

# LOCAL LINKS



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ISSUE 118

FREE

## GARDEN JOY

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# LOCAL LINKS



## ISSUE 118

### SALES

Heather Digby  
Sarah Deakin

### DESIGN

Liona Baldwin

### ACCOUNTS

Jan Evans

**01283 564608**

local@locallinksmedia.co.uk

Local Links Media,  
Suite 29,  
Anglesey Business Park,  
Anglesey Road,  
Burton-on-Trent,  
DE14 3NT

www.locallinksmedia.co.uk

facebook.com/  
locallinksmagazine



### CONTRIBUTORS

Including:  
Angela Sargent, Start &  
Tremayne, Perry Deakin, Alan  
Parsons, Clive Lawton

Dear Readers,

*HOLIDAYS!! Oh yeah! Kick those shoes off and run around like a seven year old! We're so excited about the summer and hope you are too!*

*To help you get organised for the holidays, this month we've got a fab downloadable planner and tips on how to fill those days with fun. And, did you know that August is 'White Wine Month'...we wonder if that's a coincidence! Check out some white wine info to whet your whistle.*

*If the wine doesn't cool you down, give our hot, hot curry recipe a go! Sounds odd, but apparently it's a hot weather trick!*

Stay cool x

The **LOCAL LINKS** team



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Stretton &  
Walton on Trent

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# Enjoy Your Garden! *by Alan Parsons*

Summer is here! After a really miserable early Spring with low temperatures and a lot of rain we are now having some cracking weather to enjoy, so let's make the most of it! Things to remember this month...

## Watering:

After such a wet couple of months it is easy to forget the watering, not just for plants growing in pots but the flower and vegetable beds as well. Regular watering helps the plants develop and fight off pests, and now is the time to give them a boost by adding a feed to get more flowers and better fruit. Tomatoes in particular need regular watering to help them fruit and stop the fruits splitting.

## Pest Control:

The dreaded slugs can cause carnage in the garden in warm wet weather. Many people use slug pellets but if you do please read and follow the instructions. It is common to overdose by adding a ring of blue pellets around the plants. This is not only wrong but unnecessary, as you only need single pellets spaced a few centimetres apart. Ideally we should all try and go green as slug pellets poison birds and hedgehogs. A beer trap is very effective, but my favoured method is to go around in the

evening with some tongs and a bucket of hot salty water and dispose of the little beasts that way. If you are spraying plants to get rid of greenfly and white fly this should be done in the late evening to avoid killing the bees. Remember that many insects such as ladybirds and lacewings and also wasps eat many times their own weight in pests, so we should do everything we can to help them by not spraying too much.

## Continuous Planting:

If you like to grow your own herbs and fast growing crops such as radishes and lettuce, then planting a few at a time, every week or so, will give you a succession of tasty crops. I find it is hardly worth growing these from seed as the garden centres always have a good range available, and you can purchase just one of two rather than growing too many and having to throw them away. Also they have done the hard work of getting them to germinate and reach a reasonable size to plant out. You can grow a mixture of herbs and salad crops in the same growbag, but do purchase a good quality one and remember to add a regular feed. Some of the cheap growbags have virtually no goodness in them and will need added feed straight away.

## Wildlife:

Encouraging wildlife into our gardens gives benefits we can all enjoy. If you have space then it may not be too late to grow sunflowers that birds adore. Why not consider putting up an insect hotel – they look like a bird box with canes in. They will encourage the insects that feed on pests as well as other more interesting ones. We spent several happy hours last year watching leafcutter bees building nests in ours.



But most importantly enjoy your garden and all the pleasures it can bring.

If you are interested in growing more, and live in Stretton, then contact Stretton allotments to find out availability. Email [strettonallotments@hotmail.com](mailto:strettonallotments@hotmail.com)

# A la Car Menu

This summer many of us will be hitting the highways for a week away or day-trip and a great many of us will take advantage of that most convenient of mealtime treats, the drive-thru! We've all got a favourite but the options are getting ever more varied and if you're the other side of the ocean...pretty weird! Ever wondered how drive-thrus became so popular? Here's some fun facts!

The first drive-thru opened in 1947 (and it wasn't a McDonald's) reportedly at Red's Giant Hamburg on Route 66 in Springfield, Missouri. Red's closed in 1984, so the award for the longest-running burger drive-thru goes to the original In-N-Out Burger. It opened in 1948 in the Los Angeles area, and yes, it was based on the unique concept of a drive-thru hamburger stand using a (then) state-of-the-art two-way speaker box.

