

ISSUE 153 FREE

HERITAGE DAY History for all

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LOCAL LINKS









ISSUE 153

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Dear Readers,

The summer so far has been a scorcher and many of us have enjoyed staycationing in the UK. Fear not, your enjoyment of our home country needn't cease as we head into September as we can enjoy Heritage Day where many of our historic sites will open up for free!

We also have a shoutout from two charities, Parkinsons UK & St. Giles Hospice looking for fundraising participants to help them out, so read on to find out how you can get involved.

Last month we celebrated our furry feline buddies but as luck would have it our perfect pooches aren't left out this month as they get their own celebration day too!

Have fun!

The LOCAL LINKS team



Next issue deadline: Tues 7th September

Next issue out from: Wed 15th September This magazine delivered free to:

Branston, Brizlincote Valley, Rolleston,

Stretton & Walton on Trent

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Adults £6.50 - Concessions £5.50 - Children £3 - Family £16 Admission on all other days is free. Donations welcome.



Heritage Open Days

eritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,000 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences and it's all FREE. A local attraction is taking part...

Claymills Victorian Pumping Station

Take a guided tour of our Victorian Pumping Station, hear how expansion of the breweries in Burton on Trent caused a waste problem, how Claymills was built to deal with it, ran for 87 years, and was then saved after over 20 years of dereliction.

Heritage Open Days 2021 will be 10-19 September. For more information visit: www.heritageopendays.org.uk



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Photo Day

ince the first photograph was taken by an inventor Inamed Joseph Nicéphore Niépce in 1826 in Saint-Loup-de-Varennes, France. photographers around globe have been documenting the worlds most momentous and moving moments. August 19th is World Photo Day and here are some of the most iconic moments ever caputred on film.



The Iconic V-J Day in **Times** Square by Alfred Eisenstaedt 1945



The first photograph in history by Joseph **Nicéphore**

Niépce – View from the Window at Le Gras 1826





Neil Armstrong, NASA 1969



Tank Man, Jeff Widener 1989









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By The Barn by Angela Sargent

¬attle and calves are lounging under the trees, summer heat(or thundery showers)- they have a routine of where and when they move and when they graze or lay down

Actually, growing more grass means not using as much energy as if it were a corn crop and it ties carbon into the land. thereby helping our carbon footprint- something farmers are having to become more aware of.

Just like other farms, our harvest begins too, with the wheat and oats being cut, ready to be used for our livestock feed and the remaining straw baled- to be used for feeding as well as bedding over winter. hoping the weather will be kind this month and send some benevolent, settled warmth so we can all combine and bale relatively unstressed- some chance. I fear!

Summer agricultural shows are few and far between because of uncertainty over Covid (as they take many months and much financial investment to keep them running) but they are an important social occasion in the rural and agricultural way of life.

Wildlife, such as mice and hares run along the stubble and big, grey pigeons scavenge grain. dropped Collared Doves- a pale beige colour, first seen in this country in the fifties- also tuck in.

Along the ditches, Rose-bay Willowherb grows tall and spiky, with its soft green leaves and fluorescent pink flowers, attracting bees and moths.

The Elephant Hawkmoth is especially attracted and lays its eggs on the Willow-herb and caterpillar is quite spectacular, rearing up when disturbed and showing 'eye spots'.

Follow Angela on Twitter @bythebarn



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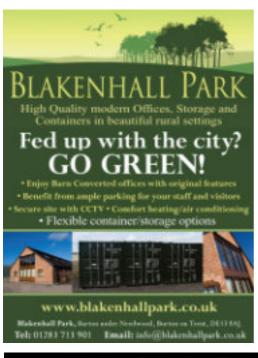
* Photography taken before COVID-19 outbreak

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State of the order

It's a Dog Day

ast month we celebrated Cat Day and this month it's the turn of our slobbery pooch buddies to get their day in the sun! So This 26th Auguts give your dog a cuddle and marvel at their canine contribution to society and being human-kind's best friend!

At a glance the little Skye Terrier may not have looked like much of a watchdog, but what he lacked in size he made up for in loyalty. After his owner's death, Bobby kept watch at his grave in Greyfriars Kirkyard for 14 years; he was fed and cared for by local people till the end of his days.

Davis were members of the New York City Police Department responsible for saving many lives on the dreadful September 11th. The German shepherd was just one of over 350 search and rescue dogs that day on the Twin Towers site.

