

# LOCAL LINKS

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ISSUE 114

FREE

## EASTER FEAST

Perfect 'free from' alternatives

## BIRDY BUFFET

Feed the birds in foul weather

## WIN LAWN TREATMENTS

from Green Thumb

Check out our

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# LOCAL LINKS



## ISSUE 114

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Dear Readers,

*Brrr! As we write it's cold and the chill is set to continue for a while. Spare a thought for the poor little birdies bobbing about your garden. With the ground frozen and little fruit left on the hedgerows, they find it difficult to get the food they need. Save the day by making some fat balls to feed the birds! Read our article on page 7.*

*If you're feeling a little glum like the birds with all this grey weather, we've got some lovely things coming up for you to celebrate! Easter, jazz, children's books, family. If that doesn't perk you up we don't know what will!*

*So snuggle up with a brew and your March issue of Local Links and take your mind off all things grey...*

The **LOCAL LINKS** team

#### Next issue deadline:

Tue 10th April

#### Next issue out from:

Wed 18th April

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# Backyard Buffet

With the recent cold snap our poor birdy population are probably feeling it. To give your feathered friends a helping hand this month pop out some extra food. You can attract many birds by putting out fat balls and you can easily make them at home, varying them to your local bird species by choosing different seeds and fruit to appeal to different species.

Birds have very high metabolisms and demand high amounts of energy to maintain their daily activities. Fat is a great way to help them replenish the energy stores lost during nesting, migration, and cold weather. It's also a great way to lure bird species to your backyard that might otherwise ignore your seed feeders.

## BASIC FRUIT BALL RECIPE

### Ingredients:

450g to 700g fat or animal suet  
3/4 cup millet (red and white mixed, if possible)  
1/3 cup cracked corn  
3/4 cup bird seeds  
3/4 cup raisins or crab apples  
1 to 2 tablespoons of honey (optional)  
mesh bags, or small plastic containers (margarine, sour cream, yogurt, etc.)  
waxed paper  
glass jar

### Directions:

Chop the fat into small pieces and melt in a saucepan over low heat until it turns to liquid. Once the fat is melted, strain and remove any floating particles, including any remaining traces of meat.

Let the liquid fat cool slightly and stir in the other ingredients. Don't worry about exact measurements. Just add in whatever you think is needed.

Line small plastic containers with waxed paper and pour in the mix.

Refrigerate containers until they start to harden, and then store them in the freezer until ready for use. For ball-shaped feeders, remove the suet from their containers while still slightly warm and shape it into balls with your hands. Gently poke a hole through the centre of the ball with a chopstick and thread with string to hang it up with. Place the balls in plastic bags and store them in the freezer.



**Fruit:** If you (or perhaps your neighbours) grow cherry or other fruit trees, collect fruit with insect holes or bird damage, and cut it into halves or quarters. Other good choices for fruits include native berries like elderberries, mountain ash, and hawthorn. Store fruit in the freezer until you make the suet. It can be added to recipes while still frozen.

**Fat:** If you eat meat, one way to acquire fat for suet recipes is to trim the excess from meats before cooking them, or save the drippings. Freeze fat in labeled plastic bags until you are ready to use it. Scraps of fat can also be sourced from local butchers. It's also available in the meat section of some grocery stores. Experts disagree about whether birds digest pork fat as easily as beef fat, but most agree that lard and vegetable shortening are not good substitutes.

### Offering Suet to Backyard Birds:

Fat cakes can be set out for birds while still frozen. Pop it out of its container and if necessary, cut it into smaller pieces before dropping them into a mesh bag (or wire suet cage). Hang your feeders from tree branches at least 5 to 6 feet off the ground. You may also want to try smearing the suet directly on the bark of trees. This will be especially welcome to bird species accustomed to clinging onto bark in search of insects.







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# Easter Eats

Easter is almost upon us and for a lot of us it's that next cheeky indulgent time after Christmas! Hot cross buns and chocolate galore! Unless of course your diet restricts you. Yes, sad faces all 'round. Whether you're gluten intolerant or vegan, there's a whole heap of Easter treats that you just can't touch... or can you? Here are some lovely 'free from' options that might just put that smile back on your face!