These days you can get yourself far more than food from a burger chain. Here in the UK drive-thrus have extended into...

- Donuts (Krispy Kreme)
- Sausage Rolls (Greggs)
- Coffee (Starbucks & Costa)
- Prescriptions (Boots)
- Banking (Metro Bank)

Those seem pretty normal right? In the USA, things get a little weirder!...

## Off Licence

Seriously?! We think this is a really bad idea!

## The Voting Poll

The voting machines were engineered to meet disability requirements so voters can cast their ballots without leaving their vehicles.

## The Funeral Parlour

Funeral homes are hardly anyone's favorite place to visit. In Los Angeles, the Robert L. Adams Mortuary displays the deceased in a glass window where loved ones can pay their respects from the street.

## The Wedding

For those who want to get married on a whim, it can't get much quicker than a drive-thru "I do." Las Vegas' Tunnel of Love started offering drive-thru ceremonies when the owners wanted an option to accommodate couples with disabilities.

## The Prayer Booth

Those who need a quick word of encouragement while on the go can drive by a prayer booth and receive some one-on-one time with a pastor.

## Law Firm

In 2010, personal injury and

malpractice specialists The Kocian Law Group opened up a new office in a former Kenny Rogers Roasters -- and decided to keep the drive-thru window. A paralegal operates the window, hands out documents and answers questions.

So when you're on the road, why not keep a list of all the drive-thrus you stumble across and if you're planning on stopping at one with the kids, here's some things you should be sure to keep in the car for those 'just in case' moments:

- Hand sanitiser, so gross germs don't make it onto your fries.
- Kitchen towels or napkins (ketchup can get EVERYWHERE!), also useful to cover laps and t-shirts with.
- Baby wipes or wet wipes, very useful for cleaning sticky or greasy hands both before and after eating!
- Bottled water so you can avoid too much junk by getting sucked into ordering the super sized fizzy drinks!





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# By The Barn *by Angela Sargent*

July already and with it comes lots more work on the farm as all of a sudden, it seems.

Pollinators (bees, wasps, hover flies, beetles, Butterflies and moths and some mammals, lizards etc) are necessary for 80% of crops and wild flowers. These transfer pollen from one plant to another and mean fertilisation can take place, leading to the formation of seeds and, therefore, the continuation of the species and the farming crop.

Farmers can plant pollen and nectar seed mixes in odd corners of fields to help provide food for pollinators, as many things can have a detrimental effect on them.



Extreme weather or the wrong sort at the wrong time can mean the right food isn't available when a particular pollinator is around and loss of brownfield sites, planting trees on what was once meadow, house building, tidiness of gardens and verges all have an adverse effect on pollinating insects etc, as do long distances between areas of pollen rich plants. It is summer, the wild flowers are blooming along the field margins.

Creamy clouds of Meadow-sweet wave in the breeze and the Hedge parsley and Chervil dance alongside the hedges. Self heal and Bugles glow

bright blue against the green of the grass, while the Loosestrife and Willowherbs stand tall.

On hot dry days you may see a wriggle out of the corner of your eye as a grass snake hurries away or come across an Adder basking on a warm stone.

Grass snakes lay eggs, whereas Adders give birth to live young, but both eat small animals, frogs etc.

Or you might spot a Slow worm, which eats slugs and worms. He's really a legless lizard and quite harmless.

For more information on all things farming, follow Angela on Twitter [@bythebarn](#).

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# Wonders of White Wine

This 3rd August is a day that we here at Local Links hold dear to our hearts. It's White Wine Day! Whether it's straw-yellow, gold, or yellow-green, white wine is a beautiful spectrum of colour!

"The discovery of a wine is of greater moment than the discovery of a constellation. The universe is too full of stars."

~ Benjamin Franklin

The earliest evidence we have of wine indicates that it was being made as early as 7500 years ago in what is now Iran. We are fairly certain that the birth of wine dates a good long while before this, but no archaeological evidence has been able to determine precisely when. What we do know is that ever since its creation it has held a place of high esteem in society, being used in holy rituals and traded among the noble and wealthy. It has been deemed a gift worthy of Kings and Queens, and its vintages have been hoarded in dark cool places like ancient treasures.

