

DROITWICH Standard

Friday, April 25th 2025 Week 17

 droitwichstandard

www.droitwichstandard.co.uk

 @DroitStand

Your **FREE** edition - just pick one up and keep up with the news

ON THURSDAY 1ST MAY VOTE CONSERVATIVE TO...



KEEP OUR COUNCIL TAX THE 3RD LOWEST IN THE COUNTRY

Compare that with Birmingham, where Labour are set to put it up by 17.5%. Meanwhile, your local Lib Dems pushed for a substantial increase here in Worcestershire.



CONTINUE TO INVEST IN OUR ROADS AND PAVEMENTS

Our roads are some of the best in the country, but there's still work to do. That's why we are investing a further £64 million to resurface many more roads and pavements. And we'll work to tackle local congestion issues.



CRACK DOWN ON CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We'll continue to work with our Police and Crime Commissioner to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour such as speeding, fly-tipping and criminal gangs coming over from Birmingham.



CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE

Whilst this Government punishes the most vulnerable by taking away Winter Fuel Payments, we have agreed a further £27 million for Children's Services and £21 million for Adult Social Care this coming year.



PROTECT OUR COUNTRYSIDE FROM OVER-DEVELOPMENT

We oppose Keir Starmer's 85% increase in housebuilding targets which will see our countryside and greenbelt concreted over. We'll do everything in our power to oppose and mitigate these plans.



BACK OUR FARMERS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Starmer's cruel Family Farm Tax, coupled with their tax raid on pubs, will cause untold damage. Labour never have and never will understand the rural way of life. Only a Conservative-led County Council will stand up to the Government.

Page 2

Labour have
trashed
Birmingham

Page 3

The Liberal
Democrats will raise
your council tax

Page 4

Your Conservative
candidates for
Thursday 1st May

LABOUR HAVE TRASHED BIRMINGHAM



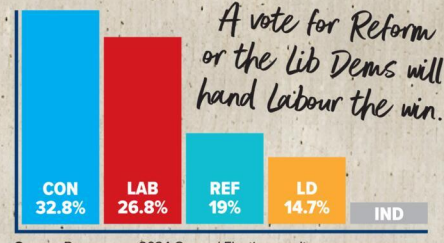
Redditch's Labour MP wants us to be taken over by Birmingham!

ONLY A VOTE FOR THE CONSERVATIVES CAN STOP LABOUR DOING THE SAME HERE

1 Labour are cutting local services after bankrupting Birmingham. Bin collectors are on strike. Rubbish is piling up on the street. All while Labour raise Council Tax for local people.

2 And because the elections this year are going to be close. A vote for Reform, the Lib Dems or anyone else will hand Labour control of your local community too.

3 That's why the only way to stop Labour raising our local taxes, while trashing your community is to vote Conservative. A vote for anyone else will hand Labour control of your council.



- That will mean...
- ✗ Rubbish piling up. As bins go uncollected
 - ✗ Council Tax hiked. Just like they've done nationally
 - ✗ Keir Starmer let off the hook for cutting Winter Fuel Payments

ONLY A VOTE FOR THE CONSERVATIVES CAN STOP LABOUR TRASHING WORCESTERSHIRE

DROITWICH Standard

Call with us today to receive a 10% discount!

TREE & LANDSCAPE Specialists

The & Landscape Specialists is a trusted, professional company with a great reputation to control and maintain your trees and shrubs in the town.

Tree Work • Pruning • Fencing • Artificial Grass • Astro Turf • Paving
No Job is too big or too small • Fully Insured

Contact us today FREEPHONE: 0800 747 1704 • LANDLINE: 01282 906 577
treeandlandscapepecialists@gmail.com
www.treeandlandscapepecialists.co.uk
mouse Google

Friday, April 25th 2025 Week 17

[f droitwichstandard](https://www.droitwichstandard.co.uk)

www.droitwichstandard.co.uk

[@DroitStand](https://twitter.com/DroitStand)

Your **FREE** edition - just pick one up and keep up with the news



The Will Partners

Wills, Trusts & Power of Attorney

www.thewillpartners.co.uk



Free review service of your existing Will
Protect your home and everything that you have worked hard for
Friendly and experienced local Consultants

Call us Today **01905 412887**

11, Kidderminster Road, Bromsgrove, B61 7JJ

Project under way to save church mosaics

WORK has started on the renowned mosaics at the historic Church of the Sacred Heart and St Catherine of Alexandria in Droitwich Spa to restore them to their former glory.

The Mosaic Restoration Company began its work on Tuesday and it is expected to last for around 12 weeks.

The project was made possible, thanks to a £190,000 National Lottery Heritage Fund grant.

Visitors will still be able to visit and worship throughout the process.

Gary Bricknall, the company's managing director, said: "I think that I can speak for the whole team at The Mosaic Restoration Company in saying we are honoured to have been chosen to work on this incredibly beautiful and internationally-renowned building."

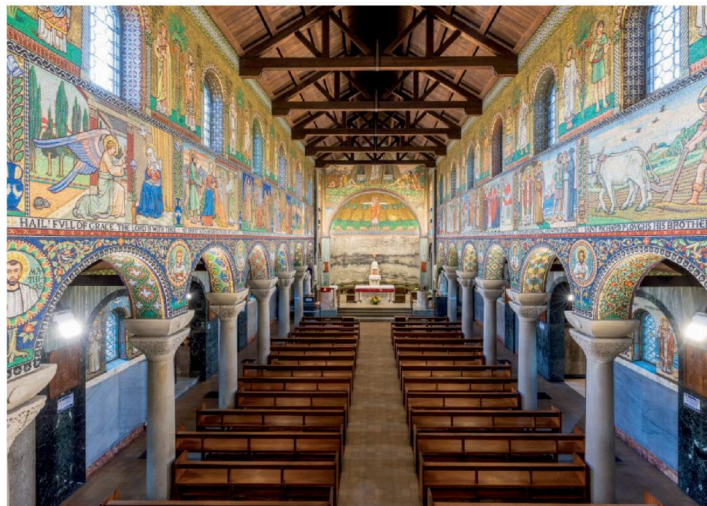
Influenced by the Unesco World Heritage churches in Ravenna in Italy, the walls of the church are covered in some of the finest Venetian glass mosaic artwork in Europe.

by Mia Whitehouse

Fr George Mathew, the church's parish priest, said: "The church will look even more beautiful once the work has been completed, providing a spectacle for all parishioners and visitors, many of whom are in awe when they first come here."

Coun Richard Morris, Wychavon District Council's portfolio holder for economic growth and tourism, described the church as 'a hidden gem within the county for more than 100 years'. "This project, along with the parish's programme of free public tours, children's mosaic workshops and Saturday visitor centre is providing a huge boost to the number of people nose visiting the areas," he said.

The principal benefactor for the building of the church was Walter Loveridge Hodgkinson who lived in Rashwood Court, Droitwich and made his money from his ownership of The Holt Brewery and pub chain in Birmingham. It was sold to Ansell after his death.



The mosaics at the historic church will be restored to their former glory. Picture by Con McHugh. s

Other benefactors include the Galtons of Hadzor Hall, Droitwich, whose family wealth came from the

Farmer Galton Gun, manufactured in Steelhouse Lane in Birmingham.

Solihull, designed the art that was then turned into the amazing mosaics that adorn the church.

Woman shot at walking to pub

A WOMAN was shot at with an air weapon on from a moving car in Droitwich.

Police said the woman was walking along the Worcester Road and was on her way to The Castle pub around 8.15pm last Wednesday.

She was repeatedly shot at with a pellet gun from a car window.

The car then drove back past her and shot her again. It was a 'machine gun'-style pellet gun which discharges rapid fire.

It was reported to the police and officers went to see the victim. She also had footage of the incident and the registration number of the vehicle.

A West Mercia Police spokesperson said: "Officers are working through several lines of enquiries and have spoken to the victim.

"No injuries were sustained during the incident."

Avery | Droitwich Mews CARE HOME

A New Beginning Awaits

Move in today with reduced fees, from £1250 per week. Plus enjoy 4 weeks for the price of just 3* to experience tailored care.

To find out more about our exclusive offers speak to us today!

01905 934182 averyhealthcare.co.uk

*T&Cs apply. Please visit averyhealthcare.co.uk/ouroffers for more details

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE

YOUR LOCAL DROITWICH INDEPENDENT TRADER

QUALITY BRANDS FOR LESS

Silentnight 20% off
sleep great, Britain with easter savings

Celebrity
LARGE RANGE OF RISER RECLINERS IN STORE

L.A. BOY
RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE

SEE OUR MAIN ADVERT ON PAGE 11

For all the latest news and features: bromsgrovestandard.co.uk and droitwichstandard.co.uk

BROMSGROVE'S Former Market Hall development will be named Nailers Yard, after the public voted overwhelmingly in favour of the moniker.

A vote was cast earlier this month giving residents a chance to name the town's under-development pavilion.

Hundreds of voters chose their favourite from a list of five options.

Nailers Yard, the winning name received 64 per cent of the votes and was liked for its nod to the mail making history of the town, with voters appreciating the name's focus on heritage.

Other names on the options list were Spark Works, Birdbox, The George Exchange and Bromsgrove Connection.

Regeneration project manager for Bromsgrove District Council, Rebecca McElliott, said: "Plenty of thoughts left in the comments box makes me really proud to be part of the Bromsgrove community."

"Nailers Yard is a great name, allowing us to acknowledge the important heritage of the area whilst we look to the future.

"This new development represents so many opportunities for the town - the night-time economy, local businesses, residents, and visitors - and I am pleased its new name holds such significance for residents as we strive towards a better Bromsgrove for all."



The new development will consist of a commercial building, pavilion building, and public realm.

The project also includes the re-naturalisation of a portion of Spadesbourne Brook.

The two buildings forming the pavilion will host premium office space, restaurants, bars and community space.

The development is possible thanks to a grant of £14.5million from the UK Government.

Other projects benefiting from this grant include the former fire station site on Windsor Street and public realm improvements in the town centre.

The development will be delivered by early 2026.

Visit: [bromsgrove.gov.uk/council/strategy/former-market-hall-site-redevelopment/](https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/council/strategy/former-market-hall-site-redevelopment/) for more information.

Every one cried their heart out

by **Lise Evans**
lise.evans@bullivantmedia.com

LIFE before mobile phones was the subject of one of two cries uttered by 12 town criers who shouted it out in Alcester on Saturday for the honour of being named Heart of England Champion 2025.

The proceedings, held in the town for more than 40 years, started with a parade of colourful and costumed criers around the town centre before the competition started in earnest at Malt Mill Lane gardens.

Each crier was judged on the clarity, volume and diction of two cries and, after a tie for first place, a run off between

Paul Gough representing Nuneaton and Bedworth, and Adrian Holmes of Lichfield, the former was declared the worthy winner.

Event organiser Vaughan Blake said: "Alcester was once again honoured to host the annual Heart of England Town Criers' Championship. "We welcomed 12 criers from all around the country, from as far afield as Bognor Regis and as close as Studley.

"After a slightly damp start, the weather was kind to us, with no rain and just as importantly, no wind.

The event is known to be a particular favourite of the criers - being the first clash of the season - and also marked the 70th birthday of Kevin Ward, town crier of Bromsgrove who was placed third.

The best dressed crier award went to Andrew Parkhurst of Clare, Suffolk who was wearing medieval era attire.

The championship organisers thanked both Alcester Court Leet and Alcester Town Council as the annual event would not take place without their support.

From medieval times, the town crier was a means of news communication in towns and villages, disseminating royal proclamations, public announcements and other noteworthy events to a largely illiterate audience. Visit the story on our website for more pictures of the day.

Competing criers led by officers of Alcester Court Leet start to process down Malt Mill Lane. Picture by Lise Evans.



Have a story you want us to cover?
Get in touch by emailing editor@redditchstandard.co.uk or editor@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk



Redditch & Bromsgrove Friends Group

Are you looking to meet new people and make new friends?

We are a group of friends who meet to enjoy activities such as walks, cinema/theatre visits, skittles, adventure golf, ten pin bowling and regular pub nights to name just a few.

Interested?

Then ring Marian on 07885 450390

ANTIQU & VINTAGE FAIR
SUNDAY 27TH APRIL
UP TO 100 STALLS ENTRY 9AM - 2PM
Sky Blue Sports Complex Ryton on Dunsmore CV8 3FL
Free parking & café - Entry £3, under 16's FREE
Dogs are welcome
Contact 07939 445024 www.gjfair.co.uk

Adrian Tarry CARPETS by Jamie

- Carpets, Vinyls and Hard Floors Supplied and Fitted.
- Fitting only service.
- No Deposit required.
- We will beat any like for like quotation.
- Prestigious service at unbeatable prices

Contact Jamie on **07590 664 673**

PUBLIC NOTICES



For all your latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences, Licences To Sell Alcohol and Probate Notices...

See page **34**

Death prompts safety campaign

by **Sonny Rackham**
sonny.rackham@bullivantme-
dia.com

A MOTHER and daughter's prayers to impose traffic calming measures on a street in Frankley are finally being answered a year on from the tragic death of their beloved father and grandfather who died in a crash.

Mother Tina Ward and daughter, Sophie Belsey have worked hard on a campaign alongside their Birmingham City Councillor, Simon Morrall, to impose several alterations to Egg Hill Lane.

Their father and grandfather, Terry Ward, died in hospital a day after he was hit by a car on March 4, 2024.

The road is problematic as it connects to Frankley Hill Lane, a 60mph country lane which quickly transitions to a 30mph zone when it becomes Egg Hill Lane heading towards Frankley Beeches Road.

Following the campaign, the council's Highways department has proposed to install five sets of road bumps along Egg Hill Lane from the top of Frankley Beeches Road to the country lane.

Speed activation signs will also be installed along Egg Hill Lane to notify drivers traveling too fast when coming off the country lane.

Tina said: "Although it's too late for my dad, I really don't want this to happen to anyone else. The past 13 months have been unbearable."

She thanked Coun Morrall for taking the proposal forward and her dad's neighbours for their support.

The campaign's next phase is public consultation. Residents living close to the road should have received a letter from the council this week detailing the plans with a form to send back.

Coun Morrall said it should not have taken the loss of Tina's father for the council to act but added he was relieved at finally being able

to get something done.

Sophie said: "Traffic calming will be a huge deterrent - keeping pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers safe. Please support the proposal."

"The driver who hit my granddad probably would have been home a couple of minutes sooner - is it worth the rush?"

The Frankley councillor also thanked Tina and Sophie for their bravery and continuing to push on the issue.

Tina added: "It is so important the residents and neighbouring areas agree to the proposal."

"Speed was the main factor in my dad's death. I want this to raise awareness around how speeding kills innocent people."

"I just hope this proposal makes people think and gets them to slow down and not just down that road."

Email Coun Morrall at: simon.morrall@birmingham.gov.uk to respond to proposals. The consultation closes today (Friday, April 25).



Frankley's Birmingham City councillor, Simon Morrall with mother and daughter, Tina Ward and Sophie Belsey. S

A SELLER of counterfeited goods in Droitwich has been sentenced after pleading guilty to seven offences under the Trade Marks Act.

At Kidderminster Magistrates Court, Matthew Sier, 46, of Tagwell Close, received a 12-month community order, was ordered to undertake 80 hours of unpaid work and pay £2,000 costs after selling fake car badges and key rings.

An investigation was instigated and a prosecution was taken by Worcestershire County Council's Trading Standards Service after Sier's home address was raided.

It found Sier sold counterfeit goods on eBay using multiple usernames. Items purchased by Trading Standards Officers were found to be counterfeit which prompted the swoop at Sier's home.