## **Freefrom Hot Cross Buns Sainsbury's**

Suitable for coeliacs and vegetarians, these buns are free from gluten, milk and wheat but do contain eggs.



## **Hot Cross Buns Tesco**

These aren't gluten free but are suitable for vegans.



## **Plamil Organic Milk Chocolate Alternative Egg Holland and Barrett**

Plamil's factory is completely vegan and free from nuts, gluten and fish, and its products carry the Vegan Society logo.

Its organic milk chocolate alternative egg comes in plastic-free packaging, fitting with the company's ethical standards, and the product is Fairtrade-certified.

## **Booja Booja Almond & Sea Salt Caramel Chocolate Truffles Holland and Barrett**

It is honestly hard to believe these truffles are completely dairy-free. These truffles are nutty, salty, and chocolaty, and the ideal Easter gift for someone who deserves to be spoiled – especially as they come in a wooden egg box that has been hand-painted by artists in Kashmir, India, and in a range of flavours such as hazelnut crunch or fine de champagne. And while Booja-Booja advertises itself as dairy-free, these truffles are also certified by the Vegan Society, meaning that these extremely tasty treats tick every box – just try to ration yourself or you'll eat them all in one go.



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Not only that, but 100 Runners-up will win a free, one-off, non-obligatory lawn treatment to give their gardens a vitality boost for spring.

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In addition to the First Place and Runner-Up prize, every **LOCAL LINKS** reader who contacts **GreenThumb's** team on **01283 735675** can have a free, no-obligation lawn survey and soil analysis.

To enter this month's competition, all you have to do is put your *name, address and daytime telephone contact number* on a postcard and send it to:

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Alternatively, you can e-mail your details to:

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The closing date for entries is the 17th of April, and the winners will be announced in our May edition. Good luck to everyone!

*\* Prizes are for lawns up to 400 square metres.*



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# Oh Happy Day

The 20th March is International Day of Happiness! Wondering what it's all about? It's a day to be happy, of course! Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated the International Day of Happiness as a way to recognise the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. In 2015 the UN launched 17 Sustainable Development Goals that seek to end poverty, reduce inequality, and protect our planet – three key aspects that lead to well-being and happiness.

The day is an initiative of Bhutan, a country which recognized the supremacy of national happiness over national income since the early 1970s and famously adopted the goal of Gross National Happiness over Gross National Product.

The General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed the 20th March The International Day of Happiness recognizing the relevance of happiness and well-being as universal goals and aspirations in the lives of human beings around the world and the importance of their recognition in public policy objectives.

Everyone wants to be happy, and increasingly, following Bhutan's lead, countries around the world are looking at happiness as an indicator of national well-being and

considering happiness in policy making. As this year's World Happiness Report states, "Happiness is increasingly considered a proper measure of social progress and a goal of public policy."

For the World Happiness Report, researchers ranked countries based on factors including healthy life expectancy, social support, GDP per capita, the happiness of a country's children, social capital, the civil economy, the absence of corruption, and subjective well-being. When compared with findings from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Better Life Index, we find that the happiest countries are those that build stronger social ties, better-managed commons, and a strong sense of community.

So how can we add to world happiness? Here are 5 ideas for you to try!:

**1 Step outside your front door.** Casual encounters are sometimes the best kind. Meet neighbours while tinkering in the garden or tidying the garage with the door open. Try walking to a nearby shop instead of driving, when possible, and you're more likely to run into others on the way and strike up friendly conversation!

**2 Play out front.** Put your picnic table or lawn chairs out front and hang out; as you read or watch the world go by, people will stop to chat and introduce themselves. If you have kids, host a lemonade stand on a hot day and you'll make friends with the neighbours.

**3 Host a neighbourhood party.** Everyone can participate and share in the hosting. It's not a new idea, but it's still one of the nicest ways to meet your neighbours on a positive footing.