White wine comprises the largest percentage of wines

made in Germany and Switzerland, and the northern half of France is also known for its broad variety of white wines. In Catalonia, in fact, there is a special sort of white wine known as Cava, and champagne itself is truly a sparkling white wine that is only produced in the Champagne province of France. More recently, the 'New World' have been giving the European producers a run for their money with award winning tippie frequently being produced in California, South Africa, Australia & New Zealand.

At a loss as to the nuanced differences in this refreshing drink? Here's some tips on grapes, where they grow and more importantly, how they taste! Yum!

## Cool-Climate Wine

These grapes tend to be thin skinned with low sugar giving an elegant flavour.

Cool climate is generally determined by latitude (think Germany, Chablis and the Willamette Valley), but it can also be the result of elevation, as in the case of what are often referred to as "Alpine"

growing regions like France's Jura and Boca in Northwestern Italy. Cooler-climate growing regions are usually farther away from the equator, with lower temperatures and more seasonal cloud cover.

The Grapes: Chardonnay & Riesling

## Warm-Climate Wine

Grapes are thick skinned with higher sugars and tend to be full bodied.

Warm-climate wine regions are the regions most folks hit on vacation, and for good reason. The rolling hills of Tuscany, Napa's wide vistas and the beaches of Southern France. In addition to being closer to the equator, warmer-climate regions are often influenced by maritime weather patterns. Their annual temperatures are higher, the sun is stronger and it's usually blue skies all day.

The Grapes: Viognier & Malvasia

So pop open a cheeky chilled bottle and celebrate the grape!



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# Pack It In

**H**olibobs season is upon us and we're looking forward to some fun in the sun! When we're there it's bliss...but the prep can be such a pain! Take the stress out of your suitcase and make sure you only bring the fun with you. Here's our packing tips for your summertime getaway...

## 1. Rolling, Rolling, Rolling

Crumpled shirts and creased dresses are never a good look on holiday. Avoid ironing after your plane lands by rolling your clothes instead of folding them. Not only does this prevent them from creasing, it saves space too. By rolling clothes, you can jigsaw them all into your case and sneak items into any remaining spaces.

## 2. Cling it

Avoid wayward shampoo bottles and sun cream tubes leaking by unscrewing the cap and layering on a small square of cling film. Replace the cap and should it accidentally pop open mid-journey your holiday outfits will be saved!

## 3. Weigh to Go

Airline excess baggage fees are a nightmare for travellers and there's nothing more humiliating than having to unzip your case at the luggage check-in desk, revealing its

entire contents to fellow travellers as you remove items. Buying a handy luggage scale will enable you to weigh before you head off to the airport, and save embarrassment (and a hefty fee) when you turn up to depart. Also, make sure if you're only allowed one bag as carry-on, that any additional bags fit into your case for boarding. This often includes any Duty Free purchases so be careful!

## 4. Guard Your Glass

There are some clever space-saving tricks to protect fragile items like fragrance bottles. Utilise items like socks or the insides of shoes to act as cushioning pouches that will keep them safe in transit and save space as well.

## 5. Travel Tangle Free

Keep chargers, headphones and other long cables prone to tangling safe by using old sunglasses cases to store them. Not only will you be able to find them easily in your luggage, but they'll arrive as neat and tidy as when you packed them.

## 6. Heavy? Wear It

Wearing your bulkiest, heavy outer garments like coats and boots will create extra suitcase space and reduce the weight of your suitcase, too. Of course, if you're flying somewhere exotic, do remember to



disrobe before you disembark. Having a lightweight foldable shopping bag in your coat pocket with you will be helpful to put your coat and jumper in when you get off and won't take up much space.

## 7. Belt Up

This handy hack will ensure your shirts look pristine upon unpacking. Curl up your belts so they fit snugly within the band of your shirt collars. It'll keep them rigid and prevent them from being crushed by the rest of your suitcase's contents.

# The Young Ones Appeal *by Clive Lawton*



**T**he appeal was launched in September 2017 by volunteers who wished to help disadvantaged children in the local area of Burton-on-Trent.

Staffed solely by volunteers we collect donations of suitable gifts for children and receive monetary donations to be used to generate further gifts. The organisation is secular and non-political simply having a policy of helping children in need. We prepare gift boxes to order for Christmas or any other special day in a child's life.