Buddy



Buddy, the first seeing eye dog, came to the U.S. in 1928. He had been trained in Switzerland by Dorothy Harrison Eustis for Morris Frank, a young blind man. Buddy demonstrated his skills in front of a crowd of news reporters by safely guiding Frank across busy Manhattan intersections.

Greyfriars Bobby



In his early years, Bobby accompanied his owner on his rounds as a night watchman on the Edinburgh police force.

Laika



In 1957 with the Soviet launch of Sputnik 2, Laika, a mixed breed stray from the streets of Moscow, became the first animal to orbit the Earth. A monument in her honour was built near the military research facility in Moscow that prepared Laika's flight to space. It portrayed a dog standing on top of a rocket. She also appears on the Monument to the Conquerors of Space in Moscow.

Apollo



Appollo and his partner Peter

Bobbie



In 1923, Bobbie was traveling with his family from Silverton, Oregon to Indiana. At some point he got separated from his owners and got lost. The family searched high and low for their two-year-old dog, but ultimately returned home after failing to find him. But six months later, in February Bobbie suddenly appeared on their doorstep. He was dirty, skinny, and weak. His feet were worn to the bone because Bobbie walked over 4000 kilometers across the US.

So this Dog Day, why not spoil your most loyal friend and companion!



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Business Champions



▼ongratulations to TI Parry Family Independent Funeral Directors, who have been awarded the Staffordshire Business Champion 2021. This prestigious award has been launched to highlight the achievements of the UK's very best micro and businesses who are keeping community spirit alive in their local area.

Having been nominated



amongst 1000's of other businesses throughout Staffordshire, Tim and his team were one of 3 Staffordshire finalists that were invited to an awards ceremony in London. Facing tough competition T.J Parry were named champions as they embody spirit of the awards.

The Town & County Business Champions 2021 have been launched to highlight the achievements of the UK's very best micro and small businesses who are keeping community spirit alive in their local area.

Awards director Damian Cummins said: "This year, more than ever, we have learned to appreciate our local independent businesses the Business Champions are all about the story. We want to know why you are the best in your area and how you support the local community. These trulv are transparent awards, celebrating success local stories."

www.townandcountybusiness champions.co.uk





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Call For Walkers by St. Giles Hospice



St Giles Hospice is looking for energetic fundraisers with a passion for the great British outdoors to take part in a Cornish Coastal Challenge this summer.

The weekend trek, taking place between 10th and 12th September, will follow the dramatic coastline of North Cornwall where the spectacular landscapes feature rugged cliffs, hidden coves and old fishing villages forming a beautiful backdrop to the blue sea.

Chloe Herbert, Head of Fundraising at St Giles Hospice, said: "The Comish Coastal Challenge is a brand new addition to our list of Treks and Trails events and we're looking for walkers who want to sign up and join our supportive team or come along with family, friends and colleagues.

"This walk will be a tough weekend challenge but it also promises to be a spectacular and inspiring experience in one of Britain's most beautiful landscapes, which will give you an unforgettable sense of achievement when you reach the finish line.

"After a year when we've had to cancel our fundraising events and close our shops we've never needed our supporters as much as we do today, so you will also have the satisfaction of knowing that your fundraising has made a real difference to St Giles Hospice and all of the local patients and families that we care for.

"It's also been a year when we've spent so much time in lockdown in our communities, so there's surely no better way to get a real breath of fresh air and change of scenery by stretching our legs with an epic journey through some of the most fantastic coastline that this country has to offer. The event will be taking place in accordance with all COVID-19 guidelines."

Muteen Ahmed, (39) from Burton, has just (June 12) completed a Snowdon by Night challenge in aid of St Giles. He said: "I wanted to really push myself and to raise some money for St Giles because they gave my friend who died at the hospice absolutely fantastic care in his last days: When we climbed Snowdon it was a tough challenge, but we really enjoyed it and got a great sense of achievement when we made it to the top."

Participants pay an £80 registration fee for the event and pledge to raise a minimum sponsorship of £600 for St Giles Hospice, which will fund care for patients and their families living with a terminal illness. Everyone taking part will receive food and accommodation. transfers within the trek. Discover Adventure leaders and drivers throughout the challenge.