**4 Plant a community garden.** If you have a common grassy area or someone who is willing to donate part of their land, you can create a community garden where lots of hands, big and little, can create something beautiful together.

**5 Establish a book-lending cupboard.** Imagine a tiny little library on your street! If there's a disused phone-box, this is perfect to use.





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# Enjoy Jazz

Jazz... it's that musical equivalent of our world famous Burton made Marmite. Love it or hate it, April is Jazz awareness month!

Created in 2002 by the well respected Smithsonian Museum, Jazz Appreciation Month is intended to stimulate and encourage people of all ages to participate in jazz - to study the music, attend concerts, listen to jazz on the radio and recordings, read books about jazz, and more.

Jazz is a music genre that originated in the African-American communities of New Orleans, in the US in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and developed from roots in blues and ragtime. Jazz is seen by many as 'America's classical music'. Since the 1920s Jazz Age, jazz has become recognized as a major form of musical expression.

The music grew through the turbulent times of the Civil Rights movement in America. It appealed to whites and blacks alike, provided a culture in which the collective and the individual were inextricable. It was a space where a person was judged by their ability alone, and not

by race or any other irrelevant factors. Not only was jazz music itself an analogy to the ideals of the civil rights movement, but jazz musicians took up the cause themselves. Using their celebrity and their music, musicians promoted racial equality and social justice.

You might be surprised to realise quite how much jazz you actually do know!...

## **'Take Five' - Dave Brubeck**

With it's cool train-like piano intro and playful saxophone melody this is probably the most famous jazz track of all time, this instrumental piece has been used in numerous adverts and films, you'll remember it from the Cadbury's 'Twirl' chocolate bar commercials.

## **'So What' - Miles Davis**

This finger clicking laid-back classic just makes you want to sit in a bar and lose yourself in the cool trumpet notes. Miles Davis' career

spanned five decades and his music still influences artists today

## **'Strange Fruit' - Billie Holiday**

Try listening to this song without feeling goose bumps all over. Can't do it? We don't blame you. That's because this track is quite easily one of the most haunting pieces of music ever recorded. The lyrical content is just as compelling. Originally a poem penned in 1937 in protest of American racism, particularly the lynching of African Americans.

Their influence can be heard in some of today's biggest acts including Adele, Lady Gaga, Lana Del Rey, Katie Melua, Jamie Cullum & Kendrick Lamar to name but a few.

Maybe it's time to give Marmite a second chance too!




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# Best of British Books

**I**nternational Children's Book Day sees us celebrate all the great authors and stories that Children all over the world love, this date was aptly chosen as it's Hans Christian Andersen's birthday.

Hans Christian Andersen was a Danish author best remembered for his fairy tales. Andersen's popularity is not limited to children: his stories express themes that transcend age and nationality. Andersen wrote no less than 3381 fairytales and they have been translated into more than 125 languages, presenting lessons of virtue and resilience in the face of adversity, favourites of children and adults alike.

Some of his most famous stories include: 'The Emperor's New Clothes', 'The Little Mermaid', 'The Snow Queen', 'The Ugly Duckling' and 'Thumbelina'.

We're lucky to have many brilliant children's writers that hail from these shores! If you've not read works by these authors, pop along to your nearest bookshop and indulge yourself!...

## **Roald Dahl**

A British novelist, short story writer, poet, screenwriter, and fighter pilot. His books have sold more than 250 million copies worldwide and he created some of the best-loved children's stories of the 20th century, such as 'Charlie

and the Chocolate Factory', 'Matilda', 'James and the Giant Peach', 'The Witches', 'Fantastic Mr Fox', 'The BFG', 'The Twits' and 'George's Marvellous Medicine'.

## **J.K. Rowling**

Best known for writing the Harry Potter fantasy series about a young wizard. Her books have won multiple awards, and sold more than 400 million copies. They have become the best-selling book series in history!

## **Philip Pullman**

Best known for his award winning best-selling books, including the magical fantasy trilogy 'His Dark Materials'.