We are currently seeking both Charity Commission and Gift Aid status in 2018.

We hold several fund raising events throughout the year to generate funds to be used in purchasing items for the benefit of children between the ages of birth to 16 years. Our last event was at the Inland Waterways Gala at Moira Furnace where we held a surprise bag tombola. We have another bag stall at the Kings Bromley Show on 28 July and an Abba tribute band is appearing at the Town Hall Burton on September 15th. All proceeds from these events will be used to help children locally.

In the past 12 months we have been active on several fronts helping schools with projects

and individual families in crisis where children are involved. We work with many care agencies to identify need and proceed with them to identify what help is required. We then act on their advice to produce gifts for the children to try to make their world a little happier and brighter place.

If you know of children in need who would benefit from our help or they are an agency involved in caring for the needs of children and think we can be of assistance please contact us.

For contact details, upcoming events or to donate please visit: **[www.theyoungonesburton.co.uk](http://www.theyoungonesburton.co.uk)**

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# So Hot You're Cool



**T**his summer when the temperatures soar, most of us will reach for the ice-creams but consuming cold food may not be the best solution. Eating spicy food makes you sweat, and sweating makes you cool down faster than if you eat cold food. Why not give this easy spicy slow-cooker curry a go!...

## Spicy Chicken Curry

Serves 4

### Ingredients:

1 tbsp. vegetable oil

1 large onion, chopped  
3 chicken breasts, diced  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
1 thumb size piece of ginger (finely chopped)  
1 tsp salt  
½ tsp ground black pepper  
3 tsp hot chilli powder  
1 tbsp ground coriander  
½ tsp cumin  
1 tbsp curry powder  
1 tsp paprika  
1 tsp ground cinnamon  
1 cup chicken stock  
1 can chopped tomatoes  
2 tbsp tomato puree  
2 tsp sugar  
1 can coconut milk

### Method:

1. Preheat your slow cooker to high. Heat the oil in a large

pan, add in the onion and cook on a medium until softened.  
2. Add the chicken and cook for 3-4 minutes.

3. Add garlic, ginger, salt, pepper, chilli powder, ground coriander, cumin, curry powder, paprika and cinnamon.

4. Stir to coat the chicken and cook for 1-2 minutes.

5. Add in the stock, tinned tomatoes, tomato puree, sugar and coconut milk.

6. Stir, bring to a gently bubble then pour into your slow cooker and cook for 3-4 hours on high or 5-6 hours on low.

7. Sprinkle with fresh coriander, chopped chillies and serve with rice.

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# WIN!

## A £50 VOUCHER



**T**his month FOUR lucky readers will win a £50 VOUCHER from **Start & Tremayne**.

Although since May this year under new ownership and management, Start & Tremayne is still a small family run business which was originally established in Burton over 100 years ago. Today the business continues in High Street, Burton but is also at Barton Marina, Barton under Needwood and more recently at a third location at Mercia Marina, Willington.

With the addition of fresh ideas, their main business continues to be the sale of quality designer leather goods, such as handbags, suitcases, business luggage, purses and wallets supported by knowledgeable and dedicated staff.

Start & Tremayne also stock a

large range of quality gifts which include, locally exclusive at Burton and Barton Marina, LSA glassware – comprising beautiful Champagne ice bucket and flute sets, Gin sets and a Prosecco collection - all perfect for that Summer Party or gift!

Also, but only at Barton Marina, is the gorgeous Mathilde M range of French home fragrance products, developed in the famous perfume factory in Grasse, Southern France.

Not to be left behind, the luggage offer has recently been refreshed with an amazing range of high quality American Tourister product from Samsonite and used around the world by Christiano Ronaldo and of course don't forget all three stores stock a comprehensive and stylish range of handbags by such well-known names as Gianni Conti, Mywalit, Yoshi,

Nova Leather and – expected back in the Autumn – Radley.

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:

**Start & Tremayne Competition,  
Local Links Media,  
Suite 29,  
Anglesey Business Park,  
Anglesey Road,  
Burton-on-Trent,  
DE14 3NT**

Alternatively, you can e-mail your details to:  
**[local@locallinksmedia.co.uk](mailto:local@locallinksmedia.co.uk)**

The closing date for entries is the 14th of August, and the winners will be announced in our September edition.

Good luck to everyone who enters!