Almost 2,000 items of fake branded car badges and keyrings - including BMW, Ford, Mini, Mercedes and Abarth - were identified at his home address and seized.

The total estimated retail value of the seizure was over £30,000.

Simon Wilkes, head of Worcestershire Regulatory Services, said: "The sale of counterfeit goods is not a victimless crime - it damages legitimate businesses and the interests of those who own the intellectual property rights of the trademarks which are being copied."

"Counterfeit goods are not of the same quality as the genuine product and although not the case with the items seized as part of this investigation, often come with significant safety risks."

He urged the public not to buy counterfeit goods, adding those who produced them were often involved in other serious crime and money laundering.

To report information relating to counterfeit good sales, visit this story at droitwich-standard.co.uk and click through or call the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0800 223 1133.

JC GLAZING & REPAIRS LTD

Have your double glazed units misted up?

Don't despair help is here!

WE CAN REPLACE THEM

Call us for a free quote

A FRIENDLY, HONEST & RELIABLE SERVICE...

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

- Locks
- Hinges
- Mirrors
- Misted Glass
- Safety Glass
- Decorative Glass
- Cat Flaps in Glass
- Conservatory Repairs
- Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
- UPVC Windows, Doors & Conservatories
- Log Burner Glass Supplied

UPGRADE YOUR OLD U.P.V.C. WINDOWS

We can replace your existing glass with Energy Saving Glass & refurbish your frames at half the cost of new.

ANYTHING TO DO WITH GLASS & WINDOWS

A-RATED WINDOWS SUPPLIED & FITTED

Patio Doors French Doors

Front Doors Back Doors

Composite Doors

Card payments accepted

Call Jon on 01527 857 786 or 07931 198 152

SPECIALISTS IN ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING

New Roofs - Roof Repairs - Flat Roofing

Fascia, Soffits & Guttering - Cladding

Moss Removal Chimney / Ridge Tile Repointing

Local References Available - Free Quotations

For a FREE quote, contact the local company you can trust

Birmingham - 0121 667 8938

Redditch - 01527 906 586

Park House, Bristol Rd South, Rednal,
Birmingham B45 9AH

www.longbridgecladdingandroofingltd.co.uk

sales@longbridgecladdingandroofingltd.co.uk

Emergency work on lock walls will see flight closed for summer

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

EMERGENCY works to restore parts of the UK's longest flight of locks in Tardebigge are set to get under way after investigations revealed the 200-year-old lock wall was in need of urgent repairs.

The Canal and River Trust is undertaking the urgent works at Tardebigge Top Lock on the Worcester to Birmingham Canal. The flight of locks are expected to be closed until August so the work can be completed.

The charity, which cares for the nation's historic 2,000-mile canal network, is working closely with the Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough Councils' conservation team to agree the scope of the restoration work. The Trust expects to invest between £500,000 and £2million in the necessary works.

The repairs will involve stabilising the brick-lock wall. The lock is a heritage listed asset, and the works will be done with the utmost care, dismantling the minimum number of historic bricks.

Once the necessary Listed Building Consent is in place, it will be expertly rebuilt reusing as many bricks as possible.

UK's longest lock flight

Tardebigge is the longest lock flight in Britain, with 30 locks carrying narrowboats 220ft uphill and downhill over two-and-a-quarter miles.

Opened in 1815, the canal was dug out by hand for the transportation of porcelain pots and Cadbury's chocolate, and is now popular with leisure boats, cutting into the heart of Birmingham at Gas Street Basin.

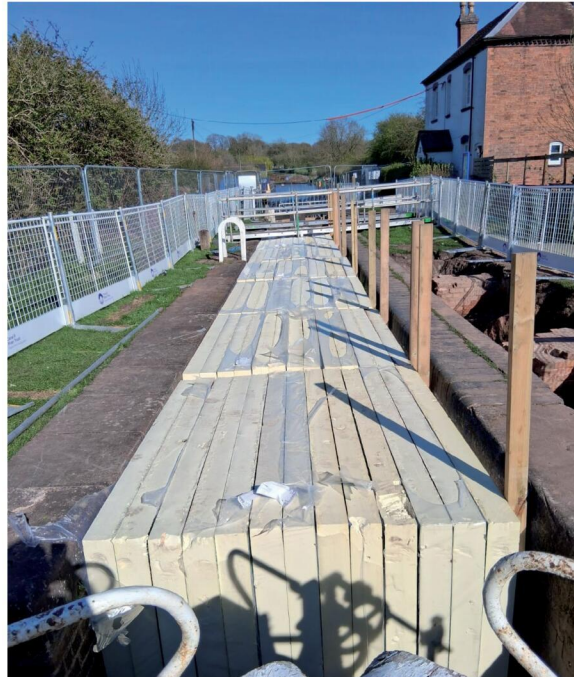
Engineers from the charity had hoped to carry out the heritage repairs alongside other planned maintenance work on the lock flight this winter.

But, unfortunately, thorough investigations show the work cannot wait and an extensive and costly repair is required immediately.

The problem was initially highlighted by boaters who were having trouble navigating the lock. This type of feedback plays a valuable part in supporting the Trust's rolling inspection programme.

Lengthy closure

The navigation will remain closed until the repair work is completed. The towpath, which has been closed, is now reopen



with a new temporary pedestrian route built on the offside of the lock and two pontoons placed on the canal, to allow the public to cross the water safely.

Henriette Breukelaar, West Midlands' regional director at the Canal and River Trust, said: "I appreciate many people will be very disappointed we have had to close the site during the summer months.

"Please be assured completing the works and reopening the canal and the towpath as soon as possible is our absolute priority.

"Our charity will undertake the necessary works to a very high standard and in line with the heritage considerations of this Grade II-listed site.

"All this comes at a cost, and we welcome people's support, through donating, volunteering, or spreading the word about our charity, to help us keep canals alive for years to come."

People can visit: volunteer.canalrivertrust.org.uk/opportunities/ to find out more about how they can support the trust through volunteering.

Part of the work will involve stabilising the brick-lock walls

So much more than self storage

Wellesbourne, Shipston-on-Stour, Mickleton & Long Marston

We can help you move house, build an extension or start a new hobby

Call Lindsey 0800 772 0200
hello@beyondstorage.co.uk
Wimpstone Fields, Wimpstone
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 8NN

Beyond Storage

ssa self storage association United Kingdom

KOMBATKIDS

The Right Choice For Your Child!

FIRST THREE CLASSES FREE!

THE PARISH CENTRE (ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH)
SANDHILLS ROAD
BARNT GREEN
B45 8NR

WEDNESDAY 5 - 5:55PM
FRIDAY 5 - 5:55PM

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC FIRST SCHOOL
ROCK HILL
BROMSGROVE
B61 7LH

SATURDAY 8:55 - 9:55AM

ENGLISH KARATE FEDERATION BKF WKF 30 INTERNATIONALIST

TO REGISTER:
TEXT: 07730 899722 (Child's first & last name + venue)
EMAIL: info@kombatkids.com
www.kombatkids.com / www.facebook.com/kombatkids

SCAN

X will mark the spot as county prepares for 2025 elections

RESIDENTS across Bromsgrove and Droitwich will join the rest of Worcestershire in heading to the polls on Thursday, May 1.

There will be 57 Worcestershire County Council seats contested across 53 divisions, including nine in Bromsgrove district and 12 in Wychabon, which covers Droitwich, Evesham and Pershore.

Polls will be open from 7am to 10pm when all the ballot boxes across Bromsgrove, Droitwich and the rest of the county will be collected.

The Bromsgrove count will be held at North Bromsgrove High School from 10am on Friday, May 2, and the Wychabon one will be at Pershore Leisure Centre at the same time.

The Standard will be there to bring you all the results live.

The current make-up of Worcestershire County Council – as determined by the 2021 vote and any subsequent by-elections – is 45 Conservative, 3 Labour, 4 Liberal Democrat and 5 others.

Bromsgrove candidates

The Alvechurch seat will be contested by Alan Bailes (Independent), John Ball (The Green Party), Gillian Bell (Liberal Democrats), Douglas Bridger (Labour), Danny Bromage (Local Conservatives) and Lisa

by Tristan Harris
tristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

Cresswell (Reform UK).
Beacon: Anita Dale (The Conservative Party), Jill Harvey (The Green Party), Peter McDonald (Labour), Peter Turner (Reform UK) and Sara Jane Woodhouse (Liberal Democrats).

Bromsgrove Central: David Hopkins (Labour), Adrian Kriss (Conservative), Peter Measham (The Green Party), Joshua Robinson (Liberal Democrats) and Chris Thomas (Reform UK).

Bromsgrove East: John Cochrane (Labour), Samuel Evans (Liberal Democrats), Peter Harvey (The Green Party), Charlie Hotham (Independent), Kit Taylor (Conservative) and Bob Waller (Reform UK).

Bromsgrove South: Sam Ammar (Liberal Democrats), Norman Cooke (The Green Party), Kyle Daisley (Independent), Gaynor Jean-Louis (Reform UK), Helen Jones (Conservative) and Ian Woodall (Labour).

Bromsgrove West: James Clarke (Liberal Democrats), Rita Dent (Conservative), Esther Gray (Labour), Nik Price (Reform UK) and John Smout (The Green Party).

Clent Hills: Steven Colella (Independent), Stuart Davies (The Green Party), Stan Francis (Independent), Karen May (Conservative), Dr David Nicholl (Liberal Democrats), Laura Rollins

(Labour and Co-operative Reform UK) and Donna Westwood (Reform UK).

Woodvale: Sheridan Bellingham (Labour), Mark Dunkley (Reform UK), Martin German (Liberal Democrats), Julian Gray (The Green Party) and Shirley Webb (Conservative).

Wythall: Valerie Jane Clarke (Liberal Democrats), Adam Kent (Local Conservatives), Adrian Lee (Labour), Stephen Peters (Reform UK), Amelia Quirk (The Green Party) and Sean Taylor (Independent).

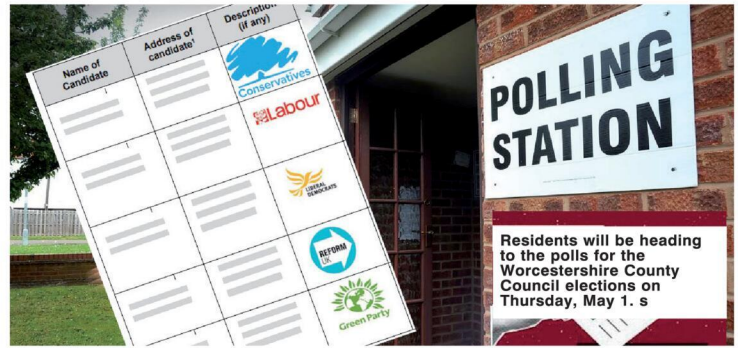
Droitwich candidates

Bowbrook: Seb James (Conservative), Peter Jewell (Reform UK), Margaret Rowley (Liberal Democrat), Stephen Squires (Green Party) and Mike Stafford (Labour).

Droitwich East: Louis Allaway (Labour), Daniel Birch (Conservative), Christopher Edmondson (Reform UK), Nicola Morris (Green Party) and Owen Ralph (Liberal Democrat).

Droitwich West: Roy Harmsworth (Liberal Democrat), Doug Hincks (Green Party), Dom Mitchell (Reform UK), Richard Morris (Conservative) and Gill Rawlings (Labour).

Ombersley: David Chamberlain (Green Party), Sachin Mathur (Labour), Tony Miller (Conservative), Michael Stuart-Joy (Liberal Democrat) and Gary Thompson (Reform UK).





Clearview Environmental

MIDLANDS LIMITED

Grounds Care. Facilities Management. Security Installation.

Clearview.

Family-run professional Grounds Maintenance and Facilities Management, based in Kidderminster.

- All aspects of grounds maintenance and land clearance
- Health & Safety inspections and remedial works
- Tree surveys and surgery
- All types of fencing installation
- No problem too big.

clearview-environmental.com

077099 53 777

contact@clearview-environmental.com

Maintenance with Pride, Protecting what Matters Most.

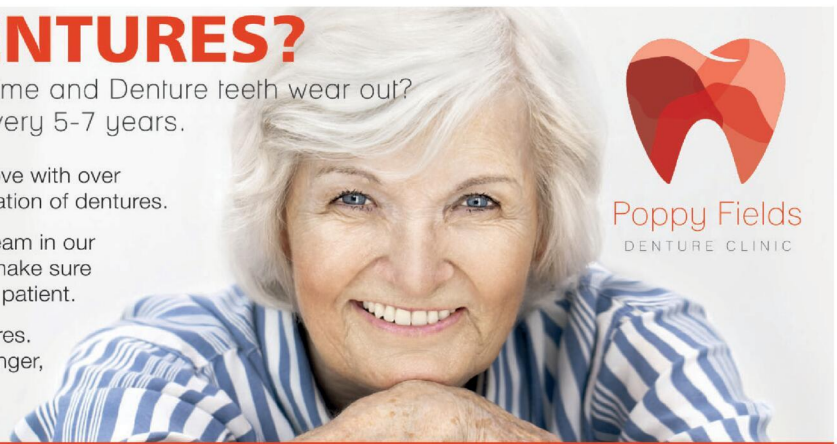
DO YOU WEAR DENTURES?

Did you know gums continuously shrink over time and Denture teeth wear out? It is recommended to replace your dentures every 5-7 years.

Poppy Fields is a small family run Denture Clinic in Bromsgrove with over 20 years experience working solely on the design and fabrication of dentures.

Every stage of the denture fabrication is carried out by our team in our Bromsgrove clinic and on site laboratory which allows us to make sure each stage of the process is personal and individual to each patient.

We are passionate about providing the highest quality dentures. Using only premium quality materials, our dentures are stronger, more natural looking and comfortable. Providing denture wearers the confidence to eat and most importantly, smile!



Poppy Fields

DENTURE CLINIC

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US ON 01527 577736
To request a free information booklet or a no obligation consultation with our team

REDDITCH

TECH CENTRE

Repairs & Tuition in Your Home

Local, Friendly, Reliable - Right When You Need It!

Hi, I'm Carl - your local tech expert based right here in Redditch! Whether you're struggling with a sluggish PC, a misbehaving Mac, or just need a bit of help getting online - I come directly to your home to get things sorted - no stress, no jargon.

Repairs & Support for:

- PCs & Laptops • Apple Macs
- Windows Issues • Software Troubleshooting

1-to-1 Basic Tuition for Silver Surfers *But Everyone Welcome*

- Email Setup & Use • Video Calling
- Home WiFi Setup & Security

**Local, Independent Business
Fully Mobile - I come to you!**

Friendly, No-Nonsense Support

Call Carl on: 07887 877911

info@rtechcentre.co.uk

www.rtechcentre.co.uk

'Let's Walk' day is a nationwide initiative by parkrun and headline partner Vitality to celebrate walking. s



Time to make sure you're taking steps

PEOPLE are being encouraged to get out, get walking and get talking at Arrow Valley parkrun in Redditch this weekend and be part of the biggest walking weekend ever.

Let's Walk day is a nationwide scheme by parkrun and headline partner Vitality to celebrate the simple, yet powerful act of walking.

Starting at 9am tomorrow (Saturday, April 26), the walk is free to take part in.

A spokesperson for Arrow Valley

parkrun said: "We invite everyone to come along and start their weekend by walking at Arrow Valley parkrun this weekend.

"Bring your family and friends with you.

"If you want to run or volunteer you can do that too - it'll be the same parkrun experience we enjoy every weekend, but hopefully with a few more walkers."