## **Beatrix Potter**

Having numerous pets and spending holidays in Scotland and the Lake District as a child, she developed a love of landscape, flora, and fauna, all of which she closely observed and painted. Beatrix Potter is well known for her charming stories of countryside creatures and the often humorous predicaments they find themselves in!

## **C.S. Lewis**

Best known for his 'Chronicles of Narnia', most notably 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. As a boy he fell in love with Beatrix Potter's animal characters and often wrote his own animal stories.

## **Lewis Carroll**

His most famous writings are 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland', its sequel 'Through the Looking-Glass', which includes the poem 'Jabberwocky', and the poem 'The Hunting of the Snark' – all examples of the genre of literary nonsense. He is noted for his facility at word play, logic and fantasy.

## **Julia Donaldson**

She is best known for her popular rhyming stories for children, especially those illustrated by Axel Scheffler, which include 'The Gruffalo', 'Room on the Broom' and 'Stick Man'. 'The Gruffalo' was an immediate success, going on to win several awards, including the Smarties Prize (1999). It has subsequently been translated into more than 40 languages, and sold over 10 million copies worldwide

## **Judith Kerr**

A writer and illustrator, who created both enduring picture books such as the 'Mog' series and 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and acclaimed novels for older children such as the semi-autobiographical 'When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit', which gave a child's-eye view of the Second World War.

On the 2nd of April, why not join in the celebrations and reconnect with some of your favourite childhood books and introduce them to the little ones in your life too!



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- Caecotrophs/faeces collecting round their bottom
- Discharge from eyes or nose
- Swelling on the jaw or face
- Quiet and subdued behaviour

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# By The Barn *by Angela Sargent*



**M**arch also sees the start of our lambing season- we used to lamb earlier, but it is hard work with the weather against you and it is easier if the ewes can graze outside during the day. They need less bedding and, as we still have the day jobs to carry out, we can keep a close eye on them.

Pip hasn't learnt not to chase sheep yet, so it is important she does not accompany us when we go round them to check- she will have to be tied up or shut inside. Ted knows not to and will obey the instruction to lay down.

One of the things we've not been short of this winter, is water. The fields have been like wet sponges, even our feet have left footprints in the grass.

The ridge and furrow has done its job of channelling water away and down into the ditches.

Too much or too little water at different times of the year affect us quite dramatically. Too much and the ground becomes waterlogged and seed can rot, or later the harvested corn needs drying. Too little and the plants don't grow.

There is a "water framework directive" which applies to England and this comprises regulation to protect our water- drainage, rivers, groundwater

etc and applies to everyone- builders, industry as well as farmers. Regulating what and how much effluent can run-off into watercourses.

One of the issues it addresses is nitrates in water- which leach out of farmland in wet weather and consequently, in certain areas where the levels are higher there are 'nitrate vulnerable zones'.

This means there are strict limits as to how much, when, where and at what concentration farmers are allowed to fertilise their arable and grass land and we keep records for this, which can be inspected.

Follow Angela on Twitter @bythebarn

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# V.A.R. Here to Stay!

by Perry Deakin

**W**ell we complained constantly about poor refereeing decisions, we vented into our beer after games when dissecting exactly how our team had managed to lose against 'that lot', we called into radio phone-ins doing exactly the same and let's be frank; we couldn't blame the managers' tactics, couldn't blame the players for lack of effort or ability and couldn't bring ourselves to admit that 'that lot' may just have been the better team on the day – there must be another reason we lost today, there just has to be!

And it comes to us in an instant, every single week – **THE REFEREE!**

'He cost us the game, he hasn't got a clue, he secretly supports 'that lot', he's the worst referee we've ever seen – it's his fault!

And so it goes on – every single week at almost every single game we point to a poor refereeing decision as the reason we may have lost, and then the rumble began – quietly at first, even as a whisper until more and more fans, managers, journalists and pundits joined in and it grew into a deafening roar.. 'we need video technology' to ensure referee's don't continue making 'howlers' which cost a team the game!