Start & Tremayne  
178 High Street  
Burton upon Trent  
DE14 1HN  
t: 01283 563650

Start & Tremayne  
Unit 5, Barton Marina  
Barton under Needwood  
DE13 8AS  
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# Plan That Playtime

**W**ho doesn't love the school holidays! Not having to work to set times, reduced running around and spending more time with the kids. To make sure that you get the best out of the time it's best to make some preparations so that everyone (including you!) has fun during the school holidays.

## Get everyone together!

Have a fun evening together in the run up to the school holidays and ask the kids if there is anything special that they would like to do over the holidays. Agree on a couple of activities and then schedule them throughout the school holidays. Let each choose a free and a low cost paid activity.

## Get everyone out!

If you've got a large brood it works well to have changes of scenery to make sure that everyone gets along harmoniously. When making your plans, try to have a day or two at home at the beginning of the holidays, so everyone can get some rest after the long school term and then some days at home again towards the end of the holidays, so that they head back to school refreshed.

## Keep it flexible!

The plan, like all things when it comes to kids, isn't set in stone, but provides an organised base to allow the needs of everyone to be met over the holidays. Try to include..

- A mix of activities outside of the home.
- Unstructured play days at home.
- Activities the whole family will do.
- Individual activities for space and quiet time.
- Catching up with friends who live further away.

Once you have your base plan, print it out and stick it on the fridge. It is great to have it where the kids can see it, so they can find out for themselves what is coming up and you won't have to answer the "when are we going to....." questions 100s of times.

## Stock up on cooking supplies:

This has two purposes, firstly with all of the kids home and visitors coming, you will go through a lot more food and secondly kids love to cook and bake as an activity during the school holidays.

## Stock up on lunch and snacks ingredients:

During the school holidays it can sometime seem like all you do is prepare food and tidy up afterwards! Why not make the kids become responsible for doing more of this themselves. Each day one child is responsible for making breakfast, alternate lunch times with a combination of you making them and the kids making it themselves. To make this easy for the younger children make sure that you have food supplies on hand that make snacks and lunch process simple

## Stock up on craft and art supplies:

This doesn't need to be expensive, it can be as simple as keeping all boxes, cartons etc instead of putting them in the recycling bin so you have a range of materials for the kids to create with or if your kids like painting making sure you have a good range of colours for them to use. Have tubs of beads, glitter, glue, paper, ribbon, wool and other craft supplies to hand for the inevitable rainy-days

## Book ahead:

See what's going on locally over the summer and factor in those organised events to take the pressure off thinking of something to do (keep an eye on our 'What's On' pages for stuff to do).

If you're planning a trip away to the seaside or sight seeing, think about buying tickets, particularly train-tickets in advance to make sure you get the best deals.

Here's a helpful planner for you to print from our website at: [www.locallinksmedia.co.uk/post/plan-that-playtime](http://www.locallinksmedia.co.uk/post/plan-that-playtime)





# What's On Guide

## TUESDAY 24TH JULY

### Sussed Out For Summer

Looking for something to keep the little ones entertained this summer holidays? Well here at Sudbury we've got it sussed out for you! Join us for a summer of crafts, trails and outdoor activities. With a different theme each week there will always be something different to do. Crafts are only available Monday - Friday. Child £1.00. All days - drop in anytime between 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Venue details: Sudbury Hall and the National Trust Museum of Childhood, Main Road, Sudbury, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 5HT

## WEDNESDAY 25TH JULY

### Rangemore Bowls Club

We are a small friendly club who play on the green opposite Rangemore School in season (May - September) and we play friendly matches against other clubs in the local area. If you have never played bowls before and would like to learn we are the ideal environment with experienced players to guide you and bowls you can borrow. New members / visitors are very welcome so for further information contact: Terry Marsden 01283 561959

## THURSDAY 26TH JULY

### New Beginnings

Mature Singles Friendship Group. If you enjoy the theatre, meals out, walks, cinema, activities, holidays/outings and general socialising but don't want to do it on your own, then New Beginnings is for you. Come and join us to make new friends. Meeting each Thursday 8pm at Fradley Arms (on A38) - fee free to just come along or contact Sue for further details Tel No: 07742 801681

## FRIDAY 27TH JULY

### 'Changes' Support Meeting

Registered Independent Charity, 12 Step Recovery Programme for Mental Distress, meetings held at Burton twice a week, please contact 01827 311006 for further information, do not struggle alone come and talk in a confidential environment to improve your overall mental wellbeing. Peer Support Meeting Peel Croft Surgery, Lichfield Street, Burton 1-30-3-30 pm. Wellness Workshops, Wednesdays & Fridays: 9-45-11-45 am Burton Fire Station, Moor Street, Burton. Prior booking only.