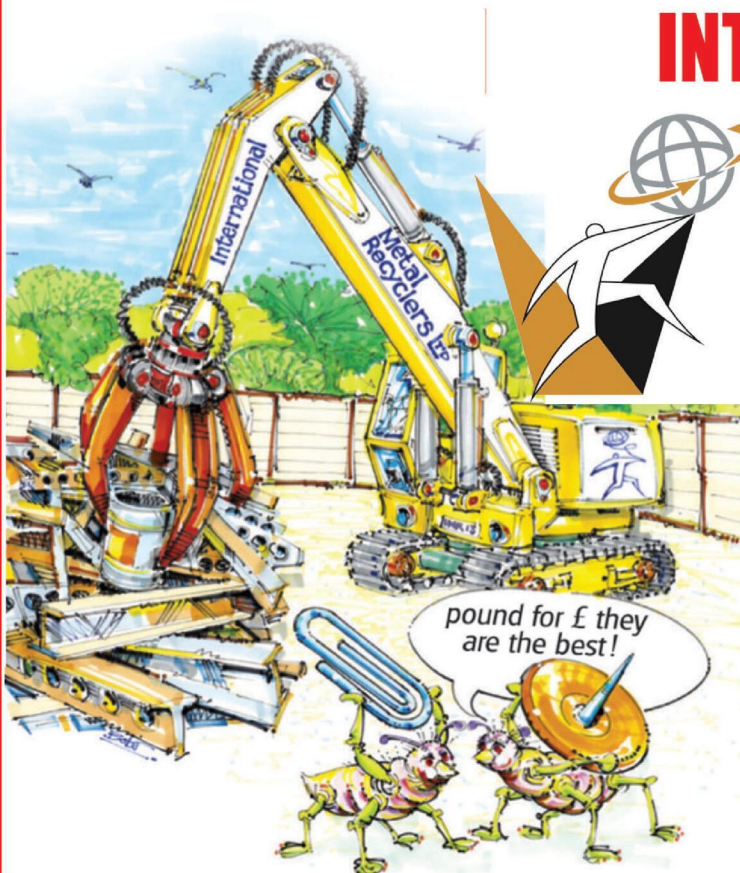
Let's Walk' at parkrun is all about making that welcoming environment even more visible, the emphasis is on inclusivity, not speed,

and walking has always been an important part of the parkrun experience.

New research commissioned by Vitality found that half of Brits (50 per cent) say they walk further when deep in conversation, while 27 per cent walk for longer when they are with someone else.

Despite knowing the benefits of walking, a staggering 35 per cent of Brits surveyed say they struggle to find someone to walk with.

Visit parkrun.org.uk/arrowvalley for more information on the event.



INTERNATIONAL METALS & CABLE RECYCLING LTD

We purchase all Ferrous and Non Ferrous Metal Batteries and Cables

Collection Service Available

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

01789 721 288

david@imrltd.co.uk

Open Mon/Fri - 8am - 5pm



The under-nines beginners team who finished second. s



The team who competed back in the West Midlands Regional Championships in Stoke. s

Man held in police stand-off

A MAN has been arrested for making threats to kill in Frankley on Sunday.

The 34-year-old was held by officers following a stand-off in Pearman Road which lasted more than three hours.

The man had barricaded himself in a property and specialist officers from West Midlands Police, along with negotiators, were called to the scene.

A cordon was put in place for the safety of the public.

At 12.45pm he left the house voluntarily and was arrested, bringing the incident to a safe conclusion.

A West Midlands Police spokesperson said: "We would like to thank the residents for their understanding as we brought the incident to a safe conclusion."

Gymnasts head over heels

SEVEN girls from Bromsgrove were part of the Invert Gymnastics group which helped win 12 medals at the West Midlands Regional Gymnastics Championship.

by Mia Whitehouse

The team of 15 girls competed in the George Finney Floor and Vault Championship 2025 at Fenton Manor in Stoke-on-Trent last month.

Beth Smith, the team's head coach, said: "I couldn't

be prouder of the gymnasts, everyone of them did their absolute best and should be delighted with their performance.

"This was our first time entering this competition and for many girls it was their first time competing, so to walk away with 12 medals and the George Finney Trophy is amazing."

Competing against 15

other British Gymnastics registered clubs, the girls from Invert Gymnastics showcased a talent and determination that secured some standout results.

Invert Gymnastics won the George Finney Trophy for recording the most top ten scores throughout the day.

The under-nines beginner girls came second as a team and individuals claimed first and fourth places.

The under-11s beginner girls were fourth in the team

event with two of the girls taking second and fourth places.

In the under-13s beginner girls, two gymnasts from the team took first and third place.

And in the under-15s beginner girls, there was a complete clean sweep with individual competitors taking first, second and third places.

Erin Judd, one of the under-15 gymnasts, said: "I felt over the moon, it was great to get

out there and show everyone what Invert is about.

"I'm so proud of my friends and myself for our achievements, it was such a fun day and experience competing against so many clubs and I can't wait for the next one."

Invert Gymnastics is based in Selly Oak, south Birmingham, with the team meeting every Monday evenings and Sundays.

Trial sessions are free to join.



BROMSGROVE NEEDS

REFORM



Bob Waller, for Bromsgrove East.
30 years in business: import/export, training, and consultancy.

Scan the QR codes to **Donate** or visit us on **Facebook**.

Peter Turner, for Beacon.
44 years in business: building trade, retail, garment manufacturing, residential and commercial property landlord.

Lisa Cresswell, for Alvechurch.
35 years in accounting, 20 years running a bookkeeping practice, and a property landlord.

Nik Price, for Bromsgrove West
10 years in the pet industry, with a proven track record. Successfully managed both national and international clients and held senior sales leadership roles.

Stephen Peters, for Wythall.
34 years as a qualified chartered quantity surveyor. 20+ years experience in various roles as a District, County, and Parish Councillor for Wythall.



Donna Westwood, for Clent Hills.
40 years in the accounting profession, with 25 years experience as a business owner.

Mark Dunkley, for Woodvale.
40 years running a vehicle repair business, started at 21, still going strong.

Chris Thomas, for Bromsgrove Central.
25 years experience as a business owner in retail and ecommerce.

Gaynor Jean-Louis, for Bromsgrove South.
30 years as a business owner and became a property landlord 11 years ago.

THE BROMSGROVE 9 TOTAL COMBINED YEARS IN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

288

THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT CABINET'S TOTAL COMBINED YEARS IN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

0

If you want change, on May 1st vote for Reform UK



Thieves steal parts from Audi

A CAR was stripped of parts while it was parked in Droitwich. The Audi A3 was parked on Ombersley Way, opposite the Droitwich Community Woods, when a number of parts were taken from it, including the headlights and sections of the engine. A tow bar was stolen as well from inside the vehicle.

The incident happened between 6.30pm on Monday and 2pm on Wednesday last week.

Witnesses or anyone with information should call police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Alternatively, email droitwichwest.snt@westmercia.police.uk with details.

For the latest news and sport: www.redditchstandard.co.uk

Walk of Witness is a show of faith

MORE than 100 people turned out for the annual Good Friday Walk of Witness around Redditch town centre.

The event, which was organised by Churches Together in Redditch, offered a time for participants and observers to gather, listen, and reflect.

The walk started at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church where there was a short act of worship.

From there, it headed to the Town Hall where it stopped for a prayer for the council, the community and the town.

Walkers then journeyed through the Kingfisher Centre and ended at St Stephen's Church where there was a short service.

An enormous – almost lifesize – cross was carried and there were people

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

dressed as Jesus, Mary and a Roman soldier.

Good Friday Walks of Witness are a meaningful tradition where Christians walk through their community, often carrying a cross, to symbolically retrace Jesus' journey to his crucifixion.

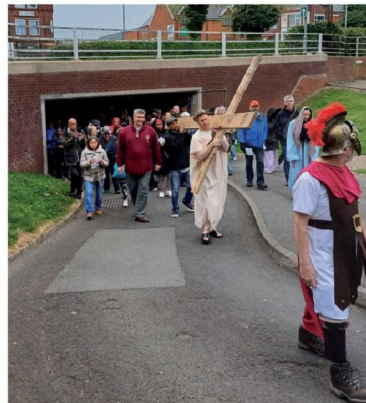
They serve as a public act of remembrance and witness to the sacrifice Jesus made.

Through prayers and worship along the way, participants reflected on the solemn events of Good Friday and the significance of them for their faith.

It was a time for communal reflection and a powerful expression of Christian belief in the heart of towns and cities.



The cross was carried through the centre of Redditch. s



The walkers headed along Alcester Street en route back to the town centre. Shoppers in the Kingfisher Centre looked on as the Walk of Witness went by. s

SPRING *into* ACTION!
RENOVATE & RENEW YOUR HOME FOR LESS

BUY NOW PAY LATER
 or 6 months after installation, spread the cost at **19.9% APR REPRESENTATIVE***



LIVING SPACES
 Orangeries, Conservatories & Glass Rooms



WINDOWS
 Exclusive UPVC & Aluminium Range



FRONT & BACK DOORS
 Composite, UPVC, Solid Core & Aluminium



DOORS
 French, Patio & Bi-Folding Doors

MIDLANDS' LARGEST SHOWROOMS
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Kidderminster Showroom
 Worcester Road
 Kidderminster DY10 1JR
 Tel: 01562 814868

Worcester Showroom
 36 Garden Street
 Worcester WR1 2AT
 Tel: 01905 886750


5STARWINDOWS.CO.UK



*Credit is subject to application and affordability. Terms and conditions apply. £1000 minimum order value applies to all finance plans, with a maximum loan value of £50,000 and a minimum deposit of £99. £99 deposit option is only applicable to orders up to the value of £5,000 including VAT. Balance can be repaid within 6 months with a £29 exit charge. 5 Star Construction Services Limited, Worcester Road, Kidderminster DY10 1JR (FRN 730066) trading as 5 Star Windows & Conservatories is a credit broker and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Credit provided by Novuna Personal Finance, a trading style of Mitsubishi HC Capital (UK) PLC, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (Register no. 704348).

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE

QUALITY BRANDS FOR LESS



SHERBORNE
...the Home of Relaxation

RANGE OF RISER RECLINERS IN STORE



Cloud Zero
3 motor lift and tilt

20% OFF

Exemption where applicable
ZERO GRAVITY RISER RECLINERS IN STORE



ADJUST-A-BED

20% OFF

MADE IN BRITAIN

ADJUSTABLE BEDS, ALL SIZES AVAILABLE, VAT EXEMPTION WHERE APPLICABLE



Celebrity

DUAL MOTOR / CLOUD ZERO RISER RECLINERS AVAILABLE IN 3 SIZES



20% off
Silentnight mattresses, beds and headboards

Silentnight
sleep great. Britain will inspire you.

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



HIGHGROVE

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

MADE IN BRITAIN



HYPNOS
THE ORIGINAL CLOUD ZERO

SPRING SALE

KING SIZE FOR THE PRICE OF A DOUBLE

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



MADE IN BRITAIN

COMPLETE OTTOMAN PACKAGES

FROM £699



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



PAINTED GREY / WHITE WITH AN OAK TOP LIVING ROOM & DINING ROOM RANGE AVAILABLE IN STORE



MADE IN BRITAIN

UK MADE FULLY ASSEMBLED BEDROOM RANGES



NEW LIVE EDGE DINING SET IN STORE



LA-Z-BOY
For life comfortably.

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



LA-Z-BOY
For life comfortably.

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE



LUXURY SOFA BEDS IN STORE



MADE IN BRITAIN

UK MADE SUITE, OTHER COLOURS & COMBINATIONS AVAILABLE & SPECIAL SIZES MADE TO ORDER



LEATHER POWER RECLINING 2 SEATER SOFA & CHAIR WAS £2495 - NOW £1495



IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!



SHERBORNE
...the Home of Relaxation

NEW SHERBORNE MODEL IN STORE



MADE IN BRITAIN

CUSTOM SIZES AVAILABLE TO ORDER
Cashel



NEW IN STORE, POWER CORNER GROUP

WAS £2495 now £1495 ONE ONLY

LARGE RANGE OF SUITES, SOFAS AND CHAIRS TO CLEAR IN STORE



FROM £495

£399

RISER RECLINERS

LARGE RANGE IN STORE



MADE IN BRITAIN

UK MADE CORNER GROUP ONE ONLY WAS £4495 NOW £750 TO CLEAR !! *DARK GREY*

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

Free customer parking at the rear of the shop - Free local delivery, installation & disposal available. 35+ years trading experience
Open 7 days Monday - Saturday 9am - 5.30pm. Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm



Four-day canal festival offers plenty to do over bank holiday

by Mia Whitehouse

THE St Richard's Canal Festival in Droitwich will take place this May bank holiday weekend and is completely free for everyone to attend.

The extravaganza runs from Friday, May 2, to the bank holiday Monday, May 5, featuring multiple events and activities, including boating, duck racing, community stalls, live entertainment and a real ale bar.

Among the activities will be a boat trip on the new Pamela May II from Vines Park and along the canal.

And there will be narrowboats and trading boats moored up for the weekend, along with model boats on display for demonstrations.

The annual Great Droitwich Duck Race, which takes place at 4.30pm on the bank holiday Monday on the River Salwarpe, is always among the highlights. Tickets to have a duck in the race are £1 with cash prizes for the winners.

Other events include a Fun Dog Show on bank holiday Monday at 11am, and the annual Blessing of the Upwich Brine Pit and procession on the Saturday morning.

The festival started with Richard de Wyche, who was said to bless



Droitwich Spa with brine in the 1240s. He was canonised in 1262 and St Richard's Day has been celebrated in the town ever since.

The Droitwich Barge Canal was built to carry salt from Droitwich down to the Severn and was completed in 1771. The Junction Canal

was constructed in 1853/4 to try to revive the canal trade which had been eroded by the development of the railways. Both canals were abandoned in 1939.

A campaign to restore the canals was initiated by the late Max Sinclair in the late 1960s and soon the

Droitwich Canal Trust was formed. In 1973 work began on restoring the canals.

In 2001, as part of the trust's fund-raising campaign, annual summer water festivals in Vines Park were arranged on the already restored canal in Vines Park, and in

There will be plenty of activities to suit all tastes at the St Richard's Canal Festival over the May bank holiday weekend. s

2006 there was also a revival of the celebration of St Richard's Day with a well dressing.

From 2008, the two events were combined and held on the first Saturday in May.

The canals were fully restored in 2011 (all the way from Hanbury Wharf down to the River Severn).

In 2013 the festival was extended to become St Richard's Festival, extending over the whole weekend with events in the town centre as well as in Vines Park.

Over the years that followed, Wychavon District Council became one of the main organisers of the event with more and more input from, amongst others, the Worcester to Birmingham and Droitwich Canals Society.

In 2016 a decision was made by the council to re-focus the festival back into Vines Park for 2017 and to step back from its involvement. The Worcester to Birmingham and Droitwich Canals Society successfully took it over as the main organisers with help from the district and town councils and others.

Visit strichardsfestival.co.uk or [facebook.com/srctfdroitwich](https://www.facebook.com/srctfdroitwich) for more on the festival, including the full programme of events.