As a member of #TeamStGiles, walkers will also get an exclusive St Giles T-shirt, a bespoke St Giles Hospice fundraising pack, a dedicated member of the hospice fundraising team to assist them with training and fundraising and a supportive community and team to engage with ahead of the event and during the challenge.

For further information about the Cornish Coastal Challenge or to sign up visit www.stgileshospice.com/ cornishchallenge

For more information about St Giles Hospice and the expert care it provides, please visit www.stgileshospice.com

St Gilles Hospice

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MURRAY'S



or this month's competition, FOUR lucky readers can win a £30 VOUCHER from The Mug Tug.

Visit The Mug Tug and create a lovingly made masterpiece for yourself or a loved one.

The focus of The Mug Tug is having a fun time painting a pottery item of your choice. With around 400 different shapes there's plenty to inspire you – from figurines, money boxes, trinket boxes, photo frames and wall plaques to more practical mugs, plates, bowls, teapots, vases and other tableware.

And it's not just for the children! Grown-Ups have more fun and find it very therapeutic. But whatever age, it's always a lovely way of having quality time with children, grand-



children, parents, grandparents, Aunties and Uncles and not forgetting friends.

Parties and celebrations are also a great reason to get a group of friends or family together to celebrate – with Birthday Party Packages available for children from 5 years upwards to older 'significant' Birthdays, Hen Parties and Wedding Anniversaries all have been celebrated on Board.

The Mug Tug are also Baby Handprint and Footprint specialists with nearly 11 years' experience. They provide the whole service of taking Baby's Prints, personalising with your chosen details and design before glazing and firing to create a beautiful Keepsake to forever remind you of how little they were.

And did we mention they are on



a Narrowboat? Open all year round, bookings are strongly recommended to guarantee you a table when you arrive.

For more information visit: www.themugtug.co.uk

To enter this month's competition, all you have to do is email your name, address and daytime telephone contact number to:

local@locallinksmedia.co.uk

Alternatively, you can post your details to:

Local Links Media The Mug Tug Competition PO Box 8049 Burton-on-Trent DE14 9NQ

The closing date for entries is the 14th of September and the winners will be announced in our October edition. Good luck to everyone who enters!



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Virtual & Outdoor Events What's On Guide!

MONDAY 16TH AUGUST

Kundalini Yoga & Gong Bath Free event. Every Monday. Starts 7pm. Evening yoga class designed to inspire and give you the tools to transform your life and those around you. Open to all levels. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ kundalini-yoga-and-gong-bath-online-tickets-5589035558 ?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

TUESDAY 17TH AUGUST

Marstons Club - Over 50s

Over 50s Bingo every Tuesday afternoon. 1 'til 3pm. For more information contact Christine Adams on: 01283 299833

WEDNESDAY 18TH AUGUST

GCSE Yr11 Maths Top-Up Free event every Wednesday. Starts Spm. Supporting you, as you work your way through the Maths GCSE curriculum towards your exams in 2021. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gcse-yr-11-maths-weekly-top-up-tickets-127886695549?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

THURSDAY 19TH AUGUST

Tai Chi Classes

Free event, every day. Starts 10am, 3pm or 7pm. The class starts with warming up exercises, deep breathing or Tao Yin and Kai Men Qigong which opens the energy channels. This takes about twenty minutes, then we have twenty minutes of Tai Chi dance and the beginners class is concentrating on first ten www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lockdown-taichi-lee-style-online-global-dailyclasses-registration-104447912518?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

FRIDAY 20TH AUGUST

Latin-in-Line Dance Class

A new class at a slower pace - Fridays 12.00-12.45pm at the Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton, Burton on Trent DE13 OHF - £4.00 per class - please book with Larraine on 07598159744 or for more details about the class.

SATURDAY 21ST AUGUST

Photography for Children

Free event, every day. Starts 7pm. Little eyes, Big stories A photography course for children aged 6+ to encourage them to think creatively and use what they around the www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/onlinephotography-course-for-children-tickets-155498944529?aff =ebdssbonlinesearch

SUNDAY 22ND AUGUST

Intro to Coding Workshop

Free event. Every Sunday. Starts 1pm. This workshop is intended for those who have little or no experience in coding and want to find out if a career in web development is right for them. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/intro-toc o d i n g - w o r k s h o p - t i c k e t s -103241098906?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