### 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 28TH JULY

### Central Stage Academy

Performing arts class in Barton under Needwood. We will be offering both drama and singing classes for young people as well as performance opportunities, LAMDA speech and drama exams and LCM singing exams. Please contact us to book your child's place on either: 07957 461 569 or [info@central-stage.co.uk](mailto:info@central-stage.co.uk). For more information please visit [www.central-stage.co.uk](http://www.central-stage.co.uk) or find us on Facebook at Central Stage Academy.

## SUNDAY 29TH JULY

### 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

## MONDAY 30TH JULY

### 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

### Get Into Golf - Level 1

At Branton Golf Academy a beginners group coaching in a relaxed environment. 2 highly qualified PGA Professionals will guide you through golf's basics in this fun 5 week course. Non members are very welcome. No dress code, hire clubs available free of charge. £49.00 per person. 7.00pm start.

## TUESDAY 31ST JULY

### Burton-On-Trent Solo Club

Every Tuesday evening, 8pm - 11pm at Marston's Sports and Social Club, Shobnall Road. Dancing to live music, bingo, raffle and food nights. Single, Divorced and separated people are very welcome. Come and join us and make new friends. For more information contact: Shirley on: 01283 547215 or Pauline on: 01283 519159

## WEDNESDAY 1ST AUGUST

### 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, Crowberry 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 2ND AUGUST

### 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.

### Money Bingo

Linton Village hall, every Thursday night. Doors open 7pm, Eyes down 7.30pm until approx 9pm. Admission 50p, Raffle & Canteen. Contact: 07871572875

## FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST

### Latin In Line Classes

3rd, 10th, 31st August. Beginner's class 11.45am - 12.45pm. £4.00. Enjoy all the popular latin dances: cha cha, salsa, mambo, rumba etc. At The Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton DE13 0HE. Contact Lorraine 07598159744 for more details.

## SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST

### Children's Ballroom & Latin Dancing

For all ages, held Saturday morning at St Chads Church Hall, The Leasowe, Lichfield, Staffs. WS13 7HD. Call Linda for more details of class times: 01543 257012

## SUNDAY 5TH AUGUST

### East Staffordshire Ramblers

Walkers of all abilities are welcome to join us for walks in Staffs, Derbys & Leics. Visit [www.eaststaffsramblers.org.uk](http://www.eaststaffsramblers.org.uk) or contact 01283 713209.

## MONDAY 6TH AUGUST

### JiveX Modern Jive

Relaxed & easy going class where you can't help but make new friends and have a giggle while you learn. Classes takes place at The Stapenhill Institute. Main St, Stapenhill. DE15 9AP Every Monday at 7.30pm. Priced at just £7 No booking is required & couples or singles are always welcome.

## TUESDAY 7TH AUGUST

### 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

### Bingo

Held on the first Tuesday of every month at Burton Town Hall. Doors open 6pm, Eyes Down 7.30pm. Admission £1, with Tombola and Raffle. Free Refreshments.

# Find more events on our website

## WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST

### Priority 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

### 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 9TH AUGUST

### 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. Come along, make new friends, try something new and have fun. Contact: Wendy Plant Tel: 07772548230

### Church Bellringing

At St Mary's Church, Rolleston. Meeting every Thursday from 7.30pm to 9pm. If you would like to learn the art of bell ringing, campanology, then why not come along on Thursday evenings. Tuition given, thriving social scene. Contact: 07973 411431

## FRIDAY 10TH AUGUST

### Bingo at Barton Bowls Club

On the 2nd Friday of every month. Members guests and new members always welcome. Eyes down at 8pm followed by Kids Chocolate Bingo. Come and have a laugh! The more there are, the bigger the prize!