Lunchtime Specials and Under 60s Menu £9.25

Tuesday to Saturday
12 noon to 5pm

Golden Oldies Only £8.75

Golden Oldies also available
Tuesday to Saturday
12 noon - 5pm

Mid Week Roast on a Thursday £11.25

3 course Sunday Lunch £17.25 - Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

Full Main Menu Tuesday - Saturday 12 noon - 9pm, Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

Evesham Road, Astwood Bank, B96 6AX Tel: 01527 894213



- Food Stalls
- Children's Activities
- Model Boats Sat & Sun
- Now in its 14th year



- Dog Show on Monday
- Fun for all the family
- Arts & Crafts

Vines Park Droitwich WR9 8LB

Bank Holiday Weekend
Friday 2nd May 5pm - 11pm
Saturday 3rd May, Sunday 4th May 10am - 11pm
Monday 5th May 10am - 5pm

- **Real Ale & Cider Bar all weekend**
- **Around 50 different beers and ciders**
- **Live Entertainment every day**
- **Canal boat rides during the days on 'Pamela May 2'**
- **The 'Great Droitwich Duck Race' 4.30pm Monday**



*** FREE ADMISSION * LATE NIGHT BAR * FAMILY EVENT**

strichardsfestival.co.uk | wbdc.org.uk | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/strichardsfestival)

This event is run by The Worcester Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society with support from Wychavon District Council and Droitwich Town Council

Thanks for help on the frontline

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

UKRAINIAN soldiers on the frontline in the war with Russia have thanked the people of Bromsgrove for donations of medical equipment.

Tanya Kyiko, a Ukrainian refugee living with hosts in Stoke Prior, started her appeal for medical equipment in January. She has now sent an estimated one tonne of donations back to her home city of Kharkiv.

Ms Kyiko, who is being supported by Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcome Refugees, is delighted with the support from the people of the town.

She said: "Thank you very much - your help is vital and necessary in our bloody fight for universal human values, for the right to live on this planet."

Despite already sending numerous consignments to Ukraine, Ms Kyiko said there was still a constant and urgent need for medical equipment and much more.

Yevhen Artyukh, who left the frontline to collect dona-



tions sent from Bromsgrove, added: "On behalf of the entire unit, I want to thank [you] for such tremendous assistance for our fighters."

He highlighted the donated water filters and medical supplies (pictured).

"This will greatly help our unit. Thank you very much. Together to victory. Glory to Ukraine."

"Kharkiv is less than 20km from the frontline so the city's residents are having a hard time.

"There are constant rocket attacks and a few days ago, the city was attacked by more than 20 drones in one evening.

"A number of civilian enterprises were damaged and windows were broken in

houses where people live.

"But the city is holding on, as is all of Ukraine."

"Great Britain and its people have always been flagships in the fight against autocracies.

"Therefore, we thank you once again, and the people of your town and your country."

Visit: BRWR.uk for a list of in need items for the appeal.

Contact Tanya via email at: tanya.leg59@gmail.com to donate.

Ukrainian Frontline soldier Yevhen Artyukh (left) and a fellow fighter with medical supplies donated by the people of Bromsgrove. s



Bradley Thomas MP weighs in on UK Supreme Court's ruling to protect single-sex spaces. s

BROMSGROVE MP Bradley Thomas has called on the government to act swiftly in publishing updated guidance to protect single-sex spaces after the UK Supreme Court ruled that a man and a woman was defined by biological sex under equalities law.

Campaign group For Women Scotland brought forward a case against the Scottish Government to argue sex-based protections should apply only to those born biologically female.

The group's appeal asked judges to rule on whether a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC), which states a person's gender is female, brings them within the Equality Act 2010's definition of a 'woman'.

Five judges from the UK supreme court ruled unanimously the legal definition of a woman did not include transgender women with a GRC.

Lord Hodge told the court the Equality Act (EA) was very clear its provisions dealt with biological sex at birth and not with a person's acquired gender, regardless of a GRC.

Following the Supreme Court ruling, Mr Thomas, said: "Today's ruling is a victory

for a common sense.

"It confirms what we all know to be true - the legal definition of a woman is based on biological sex.

"Now we have legal clarity, and its extraordinary we even had to get to this point when biological reality is glaringly obvious, the Government must now act swiftly to publish clear updated guidance to ensure single-sex spaces are protected."

Despite the ruling, transgender rights campaigners have urged trans people and their support to remain calm about the decision.

The group Scottish Trans said on social media: "We'd urge people not to panic - there will be lots of commentary coming out quickly that is likely to deliberately overstate the impact that this decision is going to have on all trans people's lives.

"We'll say more as soon as we're able to.

"Please look out for yourselves and each other today."

Judge Lord Hodge did also stress the ruling did not strip away protections against discrimination for transgender people.



Direct Floors
Home service

Carpets | Vinyls | Laminates | Wood

Shop at home for your new carpet and flooring and receive up to 30% off shop prices. We are COVID SAFE with 1,000's to choose from with our mobile showroom!

- ◆ Mobile showroom to your home
- ◆ 1000's Samples to your door
- ◆ Fully qualified insured fitters
- ◆ Family run business since 1999
- ◆ Furniture moved & carpets uplifted for OAP'S & disabled free of charge



Find us on facebook




Happy to help!

Call 7 days a week 8am-9pm
01527-894777
www.direct-floors.co.uk






Your dream home awaits you...



FULLY FURNISHED RESIDENTIAL & LUXURY LODGES FOR SALE

£10,000 OFF
ALL NEW LODGES THIS MONTH

***FROM £49,000**

-  Court Farm Estates are a family owned business committed to providing safe and friendly communities for people over the age of 45.
-  Fully furnished residential and luxury lodges available from just £49,000 (with the £10,000 discount)*
-  Pet friendly parks
-  No stamp duty on purchases
-  Finance Guaranteed when placing a 50% deposit on your new home.



Call now for information or to arrange a viewing

 01452 223811 www.courtfarmestates.co.uk



 **Swallow Lakes**
Prestige Luxury Lodges
Gloucestershire, GL17 0PH

Aston Court
LUXURY LODGES
Tewkesbury

Norton Park
★★★★★ from LUXURY LODGES
Gloucester, GL2 9LH

Regency Court
LUXURY LODGES
Cheltenham, GL51 6SL

Woodlands Park
LUXURY LODGES
Cheltenham, GL50 4PB

Green Crize
PARK HOMES
Hereford, HR2 8AB

Orchard
LODGE PARK
Alcester, B50 4NP

Diamond Park
LUXURY LODGES
Kidlington, OX5 3DR

Spring sale

CARPETWISE

CURTAINWISE · FURNITUREWISE

SAVE UP TO
60%

ACROSS THE SHOWROOM

plus save up to an extra **£200**
T&Cs apply. See below for details

Novuna Personal Finance
0% APR Representative
Interest free finance now available
Ask a member of the team for details
Subject to credit. Minimum spend & T&Cs apply. Tomorrow, Together.

amtico
flooring

FREE Estimating & Quotations
EXPERIENCED Flooring fitters
FURNITURE MOVING service available

Fantastic Offers
on Stock Carpets
prices from **£8.99** per sq.m
available for quick fitting

Wool Rich Carpets
from **£18.99** per sq.m

Woolmark 100% RESISTANT WOOL CARPET
MADE in the U.K.

plus save up to an extra **£200**

KING FOR THE PRICE OF A DOUBLE
PLUS SAVE MORE ON SELECTED BASE FABRICS
ask for more details



HUGE SAVINGS
ACROSS ALL FURNITURE

plus save up to an extra **£200**

LA Z BOY
Live Life Comfortably.

plus save up to an extra **£200**

SAVE up to 20%

SAVE £££
on Made to Measure
Curtains, Soft Furnishings &
Roman Blinds

plus save up to an extra **£200**

View our collection of ready made curtains in store
Many ranges to choose from

Roman Blinds

SAVE up to £200
on our blind collections

HYPNOS

Home of Stylish Interiors

Stratford upon Avon CV37 0AD

01789 299446
www.carpetwise.net

Extra Discount Terms & Conditions
*Save an extra £200 when you spend £1,900 or more.
Save an extra £100 when you spend £950-£1,899.
Save an extra £50 when you spend £475-£949.
The extra discount offer is valid from 17/04/25 until 31/05/25.
This extra discount is available on our main sale items but excludes clearance sale ranges, carpet stock ranges & carpet remnants, excludes accessories, fitting and seamstress charges, only one saving per order and must be presented on first enquiry, for further details contact the showroom.

Venetian Blinds

plus save up to an extra **£200**

Roller Blinds

Day & Night Blinds

Hospice is calling on all upwardly mobile folk to join trek

by Sarah Mason
sarah.mason@bullivantmedia.com

INTREPID explorers are being called on to take part in a trek through the Indian Himalayas and raise funds for children's hospices.

For the first time ever, six children's hospices have joined forced to shine a spotlight on the care they give with a once-in-a-lifetime trek.

Acorns Children's Hospice is reaching for new heights with this extraordinary expedition, offering a select few the opportunity to embark on a journey through the landscapes of the Indian Himalayas and Dharamshala, home of the Dalai Lama.

The West Midlands charity will be joined by five other children's charities: Children's Hospice South West,

Demelza, Helen and Douglas House, Naomi House and Jacksplace and Shooting Star Children's Hospices.

These charities all provide vital care and support for children with life limiting and life threatening conditions.

Acorns supporters are being encouraged to sign up for the event and help the charity continue its life-changing care for seriously ill children and their families.

Sophie Boreham, events manager at Acorns, said: "We are beyond thrilled to be teaming up with five other incredible children's hospice charities to offer a lucky few individuals the adventure of a lifetime."

Taking place from October 3 to 11 2026, this journey will take trekkers into the Lesser Himalayan range of Northern India.

Over four days of hiking, adventurers will cover approximately 14km



Acorns Children's Hospice is calling on explorers to join the Himalayan fundraising trek.

per day, reaching a maximum altitude of 2,841m at Triund.

Trekkers can find out more about this event by joining a free online information evening on April 30, where they can hear directly from the trek organisers and ask any questions before signing up.

Registration costs £395, with signing up before June 30.

Participants are being asked to raise a minimum sponsorship amount of £3,900 or just £1,785, depending on the package they select, with all funds going towards supporting Acorns vital work in

providing care for seriously ill children and support for their families.

Sophie added: "For every individual who meets the minimum sponsorship target, Acorns could help pay for a group of 60 siblings to go on an exciting trip of their own or fund two syringe driver machines - a crucial tool for delivering medication and managing a child's pain.

"Join us for the trip of a lifetime and help make a lasting impact on the lives of seriously ill children."

In the past year, the charity has cared for more than 780 children

across the West Midlands, and supported over 1,000 families, including those who are bereaved.

Acorns needs around £35,000 each day to provide its children's hospice care, with two thirds of that amount coming from generous donations and fundraising by the local community.

To sign up to the free information evening and get more details, visit www.acorns.org.uk/himalayastrek or contact the Acorns Events team via events@acorns.org.uk or call 01564 825 037.

ReddiClean

Professional Block Paving & Slab Cleaning Service

SPECIAL RATE FOR OAPs



Commercial-powered jetwash, refilled sand loss, all rubbish removed

Call for a free, no obligation quote **01527 962771 / 07850 433817**

reddicleanservice@gmail.com



LEFT: Coun Esther Gray, Farm Animal and Bird Sanctuary volunteer Margaret Brown and Coun Peter McDonald with the first place certificate. s

RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM: Farm Animal and Bird Sanctuary charity shop was judged to be the best display. s

The Acorns Children's Hospice shop came second with its design. s

In third place was this design from Age UK. s



acorns Your local children's hospice



Animal charity shop dressed to impress

AWARDS were presented to businesses in Rubery which entered the annual Easter best-dressed shop window competition.

A number of traders took part in the contest which was organised by Rubery councillor Esther Gray. She was supported by Coun Peter McDonald and the competition was judged by Standard editor Tristan Harris.

With plenty of quality contenders and after much deliberation, first place went to the Farm Animal and Bird Sanctuary charity shop.

Jo White, who owns the charity which is based in Tardebigge, said:

"Animals come to us for life. Farm animals aren't just for Christmas and should not be kept in a family home.

"The charity pays for the rent and upkeep of this sanctuary."

In second place was the Acorns Children's Hospice shop.

Dali Kaur, who accepted the certificate on behalf of the organisation, said: "We are so thrilled and honoured to receive this award for the best window display in Rubery. Thank you to the community for your support we hope our display brought some joy to everyone."

People are being urged to support Acorns by donating pre-loved items or

by giving their time and volunteering. Dali added: "You are helping us to be there for children and families when they need us most – every penny you spend at shops will raise much cash towards care for the children thank you for all your support."

In third place was the Age UK shop.

Coun Gray congratulated everyone for their designs.

And Tristan said: "There were some fantastic creations on display in Rubery which really captured the spirit and iconic images of Easter we have come to know and love.

"Well done to both the winners and all the businesses which took part."

Matthew J. Elmes & Co. Chartered Accountants

Accountancy and taxation services to business and individuals

Bookkeeping

Payroll

Statutory Accounts

Tax returns

Probate & Estate Administration

Wills, Lasting Power of Attorney

Authorised to carry on the reserved legal activity of Probate.

Authorised and regulated as a CILEX-ACCA Probate Entity.

info@matthewelmes.co.uk

01789 549008



Just for Pets



Just for Pets, 20 Market St, Bromsgrove B61 8DA (opposite Asda)
Just for Pets, Saltway, Droitwich WR9 8LA (opposite Waitrose)
Just for Pets, New Road, Kidderminster DY10 1HG

www.justforpets.co.uk

Air Ambulance garden to reflect lifesaving work of vital charity

MIDLANDS AIR Ambulance Charity (MAAC) is set to debut a medicinal show garden at BBC Gardeners' World Live, which takes place between June 15 and 17.

The deeply moving plot has been conceived with the help of designers, Helen Swan and Lucy Chapman, and landscaper Rupert Keys, to act as a living tribute to the charity's lifesaving work and the positive impact it has on patients' recovery.

Emma Gray, MAAC's Chief Operating Officer, said: "Our organisation is best known for delivering advanced treatment via our rapid response helicopters and critical care cars, which is why our Medical Garden places emotional recovery at its heart, acknowledging that for many patients, survivors, families, and crew, the impact trauma and medical emergencies have on patients.

"We are exceptionally proud to be part of BBC Gardeners' World Live this year and look forward to welcoming visitors and supporters in June."

Creator Helen, who has created award-winning installations for places such as Leeds and Glastonbury Festival, said: "The garden was never about beauty.

"It's about honesty, we have created a space that acknowledges patients trauma, yet also reflects the strength that can be drawn from life-changing experiences and the role nature can



play in rebuilding lives."

Lucy, a fellow designer who is currently completing her Garden Design Diploma at KLC School of Design, said: "For us, the garden reflects not just MAAC's emergency response, but our understanding of the emotional recovery that follows.

"The feedback we hear from those the service has helped is often about small things, being able to walk again, hearing birdsong, and feeling rooted in life once more.

"The garden embodies this."

Every detail in the garden reflects the designers' core sustainable principles - permeable paths, locally sourced soil, stone and clay, reclaimed materials, and resilient planting suited to changing climates.

Rupert has previously been on the BBC Gardeners' World Live in 2023 for another best show garden.

Following its appearance on the BBC, elements of the garden will be relocated to the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity airbase and charity headquarters in Shifnal, Shropshire.

How the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity's medicinal show garden will look. s

It also has other bases at Strensham Services on the M5 in Worcestershire and Tatenall, near Burton-on-Trent.

The MAA delivers advanced patient care on the scene across six counties, including the West Midlands and Worcestershire.

The new building will help future-proof the service to ensure it continues to meet the rising demand for its specialist skills.

It includes offices for the charity's support staff and enhanced services for its pre-hospital emergency medicine doctors and critical care paramedics. This includes a clinical training and development simulation suite.

The helicopter-led service responds to an average of 4,300 missions each year - 2,000 of the deployments are air missions.

The charity also has a fleet of rapid response vehicles and three critical care cars.

The charity's three aircraft each carry a crew comprising a pilot, two paramedics or flight doctors plus full life-support medical equipment.

The fleet of critical care cars each have critical care paramedics on-board with full life-support medical equipment.

Each year it costs £16million just to keep the three charity helicopters and fleet of critical care cars operational.