Monday Meditation

Free event. Every Monday, starts 6.30pm. A free meditation session, online through Zoom, every week. I provide this as a free, spiritual practice to anyone who wants to practice meditation, and pranayama, as a gift. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-mondaymeditation-live-online-tickets-100830191818?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

TUESDAY 24TH AUGUST

Online Breast Feeding Workshop

Free event, every Tuesday. Starts 6pm. A virtual breastfeeding workshop for mothers to be and their chosen support partners. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bwcvirtual-antenatal-breastfeedingworkshop-mothers-and-supportpartners-tickets-131607223749?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

WEDNESDAY 25TH AUGUST

A Climate of Change Free event every Wednesday. Starts 4pm for 8-15yrs, 6pm for 16-24yrs. Everyone has had a different expérience of COVID-19 and we want to give young people a unique opportunity to express themselves through music and the creative arts, to explore how the environment and social culture is changing around them. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-climate-ofchange-creative-sessions-for-voungpeople-ages-16-24-yrs-tickets-141594540081?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

THURSDAY 26TH AUGUST

Creative Writing Workshop Free event every Thursday. Starts 7pm. Flex your creative muscles, let your imagination flow and put spiralling thoughts to paper in this light and friendly creative writing workshop. All levels and abilities welcome. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/creativewriting-workshop-tickets-152882023247?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

FRIDAY 27TH AUGUST

Sounds of Summer at NF Adventure Farm Sounds of the 80s with The Zoots - pull on your neon legwarmers. Doors open at 6pm for a 7pm start. Festival street foods including wood fired pizzas and a grill are all available as well as a licensed bar. Tickets cost £18 with a gazebo upgrade at £40 for a maximum of 6 people to include a gazebo and picnic table. www.adventurefarm .co.uk/event/soundsofsummer

Reduce Procrastination Workshop

Free event, every day. Starts 7pm. Join this free 1-to-1 workshop to better under how vou can overcome under how you can overcome procrastination and fatigue, in order to maintain sustainable high performance and consistency towards your business and life goals. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ how-to-reduce-procrastination-andsustain-high-performance-tickets-134389696199?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

Spanish Language Exchange

Free event, starts 5pm. Meet people practice speaking Spanish! www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/onlineenglish-spanish-language-exchangeweekly-tickets-139699024543? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST

Knit & Chat

Free event, starts 4pm. Knitting & chatting to while away Sundays. We are a lively group who consider each other, show our knitting, offer tips etc. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/knit-and-chattickets-137306733135?aff =ebdssbonlinesearch

MONDAY 30TH AUGUST

Virtual Rhyme Time

Free event. Every Monday. Starts 10.30am. Join us via Zoom for a virtual rhyme time. Bring your instruments and play or sing along to your favourite songs and rhymes. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/virtual-rhvmetime-tickets-133087663785? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

TUESDAY 31ST AUGUST

Understanding Domestic Abuse

Free event, starts 10am. This workshop explores the different types of domestic abuse, the national and regional impact of domestic abuse as well as the different laws and interventions that currently exist to combat www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ understanding-domestic-abuse-and-itsimpact-tickets-107688294588? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

Barton WI

Meeting the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm at St James's Hall Barton. For more information email pennycarthy@hotmail.co.uk

THURSDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

Coffee at the Castle

Free event, every Thursday. Starts 11am. A friendly results driven online networking evént. www.eventbrite.c o.uk/e/virtual-coffee-at-the-castletickets-126994992441?aff =ebdssbonlinesearch

FRIDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

Abstract Art Workshop

Donations welcome. Every Friday. Starts 7pm. This workshop is for everyone who wants to relax, who feels isolated with lockdown and wants to enjoy art and explore new ideas. Children, adults, families, all welcome www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ abstract-art-workshop-tickets-134217729843?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

...helping you stay safe.

SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

Electronics Club For Children

Free event. Every Saturday, starts 6pm. 1 hour session every weekend on Electronics during weekends (delivered through Zoom). Each weekly session will have unique content and will build on the knowledge from the previous sessions. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ electronics-club-for-children-weekends e s s i o n - t i c k e t s - 135845482495?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

SUNDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

BODIES - Filmed Theatre

Free event, starts 7pm. An experimental show - combines tragedy with comedy, ancient with contemporary stories about dilemmas of the body, mind & cancer experiences. www.eventbrite. co.uk/e/bodies-filmed-theatre-freeonline-screening-tickets-156973266265?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

MONDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

Drink & Draw

Free event. First Monday of the Month. Starts 7pm. Drink&Dráw is a casual event, run by London ACM SIGGRAPH hosted online every first Monday of each month. www.eventbrite.co.úk/e/ drinkdraw-2021-spring-zoom-edition-tickets-138439567473?aff=e bdssbonlinesearch

Burton Prostate Cancer Support Group Burton Prostate Cancer Support Group Join us online through Zoom, the first Monday of every month. Everyone is welcome and individual support is available. For more information Email: burton.prostate.cancer.suppgrp@gmail. com or call 0747888957

TUESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

Travel Geeks - The Yukon Wilderness Free event, starts 7pm. We'll discover the mountains, icefields and rivers of Canada's last frontier, and find out about the Yukon's rich living history. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/travel-geeksonline-adventures-in-the-yukonwilderness-tickets-164279114253? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

WEDNESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Cuppa & Chat

Free event, every other Wednesday. Starts 8.30pm. An online get together with other SEND parents, carers and professionals who understand. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cuppachatonline-tickets-102882187392?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

THURSDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

ADHD Parent/Carer Talk

Free event, starts 7pm, Parenting a child with ADHD comes with it's own unique challenges and rewards. Join ADHD specialist teacher, trainer, psychoeducational coach Jannine Harris MA PGCE for this informative session. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/adhdparentcarer-talk-tickets-1612051 33895?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch&keep t

FRIDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

Cribbage Club

Stretton Bowls Club, every Friday at 7.30pm

SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

Weekly Mandarin Corner

Free event. Every Saturday. Starts 2pm. Informal conversation sessions at two levels (Beginner Intermediate and Intermediate Advanced) that enable you to get together with fellow classmates, make new friends and discuss Chinese language and culture in a relaxed, friendly environment. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/weeklymandarin-corner-tickets-

135709200873?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

MONDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

The Creative Corner

Free event, every Monday. Starts 7pm. Would you like to dedicate an hour out of your week to make that thing you still haven't made? Do you need a little extra encouragement? www.eventbrite .co.uk/e/the-creative-corner-tickets-139512835647?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

TUESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

Anslow Art Class

Our friendly art classes restart at Anslow Village Hall on 8th June for the next 6 weeks and every Tuesday in term-time from 1-3pm. Suitable for beginners and improvers, lessons are project based but one-to-one guidance will help you to achieve your personal goals. £10 per class paid 6 weeks in advance or £12 per class paid weekly. £10 taster rate for first lesson. Please get in touch for more details and to book your place: helentarrart@gmail.com or call 07791228881

THURSDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

Tahitian Dance with Hinatea

Free event, every Thursday, starts 6pm. Through this class, there is no worry over performance. The focus is on feeling good about ourselves, being kind with ourselves and having fun with our body, www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ tahitian-dance-with-hinatea-onlinetickets-148335865567?aff= ebdssbonlinesearch.

FRIDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

Pick'n'Mix Craft Session

Free Event every Friday. Starts 10am. Pick'n'Mix is a free weekly arts and crafts session for young children, hosted by Shoe Lane Library. https:// www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/picknmixtickets-145439957829? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

Latin In-line Dancing

Get fit, lose weight, have fun! Learn Let III, Iose weight, have fun! Learn cha-cha, salsa, mambo, rumba, merengue, samba, waltz, quickstep every Friday. Advanced class 9,45-10.45am £5.00, Intermediate class 11.00-11.45am £4.00, Beginner class 12.00-12.45pm £4.00. Venue: Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton DE13 OHE. No partners required for any class — Solo dancino — Ring class – Solo dancing - Ring 07598159744 or email larhiney@ hotmail.com for more details

SATURDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

Free event. Every Saturday at 7.30pm. Live Spiritual Readings with our team. A great no pressure way to get insight, healing, and perspective, www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-spiritcafe-online-free-spiritual-readingsmore-tickets-13468700947 aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

SUNDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Vinyasa Flow Yoga

Every Sunday 10am. Contribution £5-£15 (pay what you can - contact for reduced rate due to financial circumstances). My yoga is for www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ everyone. sunday-vinyasa-flow-yoga-live-online-ti c k e t s - 1 0 0 8 2 5 4 6 5 6 8 2 ? aff=ebdssbonlinesearch

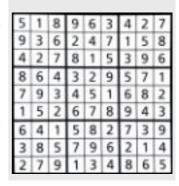
COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our Dovecliff Hall Hotel competition winners, each winning a £40 Voucher:

Jill Gowers, Fradley Mrs Bridie Shelton, Stretton Mrs Jane Rezin, Stretton Cathy Conlon, Barton Naiomi Barton, Barton

Look out elsewhere in LOCAL LINKS this month to win a £30 Voucher from The Mug Tug.