We pointed to Rugby, Cricket and Tennis as shining examples of how technology has almost eradicated the referee/umpire howler and ensured that the correct decisions are made – 'that's what we need in football' we screamed, that will solve the problem!

Football governing bodies around the world, including our own FA and Premier League began trialling various systems at lower level games and tried to work out the best format and match protocol to introduce to the biggest games in the world.... We're not there yet because the V.A.R. (Video Assistant Referee) systems don't seem to have solved all of our problems, who knew!

Firstly, Cricket, Tennis and Rugby matches all have natural breaks in action when a VAR review does not hold up play. Football does not contain these natural breaks and this results in referees having to stop play and await information from VAR control (which is in London by the way and not at the actual game itself) to confirm whether his decision was correct – this is causing incredible frustration for fans and players alike who stand around without any idea whatsoever of what is being discussed, what the issue might be or indeed, why the game has even stopped!

FIFA have recently announced that VAR will be in operation during this summer's World Cup in Russia so look out for the very regular sight of referees at the world's largest and most prestigious sports tournament standing in the middle of the pitch with their finger to their ear piece trying to ascertain if that goal can stand, or that red card is appropriate – I predict utter confusion because we simply haven't got the system right yet!!

Interestingly, The Premier League are not introducing VAR yet, perhaps their cautious approach is the right one just now!

**VAR – Coming to a game near you!**



# What's On Guide

## TUESDAY 20TH MARCH

### Art Classes

Weekly classes at The Horseshoe, Tatenhill following a programme of skills development with a focus on drawing and observation, then we will be drawing with colour and using water colour paints and mixed media. Lessons will cost £10, or £8 if paid a half-term in advance. Please email or phone for further details or to reserve your place. Contact: Helen Tarr Tel: 07791 228 881

### Ladies Badminton Club

Meet every Tuesday afternoon from 2 'til 4pm at Tutbury Village Hall. All abilities welcome. Ring Prim on 01283 327591 to arrange free visit.

## WEDNESDAY 21ST MARCH

### Priory Art Group

We are a small friendly group of artists meeting at the Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton, every Wednesday morning, 9.30 to 12. New members are always welcome, whatever your level of experience, so why not come and have a chat to see what we have to offer. Contact: Sandra: 01283 329743

## THURSDAY 22ND MARCH

### Dementia Walking for Health

Every Thursday, meeting at 10:45am at Oaklands village in Swadlincote for an 11am start. All participants must be accompanied by a carer/dementia friend on this walk. For more information on any of our Health Walks call Judi Whileman on 01283 563483

## FRIDAY 23RD MARCH

**Choral Concert - Lichfield Gospel Choir**  
Concert organised by Bretby Rotary Club to be held in Riverside Church, High St, Burton at 7.30pm. Admission by ticket £10 to include refreshments. Tickets from Club members or Riverside Church.

## SATURDAY 24TH MARCH

### Rollleston Scouts Easter Bingo

Easter Bingo, so lots of chocolate and great prizes to be had. Doors open 6.30 pm and Eyes Down at 7 pm. Fun evening, free entry, parking and refreshments available. Great night out for all the family. At Rollleston Scout HQ, Station Road, Rollleston on Dove, Burton on Trent DE13 9AA

## SUNDAY 25TH MARCH

### Morris Dancing

Ryknild Rabbie meet every Sunday morning 10:30 am at the King's Bromley Village Hall, to practice the Border Morris dances. From January to April, anyone is invited to come along and try out border morris dancing. The team have over 20 years experience of teaching these traditional dances. We are a lively group and in summer perform the dances locally and nationally. For more information call Nigel Moss 01283 790088 or visit the web site [www.risa.demon.co.uk](http://www.risa.demon.co.uk).