★★★★★ Trustpilot

Reader travel

The Standard

By Coach from Bromsgrove, Redditch

VE DAY 80: POPPIES AT THE TOWER OF LONDON

Departing Sat 21 Jun '25, Sat 9 Aug '25, Sat 23 Aug '25, Sat 20 Sep '25

Join us at the Tower of London to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War with a spectacular poppy installation. This new display represents the sacrifice made by so many and a symbol of resilience against overwhelming odds.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from **Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel outside London (JG3 or JG4 rating) with breakfast
- ✓ Admission to the Tower of London & the Poppies at the Tower installation
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

2 Days by Coach only £159

Single Supplement E50

CHESTER & LIVERPOOL

Departing Sat 9 Aug '25

Enjoy a wonderful weekend in the North West! Discover Chester, a medieval city with distinctive historic Tudor buildings and explore Liverpool, one of the UK's most famous cities, featuring a bustling waterfront filled with museums and attractions.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from **Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ Overnight stay at the Beaufort Park Hotel, Mold (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Included visits to Chester & Liverpool

2 Days by Coach only £129

Single Supplement E30

WHITBY REGATTA & HISTORIC YORK

Departing Sun 10 Aug '25

The Whitby Regatta is recognised as one of the oldest maritime festivals on the northeast coast of England. Enjoy yacht racing, rowing races and everything related to sailing on this two-day adventure which also includes a visit to York!

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from **Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Excursion to Whitby to see the Whitby Regatta
- ✓ En-route visit to York

2 Days by Coach only £119

Single Supplement E45

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

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

Operated by Just Go Holidays Ltd. Coach package holidays and short breaks are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms and conditions. Your booking is protected by Best of Both Holidays (BOBH) and the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT); this is a government approved consumer protection scheme. Tours offered subject to availability and government guidelines. Errors and omissions excluded. Prices per person, based on two people sharing a double/twin room. Calls to 033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply. Prices are correct at the time of printing and will be honoured for bookings made on or before 7 days after publication. Prices after this date are subject to fluctuation.

BEST COMPANY IN COACH/TOURING HOLIDAYS

Member 7022

THE NORBURY
THEATRE DROITWICH SPA
 FRIAR STREET, DROITWICH SPA WR9 8ED

NODA
 AWARD
 WINNING
 THEATRE

THE NORBURY PLAYERS - PRESENT AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION OF "BLACKADDER II"
 IS ADAPTED FROM THE ORIGINAL BBC PRODUCTION.

Black Adder II

*By Richard Curtis
 and Ben Elton*



**BOOK YOUR
 TICKETS
 NOW!**

1 - 10 MAY 2025

7.30PM. SATURDAY MATINEE 10TH MAY 2.30PM.

TICKETS: £15/£13



TICKETSOURCE

BOX OFFICE: 01905 770154

www.norburytheatre.co.uk



PALACE THEATRE

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS
Box Office 01527 65203

ANTON BENSCH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

BOBBY DAVRO **AMANDA HENDERSON**

Pinochhio

KATE SALMON RYAN GREAVES PHYL HARRIES

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST APPEARING FROM ZIPPY & GEORGE

EASTER PANTO SAT 26 APRIL : 2PM & 6PM

as we were

the history of **oasis** and beyond

THE PALACE THEATRE REDDITCH
MAY 1st 2025

DOORS AT 7PM - SHOW STARTS 7.30PM

performed by the UK's official No. 1 oasis tribute band 'oasis4' and narrated by presenter of The Word, Terry Christian.

Tickets available at www.aswewere.co.uk

The Legends of
AMERICAN COUNTRY SHOW

WINNER OF THE *Best Country Tribute Show*

TUE 6th MAY : 7.30PM

THUR 8 MAY 7.30PM

THE MAKINGS OF A MURDERER 2

THE REAL MANHUNTER
WITH SENIOR INVESTIGATIVE OFFICER COLIN SUTTON
WHO CAUGHT SERIAL KILLER, LEVI BELFIELD

AM PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF THE SINGLE SERIES BY NICK & BOLL

EDDIE COCHRAN
65th Anniversary Show

Celebrating the Music of Eddie Cochran, his close friends & the UK chart hits of 1960

FRI 9 MAY 7.30PM

NEW ROMANTIC • NEW WAVE • SYNTH POP

CALLING PLANET EARTH

'THE SHOW THAT DEFINES A DECADE'

TUE 13 - WED 14 MAY : 7.30PM

PHA paul holman associates

PAUL HOLMAN ASSOCIATES PRESENT

FESTIVE ENTERTAINMENT

THE MAGICAL PANTOMIME ADVENTURE

From Coronation Street & Emmerdale
BILL WARD
Abanazar

SIMON BASHFORD
Widow Twankey

Aladdin

BOOK NOW

SCAN ME

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

PALACE THEATRE

ONLINE BOOKING www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk

Party's hopes for Green votes

by **Ashleigh Osborne**
ashleigh.osborne@bullivant-media.com

THE GREEN Party has announced their candidates standing in the county council elections for Redditch and Bromsgrove.

The candidates have pledged to work for a better Worcestershire, by protecting children and supporting families, improving child-care, schools and colleges including SEND provision, supporting local businesses,

encouraging efficient waste and recycling, protecting the environment and wildlife, safeguarding libraries and making transport better for all.

Standing for Redditch West is David Thain and Glen Theobald and for Redditch South is Claire Davies and Ben Bradley.

Putting their hat in the ring for Redditch Central is Clare Beckhelling and Adam Price and for Redditch East is Kath Manning and Kevin White.

The Green Party is also fielding candidates in every Bromsgrove district division, including John Ball

(Alvechurch), Jill Harvey (Beacon) Peter Measham (Bromsgrove Central), Peter Harvey (Bromsgrove East), Chris Cooke (Bromsgrove South), John Smout (Bromsgrove West), Stuart Davies (Clent Hills), Julian Gray (Woodvale) and Amelia Quirk (Wythall).

Search for the 'Bromsgrove and Redditch Green Party' on Facebook for more on the party and its plans locally.

John Smout - who is standing in Bromsgrove West - with fellow Green Party campaigners in Sidemore. s



David Thain is standing in Redditch West. s



Kevin White will be contesting Redditch East. s




BROMSGROVE SCHOOL



OPEN MORNING
Saturday 10th May
Entry for pupils aged 7 - 13



SCAN ME

FLAIR • DISCIPLINE • ACADEMIC RIGOUR
Call 01527 579679 or email admissions@bromsgrove-school.co.uk
www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk
720 pupils aged 2 - 13 • 1060 pupils aged 13 - 18



By Appointment to
His Majesty King Charles III
Medallists
Worcestershire Medal Service Ltd
Bromsgrove



Worcestershire Medal Service Ltd
We Buy Medals, Coins, Jewellery, Gold and Silver

Experts available Monday to Friday,
Saturday drop off service until 12.00pm.
Home visits available on request.
collectables@worcmedal.com

01527 835375
07889757199

124 High Street, Bromsgrove. B61 8HJ



Farage: It's Reform v Tories to win council



Nigel Farage met the Worcestershire candidates ahead of the county council elections on May 1. Picture by Ashleigh Osborne. © Bullivant Media Group Ltd.

“THEY'RE the most optimistic group of people I have met” – that was the view of Reform UK leader Nigel Farage as he met the party's Worcestershire election candidates.

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

Mr Farage, on a whistle-stop tour of the country, chose the East House pub in Redditch on Tuesday evening for the meet-and-greet.

For the first time in a local election, Reform UK is fielding a candidate in every division for the county council – 53 in total – and they all gathered in the pub waiting for Mr Farage's arrival.

There were loud cheers as he entered and he addressed the waiting crowd.

After his speech, it was out into the beer garden for group shots and photographs with Mr Farage and each of the candidates.

Speaking to the Standard afterwards, he said: “This is the most optimistic and bullish group I have met.

“If you weren't optimistic, you wouldn't do this but they clearly believe they can win Worcestershire County Council.”

Mr Farage praised the candidates' efforts and endeavours adding: “Many have knocked on more than 400 doors – they're really trying.”

On the battle for the county he added: “Looking at the numbers, this will be a straightforward fist fight between us and the Tories.

“This is one of their long-term strongholds and a bookmaker would probably make them marginal favourites, given the history.

“But you never know.

“They are not going to turn out for Labour in Worcestershire, it's not a Lib Dem area, the Greens will focus on a few seats and will win a few seats – I'm sure of it – but apart from that, it's us versus the Tories.”

He did say Worcestershire would

not be in Reform UK's 'top bracket' of target councils but added statistics showed that around 40 per cent of people had considered voting Reform. Many had chosen not to because they did not believe we could win.

“But if there is a belief we can win - as there is among our candidates - it will increase voter turn-out and more people will vote for us,” he added.

On the message he wanted to get across locally Mr Farage said: “On a local level, it is not Worcestershire County Council's job to spend £500,000 on decarbonisation –that's not their job.

“Their job is to represent council taxpayers and spend money on local services – for SEND kids, roads and other services.”

He described the council's decision to spend £16million on the Kepax bridge which he referred to as the 'bridge to nowhere' as the

'most ridiculous thing he had ever heard'.

Mr Farage said local government had 'become too complacent' and 'we need to send the auditors in'.

“It needs a big shake-up and we're the only ones who can do it,” he added.

He said with the way central government had vastly reduced the amount of cash it had given to local councils, they had to cut the cloth accordingly.

“My criticism of Worcestershire County Council is it hasn't done that – until now, because they're panicking,” he explained. “We need a leaner, more efficient local government with higher productivity levels.”

One of the candidates expressed concerns about the message being sent out by Reform UK with regard to the NHS and how it was funded and delivered.

Mr Farage denied he wanted to privatise the NHS. He added: “It's not about privatisation, it's about whether you have to pay to use it.

“A lot of lies have been put out about what we have said.

“I have always said the funding model is broken – the bigger percentage of our GDP we put in, the less return we get out.

“I want the NHS to be free – as it was designed to be in the late 1940s – and how we get to that point needs a radical rethink. Whether it means using healthcare insurance companies, I don't care – as long as we get more bang for our buck and we're not getting it now.”

Mr Farage pointed to healthcare systems in 'our neighbours across the Channel' which were doing a lot better than the UK. “France and Germany are organising healthcare better than we are, so let's learn from them,” he added.



Your local friendly specialist lawyers

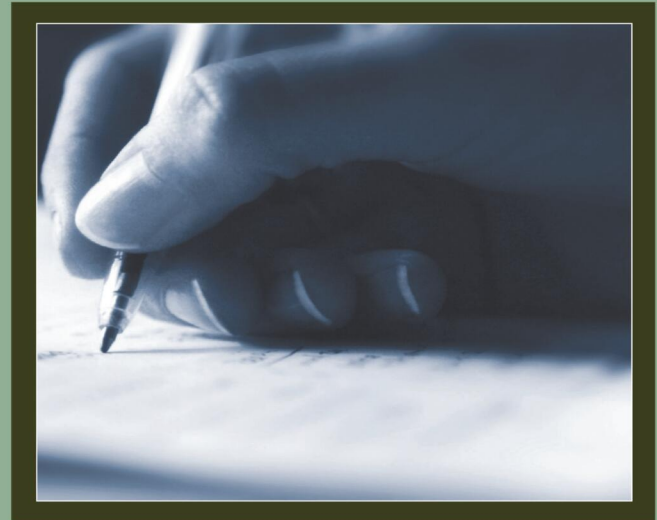
Taylor Solicitors have been in Headless Cross and assisting the residents of Redditch since the 1970's.

We are a friendly local firm that guarantees you will be dealt with by an individual who will be happy to speak with you and provide you with sensible straightforward advice.

If you are looking for someone to help you with a house move – sale or purchase; or a re-mortgage or other residential property matter our lawyers are happy to support you. Our property lawyers have over 30 years of experience in residential property.

Or, if you want to plan for the future and make wills or Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) or if you have had a bereavement and want us to help with probate and administering the estate we are happy to meet with you and discuss your requirements.

Please call us on 01527 544221 or email claire@taylorssolicitors.com for property matters and stephanie@taylorssolicitors.com for probate, wills and LPAs.



TAYLORS SOLICITORS

1 Mason Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 5DA
01527 544221 | stephanie@taylorssolicitors.com (wills and LPAs)



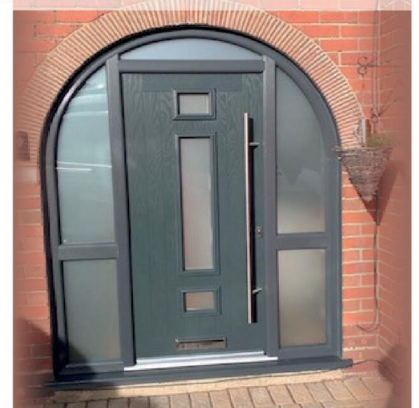
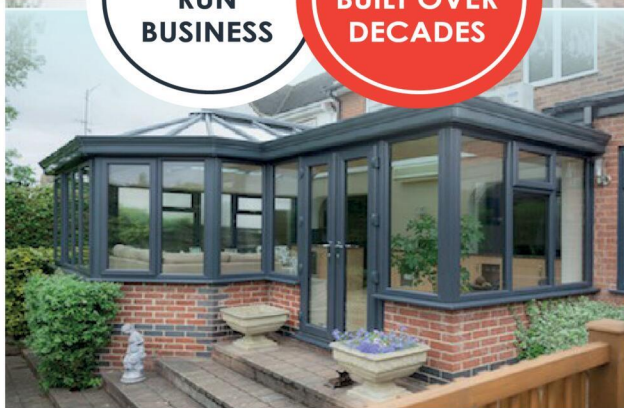


BIRMINGHAM GLASS SERVICES LTD



**FAMILY
RUN
BUSINESS**

**EXPERTISE
BUILT OVER
DECADES**



WE MANUFACTURE & INSTALL

- Flush Casement Windows ***NEW***
- Composite doors
- **Windows:** UPVC casement, bow, bay & shaped
- **Doors:** UPVC sliding, French, bi-fold, patio, aluminium
- Secondary and triple glazing
- Conservatories and bespoke orangeries
- Soffits, fascias and guttering
- Skypods and roof lanterns
- Aluminium windows and doors

WE ALSO PROVIDE A FULL GLAZING SERVICE!

- ✓ Replacements of broken or misted units
- ✓ Window & door repairs
- ✓ Mirrors & glass cut to size
- ✓ In-house trade counter

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION

TEL: 0121 4779799

www.birminghamglass.co.uk | enquiries@birminghamglass.co.uk

Youngsters enjoy fun in the park

THE CROWDS descended on Droitwich's Vines Park over the Easter weekend for the annual Kids' Fun Fest.

A variety of activities and entertainment took place on Saturday and Sunday.

The festival, which has now been running for five years, boasted 41 stalls and attractions.

Among them were a funfair, pony rides and live performances from ENTW9 Dance and Magic Dave.

There was also an Easter egg hunt, ice cream, boat rides, burgers, toys, a doughnut store, Slush

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

Puppies, cakes, candy floss, sweets, arts and crafts.

The event was put on by the organisers of SaltFest.

Next year, the organisers are planning to introduce new concepts with schools throughout Worcestershire, offering them the chance to become more involved in business studies as part of education to produce crafts, painting and arts seller able goods. School departments can be offered slots for pupils to perform

all types of entertainments from singers, bands, musicians, poetry, DJ sets, dance, drama and sport.

The aim is for the activities to help with young people's confidences.

A 'Just Say No' campaign will also be launched to urge young people to stay away from carrying knives and taking drugs. The idea will be for students to use art classes to produce posters for the campaign with 'pupils educating pupils'.