### Sloan's Fish Night

3 Course fine dining. £30 per person. 01283 565192. sloanscatering@hotmail.com

## SATURDAY 11TH AUGUST

### 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.

## SUNDAY 12TH AUGUST

### Lichfield District Ramblers

Various routes If you would like to walk with a friendly, organised group, why not join the Lichfield & District Ramblers? We walk every Sunday throughout the year. 01827 53247

## MONDAY 13TH AUGUST

### Pirate Pearl and the Big Blue Monster

Pirate Pearl lives aboard the good ship Mirabel with her crusty old shipmate - Grandpa Bert! She's not a real pirate - but Pearl loves to imagine she's sailing the seven seas on a swashbuckling pirate adventure! One day, Pearl finds a stowaway aboard ship. It's a little, blue monster, but little monsters grow into BIG, greedy monsters - and this one wants his DINNER! There's trouble ahead for Pirate Pearl! Adult £10.00 Child £10.00 (aged 2-16), under 1s free Group £36.00 (group of 4 people). This outdoor production will take place on the Sunken Lawn which is accessed by graveled pathways and five stone steps. Please bring either a blanket or low-backed outdoor chair to sit on. This outdoor theatre will go ahead whatever the weather, so please dress accordingly. Refreshments are available to purchase on site or you are welcome to bring a picnic. Venue details: Sudbury Hall and the National Trust Museum of Childhood, Main Road, Sudbury, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 5HT

## TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST

### Branston 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

### Burton Dance & Social Club

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

### 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 15TH AUGUST

### 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

## THURSDAY 16TH AUGUST

### Live Country Music

Shobnall Sports and Social Club Thursdays Weekly. Everyone Welcome. Live Top Artists from all over the country. Freestyle dancing. Good Country Music. Tickets £3.50 (pay on the door). Contact: 01283 568340

## FRIDAY 17TH AUGUST

### Burton Markets

Markets every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8.30am - 4pm. Market Place, Burton on Trent

## SATURDAY 18TH AUGUST

### The Pet Show

At Staffordshire County Showgrounds. The Pet Show, the UK's largest indoor & outdoor multi-pet event and showcases the very best that the UK's pet industry has to offer. Split into dedicated animal zones, each one teeming with experts, meet and greet areas, live demonstrations, exciting displays and trade stands brimming with goodies for pets. Whether a pet owner, pet professional or pet enthusiast, there's something for everyone. The show is also dog friendly, so if you have a canine pal - bring them along! www.thepetshow.co.uk

## COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our **Cineworld** competition winners, each winning a **Family Cinema Pass & Refreshment Vouchers**:

**Julie Hollins, Stretton**

**Mrs. P. Wyatt, Brizlincote Valley**

**S. Devine, Lichfield**

**Ken Moore, Rangemore**

Look out elsewhere in **LOCAL LINKS** this month to win a **£50 Voucher from Start & Tremayne**

## LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU PUZZLE SOLUTION

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 7 |
| 2 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 7 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| 4 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
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# Scandal at Villa Park!

by Perry Deakin

With the whole country wrapped up in England's World Cup journey over in Russia it is easy to miss or ignore the meltdown currently occurring at Aston Villa, one of the UK's major football clubs with a proud history and countless trophies.

Somehow, this giant of English football finds itself unable to pay bills, unable to sign players and even more terrifyingly, in a position of needing to sell their major playing talent during the summer in order to survive.

A few very short weeks ago the club were preparing for a play-off final at Wembley against Fulham – 45,000 supporters were heading down to London for a game which they hoped would see the club return to its rightful place in the Premier League following two seasons of misery in the Championship and everything looked fairly rosy.

Fulham's 1 – 0 win in the play-off final condemned Villa to a third year in the Championship but supporters were already making positive noises about 'next-season' and the likelihood of Villa being promoted – disappointment of the Fulham game aside, things looked reasonably happy at Villa Park. Most supporters

backed manager Steve Bruce as the man to do the job and began

looking forward to a World Cup – Then the bombshell!

News began to leak about a tax bill which the club had defaulted on and dates being set by HMRC for 'winding up' hearings... surely not? Not Aston Villa, past league title winners, European cup winners and one of the most recognisable club sides in the world?

To Villa supporters dismay, the leaked news stories proved not only accurate, but were actually only the tip of the iceberg – the club were in a financial mess and heading for oblivion!

News soon followed confirming that Chief Executive Keith Wyness had been fired and was suing the club for unfair dismissal, then the club's Director of Football, Steve Round was fired and Manager Steve Bruce confirmed that he has been told that selling his best players was necessary if the club were to survive – suddenly the truth began to dawn, Villa were becoming the biggest club in England to have suffered this type of financial meltdown and were in serious trouble.