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Plum Clafoutis

rith the super summer we've had fruit is ripening quickly and this year will be super sweet with all those sunshine sugars. Did vou know that 24th August is Plum Day? The perfect time to try this baked French dessert of fruit. arranged in a buttered dish and covered with a thick flan-like batter. The clafoutis is dusted with powdered sugar and served lukewarm, sometimes with cream.



Ingredients:

6 tbsp caster sugar 14 plums, halved and destoned 300ml semi-skimmed milk 75g plain flour 1 1/2 tsp lemon zest 1 dsp vanilla 1 pinch salt 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon 2 tbsp icing sugar

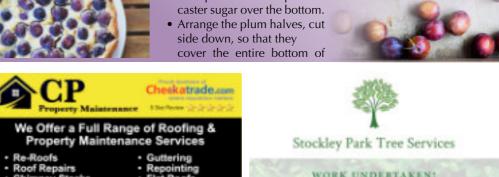
Method:

Prep:10min → Cook:1hr Ready in:1hr10min

- Preheat the oven to 190 C./ 180 C Fan.
- Butter a 25cm fluted flan tin and sprinkle 1 tablespoon of

the pie dish.

- Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of sugar over the top of the plums.
- In a blender, combine the remaining 3 tablespoons of milk, flour, sugar, eggs, lemon zest, cinnamon, vanilla and salt. Process until smooth. about 2 minutes. Pour over the fruit in the pan.
- Bake for 50 to 60 minutes in the preheated oven, or until firm and lightly browned.
- Let stand 5 minutes before slicing. Dust with icing sugar before serving.







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Are You Pet-Specting? by Scarsdale Vets

Becoming a first-time dog parent is one of life's joys but are you fully prepared? Here are some things to consider and what to expect when you're petspecting and to think about before getting a puppy.

The environment

Ask the breeder if you can see the mum and dad. You should be able to at least see the mum if the puppies are there. Dad may have been a stud from elsewhere, however mum should be present and appear comfortable around her pups.

You should also ask to see the place where the puppies are being raised. Always ask to meet them in their environment.

Vaccination records and flea/worm treatment status

Ask for vaccination records flea/worm and treatment **Pups** are usually status. wormed at 2, 5 and 8 weeks of age before leaving mum. A vet health check should be done before you acquire your pup and even the first vaccination given. A vaccination record should be given to you for your records. Ideally a date of birth should be known to help with any further vaccinations to complete the primary vaccination course. Remember, a pup shouldn't be leaving mum before 8 weeks of age.

Microchipping

It is the breeder's responsibility to have the pup microchipped. The chip should be in the breeder's details, but they will provide you with the information to update to your details. Microchipping prior to going to a new home is a legal requirement.

Health issues

A breeder should be prepared to take your pup back and give you a refund if you notice any discrepancies or health issues that you were unaware of at the time of purchase. Ensure that a 'purchase contract' is drafted and signed by both parties.

Diet

Ask the breeder what food they have been feeding the puppy. A good breeder will be prepared and provide you with information on feeding, so you are prepared to continue the same diet or even give you some to go home with. A s u d d e n c h a n g e in diet and a

change of home is enough stress to cause an upset tummy.

Insurance

A puppy usually comes with 4 weeks free insurance from the breeder. If not, make sure that you have this prepared/looked into for the time they come home with you.

The cost of puppies has increased considerably over the years so you have every right to ask as many questions as you would like to ensure that the puppy chosen is right for you and your family.

If you would like more advice on what to expect when you're pet-specting, please contact your local practice and ask to speak to one of our nursing team on Stapenhill: 01283 568162 or Stretton: 01283 568333

Remember, a new puppy is for life.

E-mail us at local@locallinksmedia.co.uk or call us on 01283 564608 29

LOCAL LINKS SUDOKU

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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. PARKINSON'S UK CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

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