There were plenty of activities for all ages, including a funfair, at Kids' Fun Fest.



Lars Pluto is bringing his acclaimed Rhinestone Cowboy: The Glen Campbell Story show to Bromsgrove's Artrix.

Relive the story of the Rhinestone Cowboy

FANS of country music are in for a treat when Rhinestone Cowboy: The Glen Campbell Story comes to Bromsgrove's Artrix.

The captivating show is billed as a 'dynamic live music theatre experience' which celebrates the extraordinary life and timeless music of a country music legend.

The Bromsgrove Community Arts' stage show is taking place at 7.30pm on Saturday, May 10.

The production takes the audience on a journey through Glen Campbell's remarkable career, from his humble beginnings to his rise as a Grammy-winning artist and global superstar.

Singer, songwriter and musician Lars Pluto, originally from Georgia USA, will return to the stage to perform some of Glen's most iconic hits, including 'Rhinestone Cowboy', 'Wichita Lineman', 'By the Time I Get to Phoenix' and

many more. The unique show was conceived by Lars who performed it at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh last year to great acclaim.

Lars, who has called England home for many years now, has become a beloved figure in the UK music scene.

His deep connection to the music of Glen Campbell is said to shine through every note and his powerful vocals blend perfectly with the four-piece live band.

With a talented cast of musicians and performers, Rhinestone Cowboy offers a powerful tribute to Glen's artistry, showcasing the songs and stories that made him an enduring figure in American music history.

It will appeal to his Glen Campbell's long-time fans and those new to his music. Tickets are £28 each.

Visit artrixbromsgrove.co.uk/whats-on/all-shows/ to book and for more information.



Longbridge Cladding & Roofing Ltd
A local team you can trust

SPECIALISTS IN ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING



New Roofs - Roof Repairs - Flat Roofing
Fascia, Soffits & Guttering - Cladding
Moss Removal Chimney / Ridge Tile Repointing
Local References Available - Free Quotations

For a FREE quote, contact the local company you can trust

Birmingham - 0121 667 8938
Redditch - 01527 906 586

Park House, Bristol Rd South, Rednal, Birmingham B45 9AH
www.longbridgecladdingandroofingltd.co.uk
sales@longbridgecladdingandroofingltd.co.uk

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

JustGo! Holidays Trustpilot



TORQUAY CRUISE & DEVON STEAM
Departing Mon 2 Jun '25
Enjoy the sights of the beautiful English Riviera and the welcome of Torquay on this great-value break that features a packed itinerary of excursions, a delightful heritage railway journey, a scenic cruise on the River Exe and much more!

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Redditch**
- ✓ 4 nights at the Burlington Hotel, Torquay (JG2 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the South Devon Railway
- ✓ Cruise on the River Exe
- ✓ Free time in Exmouth
- ✓ Excursion to Buckfast Abbey & Buckfast Butterfly Farm & Dartmoor Otter Sanctuary

Optional excursion to Teignmouth (£11pp)

▶ **SAVE £30 - Quote OSG**
- Book by 09 May 2025

5 Days by Coach only £359
Single Supplement £75

These packages are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms & conditions. Coach bookings are protected by Bonded Coach Holidays & the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Ltd. Air holidays are AOCX protected No.10399. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room & based on bookings made up to 7 days post publication, after which prices may fluctuate. Choices of date, hotel, airport or pick up location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.



HISTORIC DURHAM - BEAMISH & CAPTAIN COOK'S WHITBY
Departing Thu 21 Aug '25
We enjoy a host of historically-themed excursions on this wonderful exploration of the North East. From Whitby to the fascinating open-air living museum of Beamish and the beautiful city of Durham, this break offers the perfect chance to journey into the past.

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Redditch**
- ✓ 4 nights at the Leonardo Hotel, Middlesbrough (JG3 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Excursions to Durham, Beamish Living Museum & Whitby

5 Days by Coach only £419
Single Supplement £125

Visit us online at justgoholidays.com/OSG

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





THE

Abbey

HOTEL

Tie the Knot at our Beautiful wedding venue in Worcestershire

The perfect backdrop for your big day



Thanks to our elegant event spaces, picturesque grounds and gardens, and fantastic range of facilities, our 4* hotel has become one of the most popular wedding venues in Worcestershire whether you are looking for a big celebration or an intimate get together with your loved ones.

We can accommodate up to 120 guests for a civil ceremony and wedding breakfast, and a maximum of 220 for an evening buffet reception. And with your own wedding coordinator on hand every step of the way, we will listen, offer guidance and be a friendly ear during every stage of your planning to ensure you get the wedding day you have always dreamt of.



Hither Green Lane, Dagnell End Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 9BE
Phone: 01527 406 600 | Email: events@theabbeyhotel.co.uk

Fire service delivers life-saving equipment to Ukraine frontline

WORCESTERSHIRE's fire and rescue service has joined a convoy of national colleagues to deliver thousands of pieces of life-saving firefighting equipment to Ukrainian firefighters.

Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) is supporting the convoy which includes 30 vehicles, including 26 fire engines and various equipment such as hoses, PPE, road traffic collision equipment and more.

A total of 18 fire and rescue services from across the UK are participating in the convoy, organised by FIRE AID, National Resilience and International Search and Rescue, HM Government, National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and the Fire Industry Association (FIA).

The convoy, which is the eighth and largest of its kind, is sponsored by the UK government. It will add to the 119 fire and rescue vehicles and 200,000 pieces of firefighting equipment already donated since the invasion began.

HWFRS Area Commander Lee Watson said: "HWFRS has been part of multiple convoys in an effort to support our Ukrainian colleagues.

"Ukrainian firefighters display incredible bravery daily, risking their lives to protect their communities despite limited resources and immense danger.

"We recognise the ongoing challenge and are privileged to be able to support their efforts.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Fire Authority



for supporting these donations, all the staff that have made this possible and the volunteers who have selflessly given up their own time to participate in the delivery of this essential equipment."

The war in Ukraine has had a devastating impact on Ukrainian

firefighters.

The latest figures from the State Emergency Services of Ukraine show, since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022, 100 firefighters have been killed and a further 431 injured, while four are currently in captivity and one is missing.

Meanwhile, 411 firehouses and 1,700 fire vehicles have been destroyed and 95 firehouses are now in occupied territories.

Despite these challenges, Ukrainian firefighters continue to operate in the war zone to save lives and protect property, often at great personal risk.

About 100 volunteers, drawn from fire and rescue services and FIRE AID, are participating in the convoy.

Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service is supporting the convoy to get fire engines and equipment to Ukraine. s

Victims of stalking urged to speak out during national awareness week

WEST Mercia Police has pledged to do everything possible to bring stalkers to justice.

The vow comes during National Stalking Awareness Week which highlights the seriousness of the crime and the devastating effect on the lives of victims and their friends and family.

The awareness week is led by Suzy Lamplugh Trust - it began on Monday and runs until today (April 21 to 25).

West Mercia Police said

remained committed to doing everything possible to combat the crime.

Det Supt Leanne Lowe, said: "As a force we remain committed to protecting victims of this crime and to bring those committing such offences to justice.

"We continue to support National Stalking Awareness Week, which gives us an opportunity to talk about how we tackle stalking and support victims.

"Victims of stalking can feel

very alone and unsettled, and the experience can be extremely distressing not only for them but for their family and friends.

"This is why it is important that we get the message out that help and support is always available.

"If you are a victim of stalking, please do not feel that you are alone.

"Any kind of persistent, unwanted contact that causes distress is stalking and is unacceptable.

"We know it can sometimes take

great courage to report stalking to the police, but rest assured we take all reports very seriously and our trained officers will offer you full support and reassurance.

"They will also be on hand to work with partners to provide safeguarding."

Anyone who feels like they are a victim of stalking are urged to contact West Mercia Police.

The force said it took the crime very seriously.

Incidents of stalking can be

reported by calling West Mercia Police on 101 or by going to: westmerciapolice.uk and heading to the 'report a crime' section.

Anyone who does not feel comfortable speaking to the police can visit: suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline to contact the National Stalking Helpline.



DEAN SIMPSON

COUNTY TREE SURGEONS

Your local, NPTC & Lantra Certified tree surgeon



County Tree Surgeons have been trusted tree surgeons in Redditch and the surrounding area for over 15 years, specialising in tree reduction and removal. A family run business with values to match, providing services for all aspects of tree work. We offer free quotes and estimates and are available for 24/7 call outs.

- ✓ All aspects of tree work undertaken
- ✓ Specialist in tree removal/ reductions
- ✓ Fencing
- ✓ Hedge maintenance
- ✓ Storm damage work
- ✓ Tree stump grinding service
- ✓ Conifer trees topped or felled
- ✓ Call out work
- ✓ Fast clean service
- ✓ Free estimates
- ✓ Fully insured
- ✓ All work carried out to BS3998 standard



Tel 01 527 404240
Mobile 07969 895316
www.countytreesurgeons.com

In Loving Memory
of
Peter Simpson

31.03.1942 -
01.06.2024



WARWICKSHIRE'S BEST KEPT SECRET!



HUNSCOTE FARM SHOP & NURSERY
01789 840240 • www.hunscotefarm.com

Award Winning Potatoes available all year
Home reared lamb and beef • Local Produce
Asparagus • Tomatoes • Honey • Eggs

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE



10% OFF
PLANTS & HANGING
BASKETS DURING
MAY & JUNE

*This Voucher may not be used in conjunction with any other Offers

HUNSCOTE FARM SHOP & NURSERY
Stratford Road, Wellesbourne, Warwickshire CV35 9ES

You will find us on the B4086, Stratford to Wellesbourne Road
Our farm is on the 'S' bend behind Charlecote Park. Satellite Navigation will bring you to the Charlecote Crossroads by the Airfield.

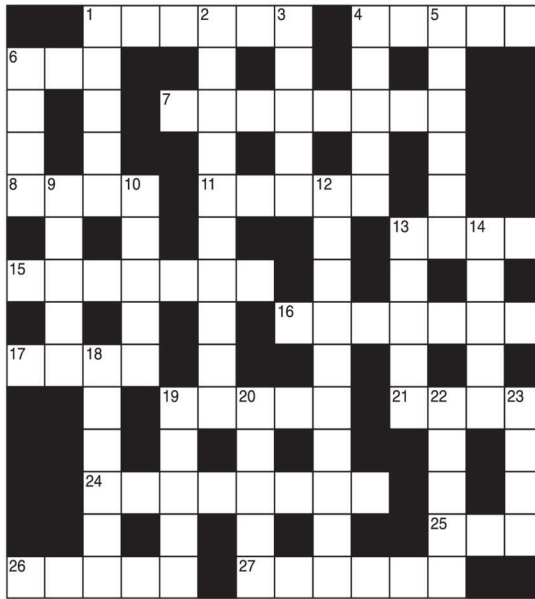
Our signs will direct you to us.

Opening hours Tue – Thurs 8am – 5.30pm • Friday 8am – 6pm
• Saturday 8am – 5pm • Closed Sunday and Monday

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Breed of long-bodied, short-legged hunting hound, with long ears and head (6)
- 4 See 6 Across
- 6,4 Across & 14 Down Artist, yachtsman and naturalist who founded the World Wide Fund for Nature (3,5,5)
- 7 Palace of the Moorish kings of Granada, Spain (8)
- 8 King of Mercia from 757 to 796, successor of Aethelbald (4)
- 11 Tropical, evergreen tree yielding a fleshy fruit eaten ripe or used green for pickles, etc. (5)
- 13 The monetary unit of Mexico (4)
- 15 Volatile colourless liquid valuable as a solvent of organic compounds (7)
- 16 Surname of the dramatist, poet and essayist famous for his tragedy Cato (7)
- 17 Piece of glass, etc., with one or both sides curved for concentrating or dispersing light rays (4)
- 19 Spotted flatfish resembling the turbot (5)
- 21 Distinct, main sections of a play or plays (4)
- 24 Unbroken rows of attached houses (8)
- 25 & 12 Down Gilbert and Sullivan operetta also called The King of Barataria (3,10)
- 26 Hastings, president of Malawi from 1966-94 (5)
- 27 See 4 Down



DOWN

- 1 A summary of a client's case for the instruction of counsel (5)
- 2 Tailed amphibian once supposed to live in fire (10)
- 3 Pen surname of Samuel Langhorne Clemens (5)
- 4 & 27 Across Spanish cellist, conductor, pianist and composer whose works include The Manger (5,6)
- 5 One of the British species of shad (6)
- 6 Airtight chamber for storing grain (4)
- 9 See 13 Down
- 10 In music, another name for counter-tenors (5)
- 12 See 25 Across
- 13 & 9 Down Latin phrase meaning 'at first appearance', used chiefly in law (5,5)
- 14 See 6 Across
- 18 See 20 Down
- 19 Island in the Outer Hebrides, chief town Castlebay (5)
- 20 & 18 Down English mathematician, physicist and philosopher noted for his law of gravitation (5,6)
- 22 Short-tailed water fowls belonging to the rail family and resembling moorhens (5)
- 23 The fruit of the blackthorn (4)

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1 Basses; 4 Peter; 6 Sir; 7 Alhambra; 8 Offa; 11 Mango; 13 Peso; 15 Acetone; 16 Addison; 17 Lens; 21 Act; 24 Terrace; 25 The; 26 Banda; 27 Casals.
 DOWN: 1 Brie; 2 Salamander; 3 Twain; 4 Pablo; 5 Twaite; 6 Silo; 9 Face; 10 Altos; 12 Gondoliers; 13 Prima; 14 Scott; 18 Newton; 19 Barra; 20 Isaac; 22 Coats; 23 Sloe.

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Leggendeman; 9 Use; 10 Negotiate; 11 Dorfs; 13 Sullied; 14 Shrek; 16 Strain; 18 Artist; 19 Buyer; 20 East asid; 21 Eel; 22 New Year's Day; Down: 2 Ewe; 3 Ernes; 4 Digest; 5 Mateo; 6 Imaginary; 7 Outdistance; 8 Leading role; 12 Foretaste; 15 Ecstasy; 17 Felina; 19 Bless; 21 Era.

Crossword

PRESCRIBE Rhubarb cunbibe, Custard, Bakwell tart, Banoffee pie, Treadle tart, Jam roy-poly, Baked apples, Spotted dick, Queen of puddings, Trifle, Bread and butter pudding, Semolina, Baked Alaska, Eton Apple pie, Chocolate mousse.
 ARTICHOKE mess, Blancmange, Lemon meringue pie, Sticky toffee pudding.