## MONDAY 26TH MARCH

### Red & Ginger's Lindy Hop Dance Class

Monday nights during term time 8-9pm. Learn to Lindy hop, Charleston and swing dance at Tutbury Castle! Our relaxed, friendly and welcoming lessons are suitable for all ages and abilities, for those with a partner or without. Monday nights, 8-9pm term time at Tutbury Castle. [www.dancewithredandginger.com](http://www.dancewithredandginger.com)  
Contact: Red & Ginger by email at [hello@dancewithredandginger.com](mailto:hello@dancewithredandginger.com)

### Watercolour For Beginners

At Tutbury Village Hall, every Monday morning during term times 10am - 12noon. A foundation course designed for Beginners that takes place in a friendly relaxed atmosphere, with a professional artist/tutor who is sympathetic to the needs of those who have always wanted to paint with Watercolour but have possibly been a little afraid to try. Contact Ann Stringer-Paget on 07816 118776 anytime. Admission is by prior registration only.

## TUESDAY 27TH MARCH

### Burton Dance & Social Club

We invite and welcome anyone over 18 years of age. We meet every Tuesday Evening 8-11pm at Marstons Sports and Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-on-Trent. Activities include sequence, ballroom and line dancing to professional live music, bingo, raffles and food nights. Come along and join us and meet new friends. For more information contact Pauline: 01283 519159

### Stretton 60+ Group

Every Tuesday 12.45 to 3.00pm. Social for all aged 60 and over. Join us for a friendly chat, a cuppa, a short game of bingo and occasional trips. Just come along - you will be very welcome. Fresh faces and new ideas needed. Everyone welcome. £1.50 paid weekly. Bingo 25p for 3 games. Contact: Mrs Jane Brooks Tel: 01283 531748

## WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH

### Priory Art Group

We are a small friendly group of artists meeting at the Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton, every Wednesday morning, 9.30 to 12 noon. New members are always welcome, whatever your level of experience, so why not come and have a chat to see what we have to offer. Contact Sandra: 01283 329743

### Kraftiz

Rosliston Forestry Centre - 10am-12noon - Join Julie for a craft activity including stamping and card making. Adults and children welcome. Please call 01283 480272/ 07971 268943 for more details.

## THURSDAY 29TH MARCH

### Whist Drive

Every other Thursday afternoon, held in the Methodist Hall Alrewas start 2pm £1 with tea & biscuits at half time. Contact: Georgina Rowlands Tel: 07977912752

## FRIDAY 30TH MARCH

### Friendly Fridays

Friendly Fridays, aimed at those living well with dementia and their carers. Brewhouse's cosy cinema space at 1.30pm. We enjoy music with low lighting and controlled sound levels with tea and biscuits.

## SATURDAY 31ST MARCH

### Disco & Street Dance Classes

Fun classes and expert tuition for 3 - 8 years in Branston Village Hall every Saturday. Call Pat Miller for more information: 07973 478444

## SUNDAY 1ST APRIL

### Burton Ramblers

Walks most Saturdays, Sundays and every other Wednesday. All walkers welcome to join this friendly local group, walking in Staffs, Derbys and Leics. Please visit our website for more information. [www.burtonramblers.org.uk](http://www.burtonramblers.org.uk) Contact: Burton Ramblers Tel: 07724 352529

## TUESDAY 3RD APRIL

### Burton Hospitals Friends Bingo

First Tuesday of every month. £1.00 admission this includes refreshments at half time. Raffle and Tombola available to add to the fun of the evening. All proceeds are directed to Queens Hospital to provide the extras for patients and staff. Contact: Julie Hammond Tel: 07517126935

## WEDNESDAY 4TH APRIL

### Burton Abbey WI

Meeting at the Brewhouse on the first Wednesday of the month at 10am to 12 noon. Good Speakers, refreshments, also days out organised. New members welcome. For more information contact Pauline Gaskin 01283 565620

### Barton-Under-Needwood WI

1st Wednesday of every month at The Village Hall, Strawberry Lane. Meeting 7.30-9.30 with good speakers, refreshments and fun. Organised events and trips throughout the year. New members and visitors always welcome.

