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April / May 2023

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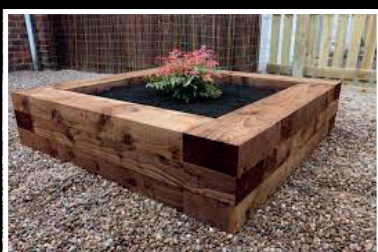
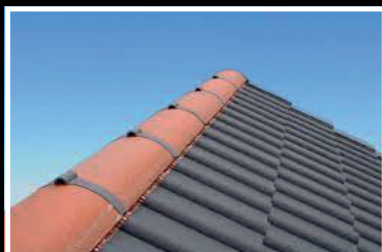
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Darlaston & Wednesbury Life

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the April/May issue of Darlaston & Wednesbury Life.

This magazine comes out just at the start of Spring, when most people's mood is supposed to start to improve as we look forward to better weather and more daylight.

I still don't understand why we need to put the clocks backwards and forwards at the start of Spring and Autumn.

Apparently, the USA and EU are both considering ditching the practice as it's viewed as outdated and unnecessary. Two states (Arizona and Hawaii) don't do it anyway – just to make it even more ridiculous!

The gardeners among you will be able to get out and do a bit more, now everything is starting to grow, which is great for our mental and physical health.

I've just had one of those scarifiers, to see if I can get my lawn in a bit better shape. I think there's more weeds than grass in it, so hopefully the new gadget might help. If I can't get it right this year, I might have to go for a full re-turf, but that feels like giving up and is probably a bit expensive.

By the time you read this, I'll be another year older (I know, I don't look it – thanks!) and I'm now starting to listen to my lot, who have been telling me to slow down for the last few years.

The trouble is – and some of you will be the same – I don't feel my age. In my head, I'm still 30.....ok, maybe 40.....alright 45, but I certainly don't feel 58!

Don't panic! I'm not stopping the magazines. However, I have another job as Bilston's Town Centre Manager, where I was doing three days a week. I'm now reducing that to two and at some point, will go down to one, then finish completely.

I'm very lucky in that I really love both jobs, but I need a bit of time for me, to play golf, get fit, read a book or make some pasta (I have a machine that I've only used twice and I'm getting grief about it)..... Oh and that bloody lawn won't mow itself!

Due to the increasing cost of print, more than ever, our advertisers are vitally important to the to the continuation of this magazine. Please have a look at their adverts and if you do purchase anything from them, PLEASE TELL THEM YOU SAW THE ADVERT IN THE DARLASTON & WEDNESBURY LIFE MAGAZINE!

The next issue will cover June and July and will be out on 2nd June, so if you want to be in it, please contact me by 12th May. Enjoy your read!

Simon

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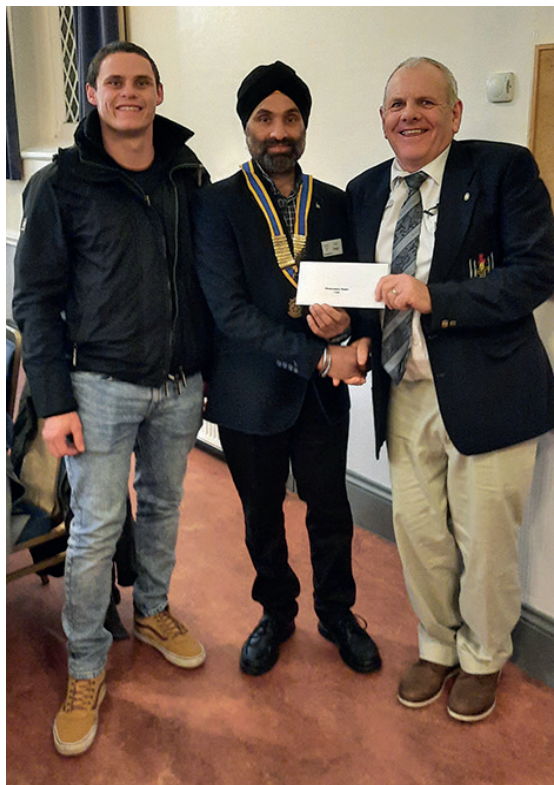
Rotary Club of Wednesbury

After our very successful 2022 Christmas Float, President Jas Singh was able to make significant Donations to all the local Groups who assisted us throughout December.

At a recent Float Celebration Event, recipients included Boys Brigade, TS Legion, Fire Cadets, Scouts, Cricket and Rugby Clubs, and WSU Football Team, with all expressing appreciation on receiving their cheques, enhancing their funds to enable them to continue the valuable contribution they make within our local community.