Niner

Wordwheel

Pathfinder

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

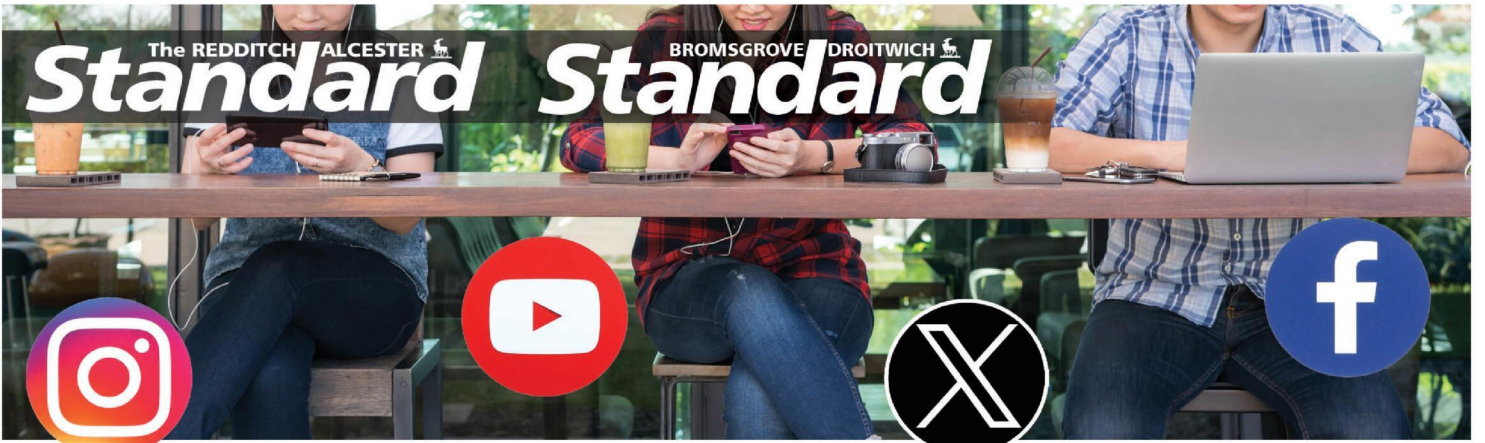
Codeword

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

Hard

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

Easy
Sudoku



It's time to
Like, Follow &
Subscribe

BREAKING NEWS
WHAT'S ON
SPORT
INTERVIEWS

Don't be LEFT BEHIND.....

- RedditchStandard
- TheRedditchStandard
- @RedStand
- TheRedditchStandard2
- bromsgrovestandard
- Bromsgrove Standard
- @BromStand
- TheBromsgroveStandard



Learn from yesterday,
live for today,
hope for tomorrow.
Anonymous



Family Notices

Tel: 01527 588688 Email: reception@bullivantmedia.com

BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Jane Bradford



Hope you have a very **Happy 75th Birthday** From A Friend and Family

DEATHS

WHARRAD Carole Ann

Passed away peacefully at the Alexandra hospital on Tuesday 8th April 2025

A much loved Mum to Steven and Richard.

A devoted Grandma to Ben, Millie, Lucy, Georgia and William. A loving Mother In Law to Jenny and Jo Carole will be greatly missed by all of her family and friends

A service to celebrate Carole's life will take place at Redditch Crematorium on Thursday 1st May 2025 at 12.30pm Family flowers only please

Thomas Brothers
Birchfield House
494 Evesham Road
Redditch
B97 5JF

01527 547777
Thank you

MEMORIAL SERVICES

As Time Goes By

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY RUN MEMORIAL SUPPLIER

Headstones, Cremation Tablets, Additional Inscriptions and Renovation Work

Web: www.astimegoesby.org.uk
Email: kfporter@blueyonder.co.uk

Please call 01527 550505

To arrange a home visit or to find out our opening times

Unit 5, Dunlop Road, Hunt End Industrial Estate
Redditch B97 5XP

"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"

FLORAL TRIBUTES



519 Evesham Road,
Crabbs Cross,
Redditch, B97 5JP

Bespoke funeral flowers personally designed for your loved one

flowers@nurseryshopredditch.co.uk

www.nurseryshopredditch.co.uk

Tel: 01527 550 700



DEATHS

MORRIS Caroline

Formerly of Barnt Green

Passed away peacefully after a short illness at Richmond Village, Evesham on the 1st April 2025 aged 90 years.

Devoted wife of the late Tim Morris CBE and loving mother to Andrew and Juliet. Granny to Alice, Hal, Imogen and George. Beloved cousin and aunt to Diana and Katie. Companion and close friend of Richard Orchard.

The funeral service will take place at The Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 12th May 2025 at 12noon.

No flowers. Donations, if desired, for Riding for the Disabled may be sent c/o Merstow Green Funeral Home, Evesham, W11 4BD. Tel. 01386 49903

If you have a message for a loved one, call our team on **01527 588688**



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

James Giles and Sons Ltd
Est. 1916
The Complete Funeral Directors

Allow our family to care for your family

www.jamesgilesandsonsltd.co.uk

BROMSGROVE
01527 872318

DROITWICH
01905 783188

STUDLEY
01527 852213

PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLANS AVAILABLE



An Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors



THOMAS BROTHERS

Family owned funeral homes in Redditch, Wythall, Alvechurch, Bromsgrove & Alcester. We provide a friendly, dignified service paying special attention to detail.

REDDITCH • BROMSGROVE
01527 547777 01527 831700

WYTHALL • ALVECHURCH • ALCESTER
01564 822001 0121 445 3422 01789 330939

"A family concern"

www.thomasbrothers.co.uk
email: admin@thomasbrothers.co.uk



Special Family Announcements



Births, Engagements, Weddings, Anniversaries, Happy Birthdays, Congratulations or sadly Deaths and In Memory Announcements can all be placed in your Standard to appear in printed newspaper weekly, and online247

You can call us on **01527 588688**

or email details to us (including photograph if desired) with your telephone contact details and we will call you back to confirm cost

reception@bullivantmedia.com

Prices start from just **£15** (inc Vat)



Learn from yesterday,
live for today,
hope for tomorrow.
Anonymous



Family Notices

Tel: 01527 588688 Email: reception@bullivantmedia.com

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

MORTONS
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

“Where saying goodbye means everything”

Whatever style of funeral you're looking for, whether direct cremation, traditional, contemporary, or somewhere in between, you can put your trust in us.

Available 24 hours, seven days a week
0121 459 9111

Offices in Northfield, Cotteridge and Rubery

Professionally qualified independent funeral directors
For more information, visit mortonsfunerals.co.uk

R.L. Rea Funeral Directors Ltd

Create the perfect Funeral for your loved one

R L Rea Funeral Directors Ltd
Complete Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons

- * Independent Funeral Directors in Bromsgrove, established in 1967
- * 24 Hour Personal Service
- * Private Chapel of Rest
- * Pre-arranged Funeral Plan with Perfect Choice.
- * We offer a Professional, Friendly and Caring Service.

www.rlreafuneraldirectorsltd.co.uk
T: 01527 831723
info@rlreafuneraldirectorsltd.co.uk
17 Rock Hill, Bromsgrove, Worcs B61 7LL

Losing someone, whatever the circumstances and whatever age they may be, is never easy and affects different people in different ways. But there are people and companies just a visit or phone call away who can offer guidance – whether it be with arranging the funeral itself or helping you come to terms with what has happened.



Whatever the occasion, why not send your loved ones a message....

Call our team on **01527 588688**



Classified

www.directory247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL & REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Advertisement Key: ADVSTD = Wider Publicity, FP = Affects Footpath, FPS = Footpath Setting, MAJ = Major Development.

25/00346/REM ADVSTD MAJ FP FPS Site: Land At Perryfields Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

Proposal: Reserved Matters Application (appearance, layout and scale as appropriate to the development) for the creation of a spine road with associated drainage infrastructure and a temporary site compound, pursuant to Outline planning permission reference 16/0335 (allowed at appeal under reference APP/P1805/W/20/3265948) for 1,300 dwellings at Perryfields, Bromsgrove.

25/00052/FUL FPS Site: Harwood House, Wassell Grove Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY9 9JH.

Proposal: Extensions and Alterations to dwellinghouse to include front, rear and side first floor extensions and side and rear two storey extensions.

Application forms and plans may be inspected online <https://publicaccess.bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk/online-applications>.

Comments can be submitted online, via email to newplan@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk or in writing Planning Services, Redditch Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch B98 8AH.

Comments should be made within 17 days of the date of this publication. The Council does not acknowledge comments but will make these available for inspection online.

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL & REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Advertisement Key: ADVSTD = Wider Publicity, CA = Conservation Area

25/00343/FUL CA ADVSTD Site: Primrose Hospice, 1 Alcester Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B98 8AE.

Proposal: Single first floor rear extension.

Application forms and plans may be inspected online <https://publicaccess.bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk/online-applications>.

Comments can be submitted online, via email to newplan@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk or in writing Planning Services, Redditch Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch B98 8AH.

Comments should be made within 17 days of the date of this publication. The Council does not acknowledge comments but will make these available for inspection online.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

D5354 COUGHTON FIELDS LANE, COUGHTON/KINWARTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between its junctions with the A435 Birmingham Road, Coughton and the B4089 Captain's Hill/School Road, Kinwarton.

Reason for Order: Carriageway patching, 08.00hrs-16.00hrs.

Order Commences: 16 May 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 16 May 2025.

Access & Diversion: A435 Birmingham Road, Arden Road, Tything Road West, Kinwarton Farm Road, Kinwarton Road, Captains Hill and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D52090 PERRYMILL LANE, SAMBOURNE

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with Sambourne Lane.

Reason for Order: Drainage works, 08.00hrs-17.00hrs.

Order Commences: 12 May 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 16 May 2025.

Access & Diversion: There is no available diversion route.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

HIGH STREET, STUDLEY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.

Reason for Order: Works to renew water pipe.

Order Commences: 10 May 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 10 May 2025.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.

Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515. S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 25 April 2025

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE To Collector

Firewood
3 X 8ft strips of hardwood flooring
01527 526898

RECLINER CHAIR electric rise & recline £169 Manual recline chair £60 High seated chair £40 Can deliver 07703 925662

BEDS NEW Doubles £95 Singles £59 King size £159. Second hand doubles £49 Singles £29 Fridges £49 Freezers £59 Can deliver 07703 925662

VIBRO Station training plate £25 ono 07780511800

SPANISH desk & chair £70 ono 07394864098

INDESIT electric cooker mint £50 ono 07394864098

CARPET offcut - brand new, berber, hard wearing, felt backed, mid brown / cream mixture. Size 6 foot 8 inches long x 2 foot 1 inch wide. £10.00. Tele: 07934132759

USED but under warranty still Black dial white hands and two functions chrono / tachy type offers over £70 includes case and postage in the Midlands 07742547768

SALES & WANTS

MISCELLANEOUS

ELECTRONIC organ technics N4 perfect working order £100 01214538006 in the evenings

DYSON All Floors vacuum cleaner, excellent condition. £50 07752 313124

NATHAN Extending Dining Table and six chairs. Teak finish. Excellent Condition. Offers around £200 07752 313124

ROGERS Full Octave upright piano, teak finish, also duet piano stool. Excellent condition. Offers around £250 07752 313124

VINTAGE Raleigh folding bikes x2. 3speed 20 inch wheels VGC. £50 each ONO 07759121827

STILL boxed, white under the counter fridge £60 ono 07464 184966

MORPHY Richards bread maker as new £25 07743929558

A complete white bathroom suite Tub bath excellent condition open to offers 07716995685

INDIAN Prayer chair £90 07716995685

STAINLESS sink with taps VGC £10 01527 66380

3 DOOR mini hatchback car carpet floor mats 2015 onwards used good condition £5. 01684311584

MISCELLANEOUS

MORPHY Richards, 3.5 litre Slow cooker £15.00 Tel: 0121 745 8922

PANASONIC NN-E27JWM Microwave. £25.00 Tel: 0121 745 8922

YALE, Small electronic safe. £15.00 Tel: 0121 745 8922

SINGLE Divan 2 draw bed with good condition mattress FREE to collector 01527 875878

BREADMAKER as new £20 07743929558

WANTED

****WANTED: Vinyl Records CDs Cassettes**
Vintage or New **
Seeking classic rock, jazz, indie and rare finds. Cash paid
Call or text: 07765 142354 Or 01527 893992
Or email: welston@live.com
Paul (Albatross & Doomed Records)

WANTED

WANTED
Motorcycles and Scooters
Any cc, condition or age, good prices paid
07944 781 933 | 01926 257 643

MISCELLANEOUS

TRAVEL bag 'Constellation' 20" wide burgundy colour £15 0121 445 2293

RUGS new half moon shape all wool hand made 54" length 1 green 1 rust £10 each 0121 445 2293

GARDENING Encyclopedia 7 bound volumes all aspects covered in colour new £15 0121 445 2293

APOLLO Envoy Gents cycle as new £45 ono 07541576100
NURSING chair £30 07719695685

BUILDERS

BRICKWORK H.BOOT
All Types Garages Garden Walls Extensions
Fully Qualified Tradesman
Call
07778 705570
07789 064138
WhatsApp Email: hanstheboot@hotmail.com

BUILDING SERVICES

RETIRED BUILDER AVAILABLE
Able to do small or large projects
Good rates offered
Call Steve on
01527 69309
07541 27957

CARPENTRY/JOINERY

HG Carpentry Doors & Interiors
07454214366
07580147544

CARPENTRY/JOINERY

STREETER'S CARPENTRY & JOINERY
Samuel Streeter
Streeterscarpentryjoinery@gmail.com
07397 519486
Based in Studley, Warwickshire
Carpenter/Joiner

Check out our E-Editions!



www.redditchstandard.co.uk/editions
www.bromsgrovestandard.co.uk/editions
www.droitwichstandard.co.uk/editions

The same paper you love on your mobile, tablet and computer

Classified

www.directory247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

SERVICES

CARPETS

Clift Carpets of Redditch

Choose at home service.
All qualities of Carpet, Vinyl & LVT



supplied & fitted.

Old flooring taken up! Furniture moved!

Call Barry for a FREE quotation

07753 800737

www.cliftcarpets.com

DECORATING & PAINTING

DA SMITH DECORATORS

Interior & exterior painting & decorating
Property Repairs

40 years experience

07941 689 655 • 01527 836227

DOG WALKING

Happy Wagging Tails

Cats Pet Sitting & Dog Walking Services



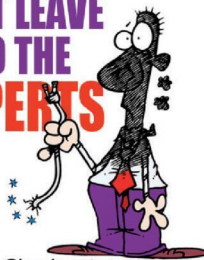
happywaggingtails.uk
Email catantrobust@hotmail.com
Tel: **07942 178307**

FENCING

FENCING & FENCE REPAIRS

All types undertaken
20yrs exp.
No JOB TOO SMALL
Contact Daryl
01527 526990 • 07847 898079
For a free quote

BEST LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS



Check out our **Classified pages!**

GARDENING SERVICES

JOHN'S GARDEN SERVICES

- Regular Grass Cutting
- Hedge Cutting
- Private & Commercial

Covers Redditch and Bromsgrove

For your friendly Gardener call

07970 785544

GARDENING SERVICES

JFS Garden Services

Fencing, Turfing, Hedge Cutting, Tree Surgery, Stump Grinding, Jungles Cleared, Grass Cutting/Regular Mowing. Domestic, Commercial enquiries welcome.
For a free Competitive Quote
07977 497 440 • 01527 458 104
www.jfslandscapes.co.uk

GARDENING SERVICES

REGULAR LAWN CUTTING

Friendly service
Redditch & surrounding areas
07599 270652

HANDYMAN

LOCAL HANDYMAN AVAILABLE

in Redditch
Good rates offered
Experienced builder by trade
Call Steve on
01527 69309
07541 279957

HAIRDRESSERS

Hair by Sharon

in the comfort of your own home
Over 20 years experience
310A Birchfield Road, Webheath, Worcestershire
07772994654
sharon_campion@yahoo.com

KITCHENS

S.W INSTALLATIONS
Kitchens & Bathrooms
FREE DESIGN & QUOTATION
QUALITY KITCHENS & BATHROOMS SUPPLIED & FITTED
PLUMBING, CARPENTRY, TILING, WORKTOP & DOOR REPLACEMENT
(Supply & fit, supply only or fit only)
LOCAL TRADESMAN
20YRS EXPERIENCE
NO JOB TOO SMALL
01926 773386 or 07971 684 353

THESE PAGES CONTAIN LOCAL EXPERTS!
Keep it local! Give them a call!



LANDSCAPING

D.A. TAYLOR

LANDSCAPING
Fencing • Slabbing • Conifers Hedge Work

CLEARANCE
Gardens • Rubbish • Sheds • Large & Small Trees Felled, Lopped and Shaped • Turfing • Shed Base
FREE QUOTATIONS

01527 870914 - 0771 768 2816



GIVE A LOCAL EXPERT A CALL!

