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Project's recognition is a win-win

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

A PROJECT aimed at preventing health problems, providing better access to services and support and helping people stay well has won a prestigious national accolade.

"We Are Westlands", delivered by Worcestershire County Council's Public Health Team, won a Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Award last week.

The groundbreaking project, has been delivered in Droitwich Spa alongside the community, where residents and professionals worked together to focus on a number of issues.

The project used a blend of grants and locally-driven activities, giving people living on the estate the chance to help design and take a lead in choosing the changes which would make the biggest difference to their lives.

The success of the project provides a powerful model for working in other parts of the county, helping local people identify issues and find solutions to their local needs.

It beat competition from Bromley



LBC, Ealing LBC, with West London Alliance, East Suffolk Council, Luton BC, North Lincolnshire Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Sheffield City Council and South Tyneside Council.

Presenting the award, the judges described the project as a 'standout winner which served as an example of community development with tangible public health benefits'.

They added: "With a relatively small sum of money and a flexible innovative approach, working with com-

munity and faith leaders with high trust and high flexibility, the project was able to set up a sustainable infrastructure and establish many locally led projects.

"The project was able to demonstrate sustainability as it is built into a core methodology in a neighbourhood health guidelines for the NHS.

"It is an excellent example of a solid approach to community development."

The Public Health Award recognised the councils making the most of their role in Public Health to protect and improve the health of their local communities.

Coun Satinder Bell, Worcestershire County Council's cabinet member with responsibility for Health and Wellbeing, said: "This is a fantastic example of the kind of approach we, as the new cabinet, want to champion".

"We Are Westlands has been truly community-led.

"It supports local people in a sustainable and cost-effective way, helping to reduce inequalities and ultimately lessen the need for health interventions."

Leaders on the We Are Westlands project in Droitwich celebrating their award win. s



Sid the Shark will be in Droitwich next week with the England Illegal Money Lending Team to help raise awareness of the dangers of loan sharks and offer help and advice. s

A SERIES of events will take place in Droitwich from Monday to Friday (June 23 to 27), offering people help and advice on how to stay safe from loan sharks.

They are being run by Stop Loan Sharks, the community name for the England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT), which investigates and prosecutes loan sharks and supports borrowers.

As part of the 'Bite Back' event, the team, mascot Sid the Shark and representatives from partner agencies, will be at Westlands Community Centre,

Meadow Way, from 8.30am to 10am on Monday, at the Stalls Farm Road shops from 10am to midday on Wednesday and at Sainsbury's on the Copcut Estate from 10am to midday on Friday.

Visit this story at: droitwichstandard.co.uk for more.

Anyone affected by illegal money lending should call the Stop Loan Sharks 24/7 confidential helpline on 0300 555 2222 or access support online at: stoploansharks.co.uk. Live Chat is available on the website from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

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Redditch MP Chris Bloore with Rashwood Care Home residents and staff.

Giving an insight into life as an MP

REDDITCH'S Chris Bloore visited a care home in Wychbold to meet with residents and staff and share a candid insight into life as a newly elected Member of Parliament.

Rashwood House's management team invited Mr Bloore so residents - many who have a strong interest in politics - could gain a clear understanding of the daily responsibilities and challenges faced by MPs.

During the session, Mr Bloore discussed the steep learning curve experienced by new members and the balancing act required to manage duties both in Westminster and within the local constituency.

He also engaged in an open question-

and-answer session, allowing residents to explore the realities of political life beyond the headlines.

Mr Bloore said: "It was a real pleasure to spend time with the residents and staff at Rashwood Care Home.

"We had a thoughtful conversation about what it's really like to be an MP - how no two days are the same and how important it is to stay grounded in the community while representing it in Parliament.

"I am grateful to Jay Bluck, David Terry and the entire Rashwood team for their warm welcome and for organising this visit."

Fun Run going to be a hot one

WYTHALL and Hollywood Fun Run is returning this weekend and is set to be bigger and better than ever.

There are more than 750 people registered to run, which is up around 150 from last year.

On the day, there will be three races - a 5k, 10k and family relay - along with an event village boasting food, drinks and entertainment.

As well as the runs, the event also offers the chance for families to have plenty of fun and take part in activities.

There will also be the chance to try a new sports, including tennis, bowls and archery.

And attendees will have the chance to try adapted versions of tennis and cricket, designed for people with sight loss but adapted for those without sight, giving everyone the opportunity to experience the sport.

People will have the chance to take post run pictures with the official Wythall and Hollywood Fun Run banner.