In the Club's ongoing support of the local Breaking Bread Foodbank, £1000 was recently presented by President Jas to the dedicated volunteers who run this much-needed local facility - monies which



will be used to purchase less commonly-donated but, nonetheless, needed items.

A further exciting project now being undertaken is an offer we have made to





every Junior School to take a party of children to the West Midlands Safari Park – coach transport and Park admission costs being paid by the Club.

We are pleased to say that nine of our Schools have accepted and, accordingly, during the coming months, hundreds of local youngsters will be partaking in an exciting (and, maybe educational ?) day out, at this lovely venue.

As a member of Rotary International our Wednesbury Club, together with Rotary Clubs throughout the world, has always associated itself with giving support when, sadly, disasters occur and, to this end, the Club has donated £1000 to the Turkish Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund.

Having outlined above many of the ways we distribute the Charity monies we collect during the year, we hope that all who have contributed to us will feel that it is money



well spent and, importantly, mostly going back into our Town.

We are now well advanced in our preparations for the Wednesbury Carnival, which will be held on Saturday 8th July 2023, in Brunswick Park, Admission Free.

To reserve Stall spaces, or for any other information about the Carnival, please contact Heather Nightingale on **07879 407754**.

Our thanks again to the support we enjoy from Riverside Housing and, of course, from Editor, Simon Archer, who continues to include our reports in the excellent Darlaston & Wednesbury Life magazine.

Mike Warner
Rotary Club of Wednesbury



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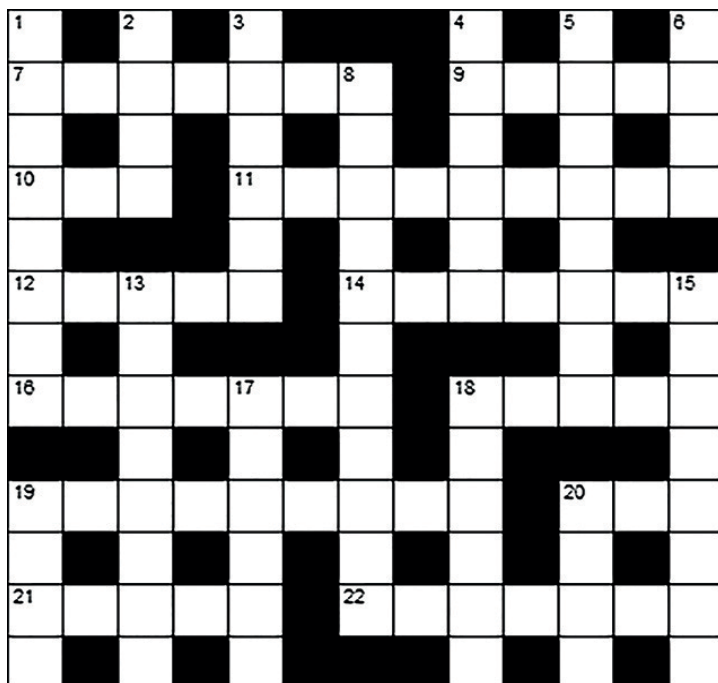


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Crossword

Please see answers
on page 31



Across

- 7 Voted in, chosen (7)
- 9 Concepts, notions (5)
- 10 Affirmative response (3)
- 11 Outward Behaviour (9)
- 12 Denigrate, exploit (5)
- 14 Enlightened, tolerant (7)
- 16 Analyses, observes (7)
- 18 Stick, cudgel (5)
- 19 Mobilising troops (9)
- 20 Blockade, stopper (3)
- 21 Bamboo-eating bear-like animal (5)
- 22 Ice river (7))

Down

- 1 A decade (3,5)
- 2 Chaos, disarray (4)
- 3 Filling, cloying food (6)
- 4 Baking soda (abbr) (6)
- 5 Not a Republican (U.S) (8)
- 6 Ruler, leader (4)
- 8 Destroying, breaking (11)
- 13 Supplanting (8)
- 15 Monument, feature (8)
- 17 Line joining points of equal atmospheric pressure on a weather map (6)
- 18 Tramp, drifter (6)
- 19 Drug, sedate (4)
- 20 Trickle, plop (4)

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Being part of the Macc Care family, we want Willow Rose to be a home and community that not only staff and residents are proud of, but that is also respected by people in the local community and the surrounding area.

Whether you are looking for a long-term stay, respite or perhaps just a period of convalescence to help a loved one get back on their feet, Willow Rose is able to help you. We can offer you a number of different care options and assist you with advice as to what would best suit your particular needs.

Willow Rose is a home with one aim in mind – to look after you in a warm, compassionate, safe and friendly environment. Everyone at Willow

Rose is dedicated to making sure that your welfare and personal happiness is at the forefront of everything we do.