ROOFING

Up4hire.co.uk

Gutters, tiles, pointing, repairs, painting
01527 575553

ROOFING

WEATHER GUARD ROOFING PROFESSIONALS

10% OFF ALL ROOFING REPAIRS
No job too big or too small
Fully guaranteed and insured
Written quotes available

Specialists in all types of Roofing, Complete Roofs, Ridge Tiles, Lead Work, Chimneys, Fascias, Soffits, Guttering, Gutter Cleaning

Mobile: **07467 159012**
Office: **01527 962 972**
info@weatherguardservices.co.uk
weatherguardservices.co.uk

ROOFING

POWELLS ROOFERS & BUILDING SERVICES

- Roof Tiling • Garage Roofs • Flat Roofs
- Chimneys rebuilt and re-pointed
- Garage Conversions • Driveways
- Building Maintenance • Extensions

Powells Roofing & Building Services are a local Redditch based company
C&G Qualified with over 15 years local roofing and building services experience

For more details, please call
07952 797 973 or 01527 454325

SKIP HIRE

A&S SKIPS

A Division of A&S Developments (Redditch) LTD
• 2, 4 & 7 yard skips
• Skips with drop front doors guaranteed
• Prompt and reliable service
• Competitive rates
Tel 01527 459 238 • Mob 07788 112028
www.asskips.co.uk
Waste carrier No. C8DU 169 207

Redditch Skip Hire Ltd

For all your domestic and commercial skip requirements



4-40 yard skips available • Drop fronts - please ask when ordering
Open or enclosed 90% of waste recycled

- No room for a skip. Book our man with a van service
- Prompt reliable service
- 2 hour arrival slot
- Next day service

Call **01527 63644**

Or visit us at: www.redditchskiphire.com
Waste Carrier No. C8DU122354

TREE SURGEONS

TREE & LANDSCAPE Specialists

Tree & Landscape Specialists is a trusted, professional company with a great reputation to uphold and have over 20 years experience in the trade.

- Tree Work • Paving • Fencing • Artificial Grass • Astro Turf • Patios



No job is too big or too small • Fully Insured
Contact us today FREEPHONE: 0800 747 1704 • LANDLINE: 01527 906 577
treeandlandscapespecialists@gmail.com
www.treeandlandscapespecialists.co.uk
PHOTO BY Google

Appointments

www.careerfinder247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371



www.taurustaxis.co.uk

Are you Looking To Top Up Your Salary or Pension?

Then we could Help !!

DRIVERS REQUIRED

With or without Taxi Badge / Vehicle
Clean Licence Essential

Holiday pay will be accrued and paid

We also require
PSV DRIVERS

with valid CPC card & training, part time hours,
very good rates of pay.

For Further Details Please Call

07773 022 239



DRIVERS

Full and part time drivers required for home to school contracted transport. Competitive rates of pay and flexible working hours.

Company vehicle provided, and full assistance obtaining your private hire licence will be given.

For further details please call

01527 60000

or email accounts@a2b60k.co.uk

Personal Care Assistant

required by disabled man in Church Hill, Redditch.

Approx 7:45am - 9:00am
Saturday/Sunday.

£15 per hour + holiday pay.

Phone Mark

01527 456794

(or 07578 868848)



DAVE'S **ENGINE CENTRE**
PRECISION ENGINE RE-MANUFACTURERS

WORKSHOP MACHINIST required

in a busy engine reconditioners based in Studley. Experience in machining or engineering would be an advantage.

Pay dependent upon experience.

Send CV to sales@engine-centre.co.uk or contact David on 01527 854968

Gold Crest

Require the following in the Redditch, Bromsgrove, Droitwich and Kidderminster areas

Part Time Drivers

Transporting children to school.
Vehicle provided.

- ALSO -

Passenger Assistants

Part time hours with or without experience.

Contact 07483 171666

VACANCY TO FILL?



No problem, Caroline or Kelly can help!

Give them a call on

01527 588625

01527 588749

caroline.birkenhead@bullivantmedia.com
kelly.taylor@bullivantmedia.com



Contact Caroline or Kelly on

01527 588625 • 01527 588749

caroline.birkenhead@bullivantmedia.com | kelly.taylor@bullivantmedia.com

Motoring

www.carfinder247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371



FOLLOWING the reveal and official announcement of the reboot on March 17, Renault is opening reservations for the Renault 5 Turbo 3E 'mini-supercar'.

A modern, electric reboot of the legendary Renault 5 Turbo and Turbo 2 of the 1980s, the new vehicle will be available from £135,000 including VAT as an introductory price, excluding options, accessories and personalisation choices.

It will be sold in Europe, including the UK, the Middle East, Japan and Australia.

From Tuesday (April 22), customers wishing to place a secure order for one of the 1,980 numbered examples of Renault 5 Turbo 3E could complete the form on the dedicated page of the Renault website in their country. They will select a dealer who will contact them to make an appointment at the showroom. Here, they will sign a reservation form. They will then have priority when Renault 5 Turbo 3E becomes available to buy. Customers can choose the number of their future car if they so wish.

In line with the principle of upfront funding, any dealers placing a reservation for a car – in their capacity as key partners – will contribute to its pre-financing, just like the customers. This collective effort will contrib-

ute to financing the development of Renault 5 Turbo 3E.

The next phase will start in early 2026, when customers will be contacted by their selected dealer in to specify their personalisation choices. They will then be first in line to order Renault 5 Turbo 3E when it becomes available.

Alongside the historic colours of Renault 5 Turbo and Turbo 2, such as the Rouge Grenade of production models, or the black, yellow and white racing livery of the Renault 5 Turbo that won the 1982 Tour de Corse rally, customers will be able to choose from a range of new 'gentleman driver' options.

They will have the opportunity to meet Renault designers in order to create their own exterior and interior livery, selecting the colours and materials for a wide range of features - seats, door panels, dashboard and more - allowing them to create a truly unique car.

Finally, in first half 2027, customers will be able to finalise the configuration and order their car from the dealer. The first vehicles configured and ordered will be delivered in 2027.

Built on a custom-designed aluminium platform tailored to its performance and ambitions, Renault 5 Turbo 3E is a vehicle

of spectacular dimensions - 4.08m long, 2.03m wide and 1.38m tall. Combining supercar-width with city-car length and impressive levels of performance, it can claim to create a new class of vehicles - 'mini-supercars'.

C.W. Auto's
Mechanical Repairs
M.O.T. Work Diagnostics
Servicing etc...

01527 875565 • 07791 149235
Unit 5, Station Street, Bromsgrove B60 2BS

CHARLES KENWARD MOTORS LTD
FOR
PRIVATE CAR, COMMERCIAL & FLEET
SERVICING,
MECHANICAL REPAIRS
MOT TESTING INCLUDING
CLASS 7 AND THE NEW CLASS 5
LIGHT (MINI BUSES)
VEHICLE RECOVERY SERVICE
VEHICLE DIAGNOSTICS
14 SHERWOOD ROAD,
ASTON FIELDS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
BROMSGROVE B60 3DR
TEL:
01527 875432/837070

Martin Floyd Motor Services

45 years experience locally

- All Aspects of Motor Servicing
- Repairs • Diagnostics
- MOTs @£50 (plus a free retest)
- Brakes • Clutches • Cam Belts
- **NEW AIR CON SERVICE AVAILABLE**

SAFE DRIVING THIS SPRING

Competitive Prices

“...and a few comments from very satisfied customers:
Such Helpful and Friendly service...
Kate and Martin were really accommodating in working around my work commitments
Polite and fast service, and... good price
Will return and recommend to friends - Thanks”

Martin Floyd Motor Services

Units 4 & 5, Woodrow Farm,
Woodrow Lane, Catshill,
Bromsgrove, B61 0PL



TO BOOK CALL 0121 453 7667

Mount Pleasant Garage
A PLEASANT WAY OF MOTORING
Specialising in all MOT classes
Service and repairs to all makes and models

Book your MOT now to avoid disappointment

Tel: 01527 63000
213 Mount Pleasant, Redditch B97 4JG
Open Monday - Friday 8.00am - 6.00pm

DAVE'S ENGINE CENTRE
PRECISION ENGINE RE-MANUFACTURERS

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR ENGINE?
FREE Advice and Quotes
All Car, Agricultural and Commercial Engine Work

Full Machine Shop Facilities
Cylinder Head Re-facing
Crankshaft Regrinding
Pressure Testing
Reboring and Liner Fitting

Engine Parts at LOW PRICES

Does your VINTAGE VEHICLE need work?
Tel 01527 854968 / 07730 874527
Email : sales@engine-centre.co.uk
www.engine-centre.co.uk
Studley, B80 7AP

FREE LOCAL COLLECTION for trade customers

WANTED
Motorcycles and Scooters
 Any cc, condition or age,
 good prices paid
07944 781 933 | 01926 257 643

Standard SPORT



9 772040 128006
 Published by Bullivant Media Group Ltd, Webb House,
 Church Green East, Redditch, Worcestershire B98 8BP
 Printed by Newsquest, Newspaper House, Osney Mead,
 Oxford, Oxfordshire OX2 0EJ

Dragonfly GARDENING
 Specialists in plant care and pruning
 Your local expert plantsman
 CRB CHECKED • FULLY INSURED
07814 510797 | 01527 878965
 Reliable Friendly Service
 Garden Clearance Undertaken

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

Team VERTU sign new driver ahead of BTCC season opener

by Aaron Sutcliffe
 aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

BTCC: TEAM VERTU have added Senna Proctor to their driving line-up ahead of the start of the 2025 British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) season.

Proctor returns to the grid for the first time since the 2021 BTCC season. He previously raced for the EXCELR8-run team back in 2020.

The 26-year-old will take up the role of reserve driver for the Droitwich-based team for the first five rounds of the new season before stepping into a race seat at his local circuit of Croft in August.

He will then compete at Knockhill, Donington Park GP, Silverstone and Brands Hatch GP at the wheel of the car that will be raced in the first half of the season by Michael Crees.

Proctor said: "It is great to be returning to the BTCC with EXCELR8 and to be joining forces with Team VERTU, firstly as reserve driver for the first half of the season, before returning to competitive action on home soil at Croft."

"It's been a long wait for me to get back into a BTCC car, and I'm excited that the opportunity has now come along to me to return to the grid."

"I have driven the Team



Tom Ingram impressed in final pre-season testing at Donington Park. Picture by Darren Price.

VERTU car before when it was first introduced into the series, so I am looking forward to seeing how much it has changed since then.

"It's clearly one of the top cars on the grid so even though I've been away from the series for a while, my aim is to be straight back up to speed from the outset and fight for strong results."

"This part season allows me to lay a solid foundation for a full time programme in 2026 and beyond."

"Everything is there to do the job as I have a great car, a great team behind me and three great team-mates in Tom Ingram, Tom Chilton and Adam Morgan."

"There can be no excuses, and it's great to be back."

Team VERTU team owner, Justina Williams added: "We're delighted to welcome Senna back into the team this season, firstly in the role of reserve driver for the first half of the season before he steps into a race seat from his home round at Croft."

"When we first introduced the EXCELR8 car into the series, Senna played a key role in the

early development of the car despite difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic and government lockdowns.

"I know Senna is very capable of doing a great job behind the wheel and we are confident that he will deliver some strong results and challenge for multiple podiums during his five rounds as part of the driver line-up."

Proctor first joined the BTCC grid as an 18-year-old back in 2017 when he made the move up from the Renault Clio Cup. He previously finished as a runner-up in the Ginetta Junior Championship in 2015.

Following a challenging 2019 campaign, Proctor joined forces with EXCELR8 ahead of the 2020 season.

After a tough opening round, Proctor scored points on a regular basis throughout the year and achieved a podium finish at Knockhill.

He moved to BT Racing in 2021 only for circumstances outside of his control to mean a race seat was not available the following season.

Team VERTU's drivers completed their final pre-season tests at Donington Park recently.

Ingram, Chilton and Morgan all finished in the top-10 of the combined classification at the end of testing.

The 2025 BTCC season starts at Donington Park this weekend on April 26 and 27.

Yokohama Authorised Tyre Dealer



JEFFERIES TYRES
 Est 1988



TRADE TYRE PRICES TO THE PUBLIC

OVER 3,000 NEW & PART USED TYRES IN STOCK
 Serving Trade & Public for over 35 Years
 Alloy Refurbishment & Alloy Repair Service
 Hunter Alignment & Wheel Balancing Available
01527 831829
 Unit 4 - 22 Sherwood Road - Bromsgrove - B60 3DR

DRIVES4U

Tel: 0800 3032559
 Mob: 07773 911552
 www.drives4u.co.uk

Are you looking to improve or enlarge your driveway or patio?

We can provide you with a beautiful new patio or driveway in Coventry, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Solihull or Birmingham

5 Year guarantee

- We've designed and built just about every shape and size of driveway and patio you can imagine, so we will not be phased by your project.
- We strive to achieve 100% satisfaction and unlike other driveway companies, with us you pay absolutely nothing upfront.
- Give us a call and you could save upto £1000

Tel: 0800 3032559 | Mob: 07773 911552 | www.drives4u.co.uk

THE LIB DEMS WILL RAISE COUNCIL TAX



Worcestershire Conservatives
4d · 🌐

FACT: You can't trust the Lib Dems with your Council Tax.

CONFIRMED: LIB DEMS WOULD INCREASE YOUR COUNCIL TAX MORE

WORCESTERSHIRE LIB DEMS SAY THEY ARE GOING TO RAISE TAX, WATCH HERE >>>



1 Only the Conservatives have been standing up for your values and priorities.

2 And because it's going to be a close election here in Bromsgrove. A vote for Reform or anyone but the Conservatives risks Labour winning.

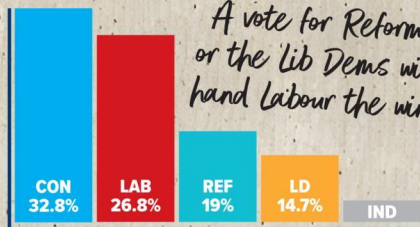
3 So the only way to your council tax down is to vote Conservative. A vote for anyone else will hand Labour control of your council.

Conservatives call on Government to 'think again' on winter fuel payment

THE EVENING STANDARD

Tories would reverse Labour's 'cruel family farms tax'

THE TELEGRAPH



Source: Bromsgrove 2024 General Election result

That will mean...

- ❌ Our green spaces concreted over. Without giving you a say
- ❌ Keir Starmer let off the hook for cutting Winter Fuel Payments
- ❌ Council Tax hiked. Just like national taxes

ONLY BY VOTING CONSERVATIVE CAN YOU KEEP YOUR VOICE. AND PROTECT OUR LOCAL GREEN SPACES.

YOUR CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES FOR THURSDAY 1ST MAY...



Adam4Wythall

Adam Kent - Wythall



CllrShirleyWebb

Shirley Webb - Woodvale



KitTaylor4 BromsgroveEast

Kit Taylor - Bromsgrove East



karenmay2021

Karen May - Clent Hills



CllrAdrianKriss

Adrian Kriss - Bromsgrove Central



Anita Dale

Anita Dale - Beacon



Rita Dent - Bromsgrove West



councillorhelenjones

Helen Jones - Bromsgrove South



Danny Bromage For Alvechurch Division

Danny Bromage - Alvechurch

PLEASE SCAN THESE QR CODES WITH YOUR CAMERA OR QR SCANNER APP TO COMPLETE A RESIDENT'S SURVEY FOR YOUR AREA

Vote Conservative