I think that by far the worst thing about the whole situation for supporters is the absolute certainty that the club's crown-jewel, 22 year-old mid-fielder Jack Grealish will be sold on the cheap.

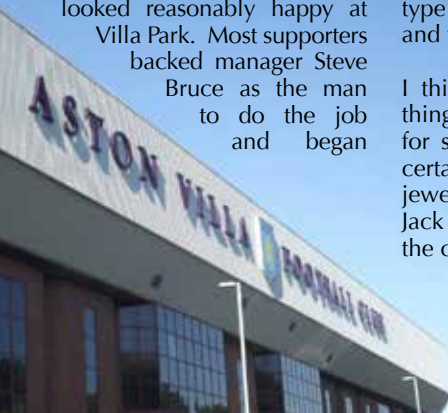
This is a boy who is a Villa fanatic and living his dream by playing for the club he adores – he doesn't even have a choice in the matter, he has been told that he needs to agree a move to 'save' his club!! All interested clubs know that

Aston Villa are in a mess and therefore will offer ridiculously low amounts for the player knowing that Villa will simply have to accept the amount offered.



Villa should simply never have found themselves in this situation – it appears the club's entire future was gambled on retuning to the Premier League last season. How on earth can a club of Villa's stature find itself without any senior executives, without the majority of its experienced football staff and having to sell one of England's most exciting prospects. It is just one element of an absolutely heart-breaking situation for the club's supporters and as soon as the current World Cup euphoria subsides they will have to face the truth – it is going to be a very uncomfortable time at the club they love. The club's Chinese owner, Tony Xia has a great deal to answer for!

Highbury and Rotterdam seem an awfully long time ago!



# Surprise Successes

The printing press. The automobile. The internet. Electricity. Penicillin. Glasses. Sliced bread! All of these things and thousands more are inventions made by ingenious inventors that may have lived thousands or hundreds of years ago, or may even still be alive today, that we benefit from every single day. But do we ever take the time to think about just how much out-of-the-box thinking went into inventing these things, or how brave those inventors must have been to dare to dream up and create something nobody had ever heard of before? Probably not! And that's why Inventor's month was...invented! When is it? August, so here we have a look at some unintentional successes!

*"If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses."*  
- Henry Ford

## Penicillin

Fleming's legendary discovery of penicillin occurred in 1928, when Fleming left for a two-week holiday leaving out a petri dish containing a staphylococcus

culture. This petri dish became contaminated and the contaminating mold had sufficient time to grow, showing signs of combating the staphylococcus culture!

## Velcro

Invented by a man named George de Mestral in the 1940's while hunting in the Jura mountains in Switzerland. Mr. de Mestral, a Swiss engineer, realized that the tiny hooks of the cockle-burs were stuck on his pants and in his dog's fur and wondered how they attached themselves. Under the scrutiny of the microscope, he observed the hooks engaging the loops in the fabric of his pants.

## Teflon

Discovered by Roy J. Plunkett at the DuPont Company's Jackson Laboratory in 1938, was an accidental invention when a refrigeration experiment went wrong. Plunkett often told student audiences, his mind was prepared by education and training to recognize novelty.

## Post-It Notes

In 1968, Dr. Spencer Silver, a scientist at 3M, was

attempting to develop a super-strong adhesive. Instead he accidentally created a "low-tack," reusable, pressure-sensitive adhesive. In 1974 a colleague, Art Fry, came up with the idea of using the adhesive to anchor his bookmark in his hymn book.

## Microwaves

Your indispensable kitchen appliance is that it was invented utterly by accident one fateful day 70 years ago, when a Raytheon engineer named Percy Spencer was testing a military-grademagnetron and suddenly realized his snack had melted. Understandably curious just what the heck had happened, Spencer ran another test with the magnetron. This time he put an egg underneath the tube. Moments later, it exploded, covering his face in egg. "I always thought that this was the origin of the expression 'egg on your face,'" Percy Spencer laughs. The following day, Percy Spencer brought in corn kernels, popped them with his new invention, and shared some popcorn with the entire office.

# Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership



Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that

obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

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|   |   |   | 9 |   |   | 7 |   |   |
| 9 | 5 | 1 |   | 4 |   | 2 |   |   |
|   | 3 | 2 |   | 1 |   |   |   |   |

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.

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