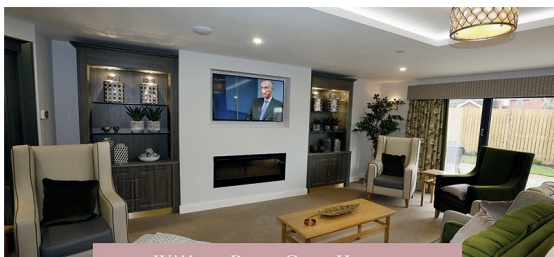
Our Manager

Shelly Trotman is the Manager of Willow Rose and is a dedicated nurse with over thirty years' experience in the care sector. She has previously worked with many large healthcare companies in the UK and so she brings a wealth of knowledge to her new role.

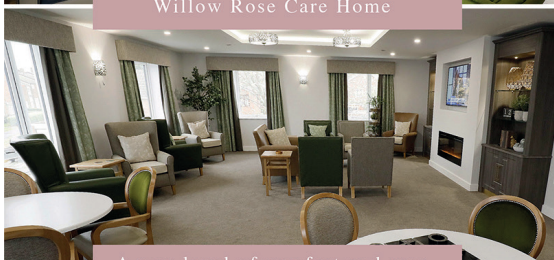
Shelly is really excited about the amenities and opportunities that Willow Rose will provide to its residents. She says..

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Model Railway Open Day

West Bromwich Rail Model Club are holding an Open Day at their premises at Unit1 Albert Street Wednesbury WS10 7EY on Saturday 22nd April from 10am until 3pm.

Admission is free and all are welcome, although under sixteens must be accompanied by an adult.

The club's layouts will be on display including Wednesbury Town now with station buildings. O, OO and N gauge layouts including one built using track compatible with older engines will be operational for anyone wishing to run their own trains.

Traders and Club Sales together with refreshments will be available.

If you cannot make the Open Day the club rooms are open four times a week:

Monday and Thursday evenings 6pm until 9pm and Wednesday and Saturday Mornings 9am until 12noon.



World Book Day Celebrations



Children at Holyhead Primary Academy in Wednesbury are celebrating World Book Day this year thanks to a donation of new books for their library from the Morrisons Foundation. The charitable arm of Morrisons has partnered with the National Literacy Trust to help inspire a love of reading for over 100,000 primary school children in local communities all across Great Britain.

The donated books have been specifically chosen to cover topics that are relevant for the development of children's mental health, their emotional wellbeing and social inclusion. It's hoped that the donation will give children some of the support they need to learn and develop, as well as have fun reading some fabulous new books.

Nicola Maycock, Community Champion at Wednesbury donated the books to the school saying: "I'm delighted that through the partnership between the Morrisons Foundation and the National Literacy Trust we're able to provide these wonderful books for pupils at Holyhead primary academy in our community.

"It's great to be able to help encourage children to read with their friends, families and teachers and I hope that they enjoy reading the books for many years to come."

Jonathan Douglas, Chief Executive of the National Literacy Trust said, "It's wonderful to be working with the Morrisons Foundation for the 5th year to ensure children in communities all across the country are able to access books and celebrate World Book Day.

"Through schools and the inspirational work of the Morrisons Community Champions we're delighted to be delivering books to thousands of children, many of whom may never have owned their own book before. The right book at that right time could be the spark of a child's reading journey, and help to develop crucial literacy skills they need to succeed at school and in adult life."

The National Literacy Trust is an independent charity dedicated to raising literacy levels in the UK, working with schools, parents and local communities to make reading accessible to children from all backgrounds.

The Morrisons Foundation was set up by Morrisons supermarket in 2015 and awards grants for charity projects which help improve people's lives. Since launching, over £38 million has been donated to charities across England, Scotland and Wales.



Names of Pupils and Teacher within the picture: Mrs Shipley (Principal) Mrs McMenamin (V Principal), Mason Pitts, Skye Mcvoy, Louie Mainwaring, Alexandra Small, Subhan Mohammadzai

About the National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust is an independent charity dedicated to raising literacy levels in the UK.

The charity's research and analysis makes them the leading authority on literacy. They run projects in the poorest communities, campaign to make literacy a priority for politicians and parents, and support schools.