## THURSDAY 5TH APRIL

### Burton Friendship Club

Meets the 1st Thursday in every month 10am for 10.30am in the Rollleston Club. Join us for speakers, quizzes, games, lunches, coffee mornings, day trips and holidays. Phone Stuart and Penny 01283-716626



# Find more events on our website

## Friendship Circle

Meets at 7.30 pm on the first and third Thursday of every month in the schoolroom at the rear of Stretton Methodist Church. We meet for activities, speakers, trips and friendship. All are most welcome. For further information contact Iris on 01283 546909.

## FRIDAY 6TH APRIL

### Burton Flower Club

Meeting at the Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton on the first Friday of most months at 7.30pm. Enjoy flower arranging demonstrations, workshops, flower themed outings and more. Visitors £4. Find us at [www.flowersnorthmidlands.co.uk](http://www.flowersnorthmidlands.co.uk) / phone 01283 704180

## SATURDAY 7TH APRIL

### French With Songs

French with songs, games and fun for children nearly 4 - 9 years, Saturday morning classes in Lichfield at the Tesco community room. Baby and toddler class too - learn to sing 'Wind the Bobbin up' in French! Email [juliesfrenchclasses@gmail.com](mailto:juliesfrenchclasses@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY 8TH APRIL

### Burton Greyhounds Monthly Walk

Greyhounds love to meet their own kind! Our monthly social walk is on the first Sunday of the month starting at 2pm. The venue is variable, but within about a 5 mile radius of Burton. We usually finish somewhere we can have refreshments. Usual polite dog-walking rules apply. For more information email: [woodlandslulu@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:woodlandslulu@yahoo.co.uk)

## MONDAY 9TH APRIL

### Disco & Street Dance Classes

Fun classes and expert tuition for 8 to 12 year olds in Burton every Monday. Call Pat Miller for more information: 07973 478444

## TUESDAY 10TH APRIL

### Branton Womens' Institute

Our meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month. We are a friendly group and try to mix our meetings with interesting talks, craft, trips and social events. It is for ladies of any age. Visitors are most welcome. Contact Mrs Barbara Reeves, President, tel. 01283 546536

## Walton-on-Trent WI

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm Walton - on- Trent WI. We are a small friendly group who meet in Walton Village Hall. Come and join us for fun, friendship, learning and sharing. For more information contact Joan on 01283 713380

## WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL

### Quiz

Every Wednesday evening at Rolleston Club. Weekly free quiz, open to members and non members. Prize is six drinks tokens. There is a play your cards right game for £1 entry. Contact: Claire Tel: 01283 01283 812072

## Stretton & Claymills Women's Institute

From 7.15pm-9.30pm in the Priory Centre in Stretton. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month. First meeting is free and we are a friendly WI which has super trips and events and new members are warmly welcomed.

## THURSDAY 12TH APRIL

### Burton Belles Women's Institute

From 7.15pm-9.30pm. We meet at the St Chads Centre DE14 2SS on the 2nd Thursday of the month. First timers can visit for free and then you can decide whether to pay £4 a month or £41 a year. The October meeting is a Craft Workshop. There will also be refreshments and a raffle. Come along, make new friends, try something new and have fun. Contact: Wendy Plant Tel: 07772548230

## FRIDAY 13TH APRIL

### Latin In-line Dancing Class

No partners required! Enjoy cha-cha, salsa, mambo, rumba etc. Friday 13th, 20th April, 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th May. Improver level 10.30-11.30am and Beginner level 11.45-12.45pm £4.00 each class at the Priory Centre Church Rd Stretton DE13 0HE. Ring 07598159744 or email [larhiney@hotmail.com](mailto:larhiney@hotmail.com) for more details.

## SATURDAY 14TH APRIL

### Needwood Singers Spring Concert

Performing Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle at 7.30p.m. in the church of St. John the Baptist, Shenstone, WS14 0JB. Tickets £12 in advance or £15 on the door (under 16s free) and will include interval refreshments. Tickets available from Phil on 07973239693, any member of the choir or on the door.

