Seeking classic rock, jazz, indie
and rare finds. Cash paid

Call or text: 07765 142354 Or 01527 893992

Or email: welston@live.com

Paul (Albatross & Doomed Records)

Just Go! Holidays



GREAT LITTLE TRAINS OF NORTH WALES & PORTMEIRION

Departing Mon 27 Oct '25

Enjoy a visit to the unique, Italianate village of Portmeirion and discover the historic railways and meandering tramways of North Wales on this fantastic five-day break, based in Llandudno, the 'Queen of the Welsh Resorts'.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from Kidderminster, Stourport
- ✓ 4 nights at the Baytree Hotel, Llandudno (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage journeys on the Welsh Highland Railway, Great Orme Tramway & Ffestiniog Railway
- ✓ Free time in Llandudno
- ✓ Excursions to Caernarfon & Portmeirion

5 Days by Coach only £479
Single Supplement £75

These packages are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms & conditions. Coach bookings are protected by Bonded Coach Policies & the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers (Trot Ltd). Air holidays are ATOL protected No. 0893. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room & based on bookings made up to 7 days prior to publication, after which prices may fluctuate. Calls to 055 numbers are free with inclusive minute packages, else standard rates apply. Charges of dates, travel, alcohol or pick up location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.

For more information, or to book, please call
03332 342 514 Quote **OSG**
or visit us online at justgoholidays.com/OSG

055 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

SERVICES

AERIALS



7 Working Days | New Installations
Extra Points | Tuning Service
3 Year Guarantee | Discounts For OAPs
Wall Mounting | Freesat systems
Sky work | CCTV | Wireless / WiFi

Phone today for a quote or advice

freesat Freeview
07504 228783 | 01562 959005
www.rjsaerials.co.uk

CARPENTRY/ JOINERY



EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE
AND QUALITY WORKMANSHIP

Covering: kitchen fitting, roofs,
doors, stairs and much more to
help with your carpentry based
home improvements.

Call today for your free quote!

Call Ant on
07827 324754

f AJB Carpentry

DRIVEWAYS



PLUMBING



- Gas Fires
- Gas Cookers
- Gas Central Heating and Maintenance.
- Gas Appliance Landlord/home
- Safety Checks.
- Plumbing faults/installation.

Email: stuart4heating@gmail.com

www.sb4plumbing.co.uk

Call me for domestic work

MOBILE

07951 485 329

APPC

07951 485 329

ROOFING



www.lingarddrivewaysandlandscapes.co.uk

OOPS!



**BETTER TO
GET AN
EXPERT!**

Give one of the
LOCAL EXPERTS
on these pages
a call!

TREE SURGEONS



Contact us today **FREEPHONE: 0800 747 1704 • LANDLINE: 01527 906 577**

treeandlandscapespecialists@gmail.com

www.treeandlandscapespecialists.co.uk

FIND US ON Google

www.kidderminsterstandard.co.uk/sport BRINGING YOU ALL THE LATEST SPORTS NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE AREA

Murray 'wants more' from Harriers ahead of trip to former club Fylde

by Aaron Sutcliffe
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

FOOTBALL: ADAM Murray admits Kidderminster Harriers are still finding their identity ahead of a trip to his former side AFC Fylde this weekend.

Harriers followed up their opening day win against Scarborough Athletic with successive draws against Worsop Town and Oxford City respectively.

And Murray wants his players to play with more freedom after feeling his side took the safe option on too many occasions against Oxford in midweek.

Murray said: "We're still unbeaten but I'm just frustrated because I know how good this team is and how good these players are and how much there is to come.

"Some of the boys are still finding our identity and still understanding what I expect from them and how I expect us to play.

"We played way too safe and way too many square passes. We end up giving away a really poor goal after having 70 per cent possession.

"That was the blueprint of what's going to happen at Aggborough all season. We have to understand that and be better at causing teams more problems.

"When we get into the final third, there's a few boys playing with a little bit of fear because they look like they're caged up.

"There's an awful lot of quality in this group but they've just got to free



themselves up a bit. At the moment it's: 'I don't want to make a mistake. I want to be safe.'

"That's not my way of playing. For us to move to the next level we just need certain things to click and once we do that I've got no doubts we're going to have a successful season.

"We want more but we want it quicker. We didn't create enough and didn't put them under enough stress and that's the bit as a team we have to get better at."

Harriers make the trip to Murray's former side AFC Fylde this weekend.

Murray won the National League North title with Fylde in 2022/23.

However, Fylde sacked Murray the following campaign with the club bottom of the National League table.

Fylde have won two of their three league matches this season with Harriers one of five teams yet to lose in the league this campaign.

Kidderminster travel to AFC Fylde on Saturday, August 23 with kick-off 3pm at Mill Farm.

Harriers then host Leamington on Monday, August 25 with kick-off at 3pm at Aggborough.

Harriers rescued a late point against Oxford City in midweek. Picture courtesy of clivejonespr.com

Penny to the rescue in Oxford stalemate

by Neil Gordon

ALEX Penny scored a crucial late equaliser as Kidderminster Harriers salvaged a 1-1 home draw against Oxford City, writes Neil Gordon.

Harriers failed to trouble City in a disappointing first-half and fell behind to Jack Bearn's strike before Penny grabbed a lifeline late on at Aggborough.

The draw sees Kidderminster maintain their unbeaten start to the season although Harriers have dropped to ninth in the National League North table.

Adam Murray made five changes to the Harriers team which drew 1-1 with Worsop Town last weekend.

Kidderminster midfielder Luke Spokes blasted high over the bar early on and Penny headed wide from a corner late on, in a draw first-half performance from Harriers.

And the Reds fell behind on 36 minutes when Bearn ran on to a great pass and fired home.

The warning signs were already there for Harriers when Josh Ashby's free-kick smacked off the woodwork and Isaac Westendorf fired across goal.

After the interval David Davis forced visiting goalkeeper Sam Lewis to make his first save of the night on the hour mark from a quickly taken free-kick.

The Reds improved when Amari Morgan-Smith came on and a spell of intense pressure began which resulted in Penny blasting home an equaliser from a corner on 81 minutes.

And Harriers searched for a winner while Oxford continued to threaten but it wasn't to be and a frustrated Murray was booked as the game ended with two more dropped points.

MOT'S ONLY £39.99

ALL MOT'S £39.99

Harriers & SERVICE CENTRE LTD
(next to football ground)

MOT

FREE COLLECTION & DELIVERY FOR REPAIRS AND MOT'S

Diagnostics, Clutches, Brakes, Steering, Servicing

ALL MECHANICAL REPAIRS TO ANY VEHICLE AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

• COMMERCIALS & CARS BOUGHT & SOLD

FREE RE-TEST

Tel: 01562 823656 for MOT's

Tel: 01562 823738 for Repairs

Unit 2 Steve Morris Buildings, Stadium Close, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 1NJ