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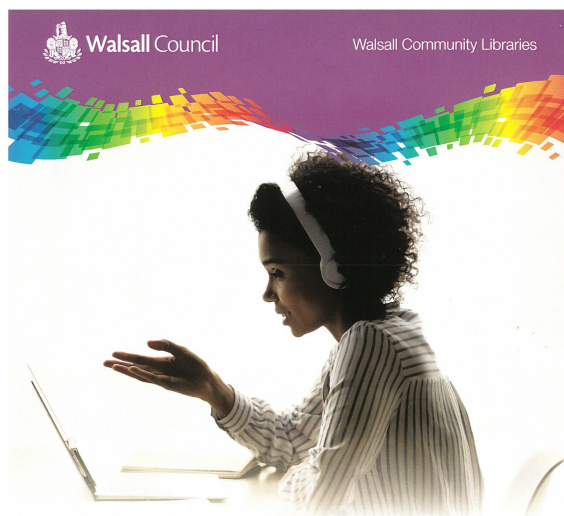


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The Full Monty

Even after four decades, green-fingered expert Monty Don's passion for the outdoors shows little sign of waning, as he explains why gaining new inspiration is so important.

A lifetime of getting green fingers might be taking its toll physically on the 67-year-old broadcaster and writer Monty Don: aside from his bout of peritonitis in 2007, a stroke that could have killed him a year later, and battles with depression – for which he says gardening has been a better antidote than any prescription drug – the everyday rigours of flowering and weeding, pruning and digging have left his body as weathered as one would expect... not that he cares.

"It's a strange day when you put the visual appearance of your garden over yourself," he laughs. "For me, that was quite some time ago, but it all relates back to how passionate you are about a subject or a project.

"It's a big job to keep my garden how I want it, and to keep going – you do that because it's important not only for the future, but in respecting the effort you have put in previously."

A renowned writer on all things horticultural since the early 1990s, Don has had over 20 books published and still pens a number of popular newspaper columns.

He became the welcoming, enthusiastic, all-knowing expert on the BBC's *Gardeners' World*

programme between 2003 and 2008, before taking on lead presenting duties for its flagship Chelsea Flower Show in 2014.



Well dressed in his 'painterly' style and with a sparkling demeanour, Monty's garden at Longmeadow in Herefordshire has become something of a national horticultural staple, with fans sharing in the ups and downs of tending to an expansive plot that continues to throw up new challenges. "We've had all manner of issues over the past few years, especially some drainage issues.

"Where nature is concerned, you've got to expect the unexpected – it's a fun part of the process... at least, fixing it is!"

When asked about his own inspirations, he admits to having been influenced by



the style and aesthetics of French gardener Nicole de Vesian, who passed away in 1996.

"Nicole had a great feeling for both colour and form, and then for space," he says. "Her use of colours could look muted and faded at first, but when her gardens were in bloom they looked fantastic when the sun is shining. And she used the space in between plants and sculptures better than anyone. That's been a blueprint I've used for Longmeadow for quite some time.

"I think it's important to have heroes and inspiration, no matter who you are or for how long you've been in the game."

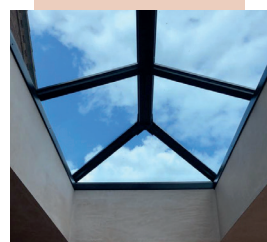


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Spring is all about rebirth and growth, so it's the perfect time to start fresh. If you've been wanting to get fitter and healthier in your life, now is the time to do it. It's the perfect time to begin working towards your goals and making positive changes in your life.

All in all, Spring is a great time for your health and well-being. From the warmer weather and longer days to the fresh produce and abundance of activities, there are plenty of reasons to love this season.

So, make sure to get out there and enjoy it! Your mind, body, and soul will thank you for it.

The warmer weather and longer days give you more energy to get out and enjoy the outdoors. Exercise is a great way to boost your energy levels, and there are plenty of activities to choose from in springtime.

Getting your heart rate up is a great way to boost your energy levels and improve your mood. All of these activities are great for your physical health as well as your mental health, so get out there and enjoy the spring weather!

Another reason why spring may give you more energy is because of the increased

levels of daylight. Exposure to sunlight has been shown to improve mood and increase energy levels. This is because sunlight helps the body produce serotonin, a neurotransmitter that has been linked to happiness and well-being. This is one reason why spending time outside in the springtime is a great way to improve your mood! So if you're feeling down or have Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), getting out and enjoying the spring weather may be just what you need!

In addition to improving mood, sunlight also helps the body produce vitamin D. Vitamin D is essential for teeth and bone health, and it can also help improve mood and energy levels. This is another reason why spending time outside in the springtime is good for your overall health!

Another reason to love spring is the abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables that are available. This time of year is perfect for getting your daily dose of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants from nature's bounty. Make sure to take advantage of all the delicious seasonal produce and incorporate it into your meals!

Some of the best fruits and vegetables to enjoy in the springtime include asparagus,



strawberries, blueberries, spinach, and peas. These foods are all packed with antioxidants and nutrients that can help improve your health and wellbeing. So, make sure to add them to your diet this season!