## SUNDAY 15TH APRIL

### Burton Vintage Retro & Craft Fair

Live entertainment & refreshments with over 70 stalls. Open 11am - 3pm at Burton Town Hall, DE14 2EB. £1 entry, under 16s free. Contact Olive: 07588 816987

## MONDAY 16TH APRIL

### Three Spires Lace Group

Every Monday, informal group learning various styles of lacemaking with a qualified tutor. At Curborough Community Centre, Lichfield. Very sociable and friendly. Contact: Anita Toohill: 01283 791301

## THURSDAY 19TH APRIL

### Rangemore & Tatenhill W.I.

Third Thursday monthly, 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Henhurst & District Recreational Club, Henhurst Hill, DE13 9TB. Friendship, refreshments, excellent speakers, trips, events, craft club. Not just for ladies of a certain age, and certainly not just "Jam & Jerusalem"! Visitors most welcome. Contact: Lesley Walker Tel: 01283 561337

## COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our **Delhi Divan** competition winners, each winning a £50 voucher:

**Graham Fisher, Stretton**

**Jessica Peltier, Burton-on-Trent**

**Shena Scarratt, Barton**

**Christine Jamieson, Brilzincote**

Look out elsewhere in **LOCAL LINKS** this month to win 12 Months of Lawn Treatments from Green Thumb

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2	1	4	7	9	3	8	6	5
9	6	5	2	7	1	3	4	8
8	2	3	4	6	9	5	7	1
7	4	1	3	5	8	9	2	6
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# We Are Family!

**W**e always remember Mother's Day and Father's Day but do you ever give your brother or sister a second thought? Siblings Day (sometimes called National Siblings Day) is a holiday recognised annually in some parts of the United States on the 10th April.

We were thinking that it should be something we think of more over here! It honours the relationships of siblings. After all, who on this earth has probably got you in to the most trouble in your life? Who knows your most embarrassing and closely guarded secrets? Who knows what it was like to grow up with your crazy parents? Right! Your siblings!

There's probably no one you've hated more in your life at one point. No one you've fought more with (often involving bruises and missing clumps of hair). No one you've told more lies for so that they wouldn't get into trouble. No one who's stuff you've coveted more (damn you Ballroom

Barbie with your peach chiffon gown!) or laughed so much your sides hurt. Siblings are simultaneously a complete joy and the worst. That's why we love them!

Use the 10th of April this year to do something to make them laugh and let them know how much they drive you nuts. Rekindle that inner childhood! You could...

## Toys!

Buy them a vintage toy from eBay that they had or wanted when you were both little. Afterall, what's the point of being a boring grown up with money and not remembering all the things you promised yourself as a kid? Make those dreams real for your sibling.

## Peril!

Take the day off work and take your sibling to Alton Towers. Yes, scare yourselves silly on rides you couldn't go on when

you were little. Eat far too many hotdogs and all those nasty 'E'number laden sweets until you get hyper and then feel a bit sick.

## Revisit!

Take a trip together to where you grew up or used to go for family holidays. Bring your bikes or rollerskates and just play out again.

## Prank!

Either join together and create some playful joke to play on your parents or try and catch each other out. It'll be hilarious. Payback from childhood can be the most funny when served cold and in your 40s.

So this Siblings Day, give your sister or brother a call and let them know how much you love them despite their continual nonsense.



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At Burton Town Hall on the 15th April, from 11am - 3pm, £1 entry children under 12 free! We look forward to seeing you there!



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## LOCAL LINKS SUDOKU

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

Sudoku is a logic puzzle where you follow one simple rule:

Simply fill in the boxes so that the nine rows, the nine columns, and the nine 3x3 squares all contain every digit from 1-9.

LJS-64-18

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### EASTBOURNE

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### HARROGATE & YORKSHIRE DALES

Includes Wensleydale Railway & Harlow Carr Gardens. DBB at the three-star Caim Hotel close to the town centre. Monday 23rd April 2018 for 4 days. £262 pp.

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### DURHAM CITY & WEARDALE

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### CARLOW, KILKENNY & WICKLOW

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