Another great thing about spring is the fresh air. Taking a walk in the park or spending time outdoors surrounded by nature can do wonders for your mental state. Exposure to fresh air and sunlight has been shown to improve mood, increase energy levels, and even reduce stress levels. Plus, getting some fresh air is great to clear your mind and reframe your thoughts.

So, if you're feeling stressed out or down, make sure to get outside and take a deep breath of fresh air. You'll be surprised at how much better you feel!

There are plenty of reasons to love spring, and these are just a few of them! This

season is a great time to get out and enjoy the weather while also improving your mental and physical health. So, make sure to take advantage of all that spring has to offer!



Ben Mescam is a Certified Health & Wellbeing Coach helping people become healthier by improving their habits.

For a completely **FREE** chat about improving your health call Ben on **07876 493 125**.

Sharon 07909 627736

Monday 5.30pm & 7pm

The Church on the Corner
King Charles Avenue
Bentley WS2 0DL

Thursday 6pm

St Chads Church hall
71 Edison Road, Beechdale
Walsall WS2 7EZ

Sarah 07398 197131

Tuesday 6pm

Woods Methodist Church
Coronation Road
Wednesbury WS10 0TT

Heidi 07972 530778

Wednesday 5.30pm

Saturday 8am & 9.30am

The Wesley Centre
Spring Head
Wednesbury WS10 9AD



Lesley 07545 263348

**Tuesday 9.15am, 10.45am,
5.30pm & 7pm**

Darlaston Sports & Social Club
The Leys
Darlaston WS10 8DP

**Wednesday 9am & 10.30am
Friday 9am**

Saturday 9am & 10.30am

All Saints Church
Walsall Road
Darlaston WS10 9LA

Jenny 07751 259593

Tuesday 9am

Woods Methodist Church
Coronation Road
Wednesbury WS10 0TT

Wednesday 9.00am

Hill Top Methodist Church
New Street
Hill Top B70 0HW

**Thursday 9.00am, 10.30am,
5.30pm & 7pm**

St Bart's Church Hall
Bottom Church Hill
Little Hill WS10 9DF

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Current offers**

GIG Recycling

Recycling unwanted items is now an essential part of modern-day life.

We are used to recycling many household items such as paper, cardboard and glass bottles in our green bins but it is equally important to actively recycle other reusable items such as clothes, toys, books, bric-a-brac, CDs, DVDs as an estimated 3 million tonnes still ends up in landfill every year.

GIG Recycling Ltd based in Darlaston is addressing this problem. Only set up in June 2022, the company is growing from strength to strength.

For more information on how we can address your recycling needs please call **0121 729 7238**.

Vicki Phipps said "We have set up a weigh in service for most reusable items. This means you can bring us household items such as ornaments, glass, china, crockery, cooking items, baby items, toys, clothes, CDs/DVDs, bags, shoes and belts and weigh them in. In return you will get paid for these items.



All we ask is that they are clean, not broken and reusable. I am sure this will benefit people who are having a clear out or downsizing. We believe that this is a great way of rewarding people in helping to look after the environment".

Calling all households

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- ▶ **Light Touch Energy Advice**
- ▶ **Workshops / Group Sessions**
- ▶ **Telephone Calls**
- ▶ **Home Visits**

You have now read our best energy saving tips, start saving money and stop wasting energy!

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/energy-efficiency/reduce-bills

energycompare.citizensadvice.org.uk

GRANTS AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, REDUCE BILLS AND ALLEVIATE FUEL POVERTY

go.walsall.gov.uk/housing/housing_support_information

go.walsall.gov.uk/energy_efficiency_team

FOR ADVICE OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL

0121 568 6144
07465 223201

Useful Numbers:

Making Connections Walsall - 0121 380 6690
Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) - 01922 600700
Walsall Council Switchboard - 01922 650000
Ablewell Advice - 01922 639700
WHG - 0300 555 6666
StepChange - 0800 138 1111
Money Home Job - 01922 652250
Ryecroft NRC - 01922 626693
Darlaston All Active - 0121 568 6144

Helpful Emails:

housingandwelfaresupport@walsall.gov.uk
debtreferral@walsall.gov.uk
info@ryecroftnrc.org

Useful Websites:

www.ryecroftnrc.org
www.walsall.gov.uk
www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills
www.charisgrants.com
www.fuelbankfoundation.org
www.moneyhelper.org.uk
www.ablewelladvice.org.uk
www.stepchange.org
www.turn2us.org.uk
www.jobhelp.campaign.gov.uk
www.stoploansharks.co.uk
www.rethink.org
www.nhs.uk/mental-health
www.south-staffs-water.co.uk/media/3043/assure-tariff-application-form-2021

REDUCE YOUR BOILER FLOW TEMPERATURE

Find the flow temperature setting (dial with the radiator symbol) if you have a combi boiler. Then lower the temperature to 60°. Turning your boiler down could save you up to £100 a year.

2. TURN DOWN RADIATORS IN ROOMS YOU'RE NOT USING

This reduces the volume of hot water use, and could save you up to £70 a year on your energy bills.

3. STOP HEAT FROM ESCAPING THROUGH YOUR WINDOWS AND DOORS

Tackle draughts by blocking unwanted gaps around windows and doors and reduce heat loss through your windows by installing window film. These measures are easy to install yourself and could save you up to £60 a year.

4. REDUCE YOUR WATER TEMPERATURE

If you have a heating system with a separate hot water cylinder, turn the temperature down on the cylinder thermostat to 60° so that the water is not heated unnecessarily.

5. REDUCE YOUR WASHING MACHINE TEMPERATURE AND THE NUMBER OF WASHES

Changing from 40° to 30° means you could get three cycles instead of two for the same energy cost. Fill your machine every time.

6. TURN APPLIANCES OFF STANDBY

TVs, computers, mobiles and other appliances all drain electricity unless they are unplugged. Turn off the power switch on the socket/wall when they are not in use.

BELOW IS A GUIDE TO HELPING YOU DRAUGHT PROOF YOUR DOORS & WINDOWS

Sealing unwanted gaps around your doors and windows will keep the heat in and will cut down on cold draughts throughout your home.



Every external door and every opening window in your home has a gap round the edge, that should seal tight when the door or window is fully closed. If the seal isn't good enough, then cold air can blow through the gap, and warm air can escape. Old or badly fitted windows can have extra gaps around the frame or glass, even if they don't open, doors can have extra gaps around the letter box, cat flap or keyhole.

This will increase your heating bills, because all the money you have spent heating this air up is wasted as soon as the air leaks out. You will also feel less comfortable in a draughty house, because the cold air feels even colder if it is blowing through the room.

Draught proofing an existing door or window is fairly straightforward, provided you use the right materials for each job. You can either pay a professional to choose the right products and fit them correctly, or you can buy your own and fit them yourself.

Draught proofing is different to double glazing and it does a different job. Double glazing is designed to stop heat escaping through the glass itself. Draught proofing is designed to stop heat escaping through gaps around the edges.

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≤bark myBuilder A Yell.

Easter Adventures with the National Trust



Bring the whole family together this Easter and treat your loved ones to a spring adventure with the National Trust.

From getting active in the great outdoors, to spotting the signs of spring, and experiencing nature bursting into life at the places the National Trust cares for; there are over 190 Easter trails to choose from across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Every single National Trust Easter trail is different and celebrates nature, history and beauty. Follow winding garden paths or woodland trails to complete an activity sheet before claiming your prize.

Each National Trust Easter trail ends with a chocolate egg, or vegan and free from egg, made here in the UK using cocoa that's responsibly sourced from Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.

National Trust Easter egg trails cost £3 per child, plus normal National Trust admission/free entry for National Trust members.

To discover your nearest National Trust Easter trail, visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/easter

SHROPSHIRE

Attingham Park, near Shrewsbury:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/attingham-park

Make your way along the trail and find nature-inspired activities for the whole family. The trail takes place between 25 March to 16 April, from 8am to 5pm, with last trials sold at 4pm, so come along and explore the beautiful grounds of Attingham Park.

The price of the trail is £3 per child and includes a trail map, pencil, bunny ears and a chocolate egg

at the end. Booking is not required for the trail. If you would like a quieter trail we recommend coming on a weekday or before 10.30am or after 3pm. On weekends between 11am and 2.30pm the trail can get very busy.

Benthall Hall, near Broseley:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/benthall-hall

Set off on your own Easter adventure in the garden at Benthall Hall. Discover what's new in nature at this time of year. Spring flowers are blooming and wildlife is waking up for the new season. Complete the activities and earn your chocolate reward. It's £3 to take part. Please book your car park space during the Easter bank holiday weekend.



Dudmaston, near Bridgnorth:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dudmaston

Discover what's new in nature this Easter at Dudmaston. Easter trails are available at Dudmaston Hall from Sunday 2 - Sunday 16 April (excluding Fridays and Saturdays); and in Comer Woods from 7 - 10 April. Trails are £3 each and include a prize.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Biddulph Grange Garden, near Stoke-on-Trent:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/biddulph-grange

Get ready to spring into action with the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Biddulph Grange Garden. Follow the trail around the garden from 1 - 16 April, there are 10 activity stations for you to enjoy, including potting a seed to take home, cloud spotting and welly-wanging.

Once you have completed the trail and had lots of fun you can claim your chocolate prize. Easter Egg Hunt trails £3 each, includes a chocolate prize. Normal admission prices apply.

Kinver Edge and the Rock Houses, near Stour-bridge: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kinver-edge

Find out what's new in nature this spring at the Rock Houses. Join us for Easter adventures from Friday 7 - Sunday 16 April. Follow the trail, complete the activities and collect your Easter Egg once you've finished. Activity sheet and Easter Egg cost £3 (normal admission applies).

Moseley Old Hall, near Wolverhampton:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/moseley-old-hall

Come along and join the Easter fun at Moseley between Friday 31st March and Sunday 16th April. With your activity sheet in hand, discover the journey taken by Charles II in 1651 as you weave your way around the trail.

Once you have completed your adventure, go back to one of the friendly Easter helpers to collect your Easter egg.

Activity pack and easter egg £3. No booking required, normal admission applies.

Shugborough Estate, near Stafford:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shugborough-estate

Visit Shugborough Estate this Easter (1 – 16 April) for a fun filled Nature Adventure, with a chocolatey surprise. Follow our Easter Trail, and try your hand at being a weather presenter, getting



crafty or find the giant birds nest. Make sure you stop by the farmyard, where you may see some of our springtime Southdown Lambs or Dorking Chickens, and don't forget to head into the Gardens and Parkland so see spring blooms come to life.

WEST MIDLANDS

Wightwick Manor and Gardens, Wolverhampton:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wightwick-manor

Come and join our Easter adventures at Wightwick from 1 to 9 April 2023. There will be a fun packed activity sheet and a great selection of activities across the gardens for the family to enjoy.

Activity sheet with Easter Egg prize - £3 per participant, normal admission costs apply, no booking required.





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King Charles III

As Prince of Wales, Charles has been preparing for this moment for most of his life, under the tutelage and guidance of his late mother, Elizabeth II. He will be recorded in history as the longest ever heir apparent, and the oldest to ever accede to the British throne at the age of 73.

Charles Philip Arthur George was born on 14th November 1948, during the reign of his grandfather King George VI. After the death of the King in 1952, his mother Elizabeth became Queen and Charles became heir to the throne at just three years old.

Charles was educated at Cheam and Gordonstoun schools, in the footsteps of his father Philip. He was the first heir apparent to attend school rather than receive private tuition. His time at Gordonstoun was hard, he referred to it as "Colditz in kilts" but later reflected, "...it taught me to accept challenges and take the initiative." He left in 1967 with six O levels and two A levels in French and History.

Charles went on to read Archaeology and Anthropology, then switched to History at Trinity College, Cambridge. He gained a 2:2 Bachelor of Arts in 1970. As Prince of Wales, he also spent a term at the University College in Aberystwyth, in order to study the Welsh language and history. In 1975, Cambridge University awarded him a Master of Arts.

Charles joined the Royal Air Force and trained as a jet pilot, then the Royal Navy, where he qualified as a helicopter pilot. The Prince's Trust was founded in 1976 with the £7,500 severance pay from the Navy. Since then, Charles has established sixteen more charities which raise over £100 million annually.

In 1981, he married Lady Diana Spencer. They had two sons, William born in 1982 and Harry in 1984. The couple divorced in 1996, and Diana was tragically killed in a car accident a year later.

In 2005, Charles married Camilla Parker-Bowles. The official title of Princess of Wales was never publicly acknowledged, instead Camilla became known as the Duchess of Cornwall.

The Duchy of Cornwall Estate was established by Edward III in 1337 for the heir to the throne. As Duke of Cornwall, the 53,000 hectare estate provided Charles with a private income to fund public, charitable and private activities, effectively making him financially independent. The estate passed to Prince William when he became heir apparent.

On 8th September 2022, Queen Elizabeth passed away peacefully and King Charles III became the new monarch. Coronation plans have been laid out for many years, under the codename 'Operation Golden Orb'. It's thought that the service will be smaller than the last coronation in 1953, and include different faiths and communities to reflect the change in British society. The Church of England ceremony will be broadcast internationally, and requires an oath and anointment, delivery of the orb and enthronement. The coronation of King Charles III and Camilla takes place in Westminster Abbey on 6th May 2023. Long live the King!



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Darlaston & Wednesbury Life

Kids' Page



Can you find all the chocolate bars hidden in the letter grid?

Aero
Boost
Bounty
Bueno
Caramac
Chomp
Double Decker
Freddo
Galaxy
KitKat

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

Lion Bar
Mars
Milkybar
MilkyWay
Snickers
Toblerone
Topic
Twirl
Twix
Wispa
Yorkie



The answer to each picture clue is a popular chocolate treat. Can you solve them all? The first one has been done for you.

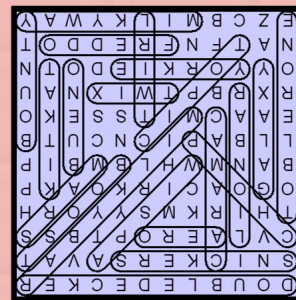


4. 5. 6.

Dime



Picture Clue Answers
1. Dime
2. Celebrations
3. Picnic
4. Minstrels
5. Time Out
6. Galaxy



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Darlaston Town Hall.....	0121 568 6144
Friar Park Millennium Centre	0121 5560139
The Wesley Centre for All	0121 5560420
Woodlane Community Centre	0121 5252662

Emergency Services

Crime Stoppers (anonymous)	0800 555111
Electrical Emergency.....	0800 328 1111
Flood line.....	0845 9881188
Gas Emergency.....	0800 111 999
Police/Fire/Ambulance	999
Police (non-emergency).....	101
Water Emergency (Severn Trent	0800 7834444
Water Emergency (South Staffs).....	0800 3891011

Health Organisations

Arthritis Action	0203 781 7120
Manor Hospital	01922 721172
NHS non-emergency number	111
Sandwell General Hospital	0121 5531831

Members of Parliament

Shaun Bailey, West Bromwich West	0207 219 3000
Valerie Vaz (Walsall South).....	01922 635835

Local Councillors

Darlaston North

Angela Underhill	07948 997684
Saiqa Nasreen	07795 014015
Rose Burley	07931 767211

Darlaston South

Chris Bott	07761 355611
Douglas James	07983 456213
Paul Bott	07731 957520

Wednesbury North

Elaine Costigan	07891 196 199
Peter Hughes.....	07896 914 849
Luke Giles	07549 657 831

Wednesbury South

Olwen Jones	07814 708 869
Kirat Singh.....	07929 659 647
Ian Chambers	07929 659 646

Chemists/Pharmacy

Asda Darlaston	0121 568 4000
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Boots Gallagher Retail Park	0121 505 5894
Brutons Pharmacy.....	0121 526 4919
Friar Park Pharmacy	0121 502 3865
Jhoots Pharmacy – Church St.....	0121 526 5555

Jhoots Pharmacy – Pinfold St.....	0121 526 3758
Jubilee Pharmacy	0121 502 5138
Manichen.....	0121 556 0427
Park Lane	0121 556 0973
The Co-Op Pharmacy	0121 556 4935
Well Wednesbury – Union St.....	0121 556 0022
Well Darlaston	0121 526 6991
Wednesbury Pharmacy	0121 556 0427

Help Lines/Others

Childline.....	0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 1444
National Careers Service.....	0800 100900
National Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247
RSPCA	0300 1234 999
RSPB.....	0845 1200501
Samaritans	116 123

Places of Worship

All Saints Church, Darlaston	0121 526 3017
Central & Woods Methodist Churches	
Darlaston Methodist Church	07593 382884
Darlaston Spiritualist Church.....	0121 556 1540
Saint Francis of Assisi C of E	0121 556 5823
Sant Nirankari Mission	0121 505 4005
St Bartholomews Church	0121 556 0378
St Joseph's, Darlaston....	01902 452841
St Lawrence's Church	0121 526 2240
St Pauls Church.....	0121 556 0687
Wednesbury	07939 573070
Wednesbury Baptist Church	0121 556 0010
Wednesbury Central Mosque	0121 505 3957

Schools

Albert Pritchard Infant School	0121 5560858
Holyhead Primary School	0121 5560114
Kings Hill Primary	0121 5686301
Mesty Croft Primary School	0121 5560854
Old Church C of E Primary	0121 5686329
Old Park Primary	0121 5262669
Pinfold Street Jr Infant School.....	0121 5686366
Rowley View Nursery School.....	0121 5688168
Salisbury Primary	0121 667 4066
Sandwell College.....	0121 667 5000
St Johns C of E Primary Academy	0121 5560269
St Mary's Catholic Primary	0121 5053595
Tameside Primary	0121 5560340
The Priory Primary.....	0121 5561383
The Little Wendy House Day Nursery ..	0121 505 5800
The Wonder Years Day Nursery.....	0121 5566979
Wodensborough Ormiston Academy ..	0121 506 4300
Wood Green Academy	0121 5564131

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Crossword Answers

From page 10

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

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