With the mercury soaring and the heatwave set to continue, organisers are reminding people to take the weather into account, wear something cool, bring water and make sure they stay hydrated throughout the day.

Roads will start closing from 9am, with Silver Street, Batemans Lane, Packhorse Lane, Middle Lane, Wilmore Lane and Brick Kiln Lane with everything fully closed at 9.45am.

Roads will be fully open at 12 noon.

The community event is a partnership between Wythall Community Association

together with Olympic Medallist and World Champion runner, Steve Cram's Events of the North Team and is supported by Worcestershire County Council's Public Health team.

Send us your pictures

The Standard is the event's official media partner and we will be there on the day.

And we would love you to send us your pictures to: editor@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk or via direct messaging on the Bromsgrove Standard and Redditch Standard Facebook pages.

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News in brief

A TOTAL of 447 illegal vapes worth an estimated £3,500 were seized from the Rubery Express store on New Road.

Bromsgrove Police Safer Neighbourhood Team worked alongside Worcestershire Trading Standards and it is thought around half the vapes seized were the single use ones which were banned in England from June 1.

Sgt Katie Ward, of Bromsgrove SNT, said the officers were acting on intelligence and vowed they would continue to visit stores suspected of selling counterfeit tobacco and illicit vaping products to protect communities from harm and act where appropriate.

POLICE in Bromsgrove have stepped up patrols to combat illegal off-road motorbike riding in the early hours of the morning which has been making residents' lives a misery.

Officers have been contacted by numerous concerned residents in Lickey End about the incidents.

They urged anyone with information, video footage or photographs to email Bromsgrove North and Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team to: bnr.snt@westmercia.police.uk with what they have.



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See page 26



'Housing should be more spread'

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

THE BROMSGROVE District Local Plan: Draft Development Strategy was released last Wednesday after being completed by officers who worked closely with elected members from all areas of the district.

The draft strategy has been compiled from the initial assessment of over 400 sites and earmarked space for 9,280 homes.

Coun Taylor added if the decision to launch a consultation was taken, then residents, businesses, groups and organisations all need to come forward to 'help fill in the blanks'.

"By working together we can create a strong blueprint for the future of Bromsgrove for the next 20 years and our future generations."

But the plan has come under fire from opposition

groups.

Bromsgrove Liberal Democrats said - as the Government only required a 15-year plan for 9,000 homes - they were concerned this proposal sought more housing than was actually necessary to hit the Government's higher targets.

They say the leading group had added an 'aspirational option for longer term growth, providing for large scale housing and employment development based on the provision of a new motorway junction at Grafton Manor and a new railway station in Stoke Prior'.

The Lib Dems added the new housing should have been shared more across the district, labelling it 'an unnecessary Grafton Manor new town' in the longer term for its position of the site (near Grafton Manor).

Coun David Nicholl, who represents Avoncroft ward which would be heavily impacted by the proposal, said: "As far as I know nobody has asked for a Grafton Manor New Town and so I don't

understand what business the Conservatives have proposing this when it goes above and beyond the requirements laid out by central Government.

"Furthermore the council is about to be absorbed into a bigger council as part of local government reorganisation and so has absolutely no mandate to propose this unnecessary new town and the complete destruction of the historic setting of Grafton Manor."

The party said it wanted to see more genuinely affordable homes for local residents who needed to get on the ladder but the plan laid out was not fit for purpose.

'Wider area'

The Lib Dems said there was too much new housing proposed for the town of Bromsgrove which was 'already creaking at the seams and not enough in other locations such as closer to the fringe of Birmingham where there is better access to services'.

Meanwhile, independent Coun Steve Colella expressed 'grave concerns' over both the process and the fact there would be 'only one option to be put before the public as part of the consultation'.

"It's really bad news for Hagley and many other communities across the district.

"It is my long-held view there should be a range of options from which a proper, transparent and open consultation can be held."

He added he would 'prefer to see development distributed more evenly, equitably and transparently across the district, not to continue to overburden already stretched communities'.

Visit this story at: bromsgrovestandard.co.uk for more on how the meeting went last night, when the plan was discussed, and the consultation.



Coun David Nicholl is concerned about the amount of housing allocated for the site near Grafton Manor.



Coun Steve Colella said more than one option should have been put forward for consultation.

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LEFT - Pete Smith and his Highland. 2525001MMR7

RIGHT - Children meet alpacas. 2525001MMR5



Pictures by Marcus Mingins



Showjumping attracted quite the crowd. 2525001MMR11

Show's animal magic

THOUSANDS of visitors flocked to the annual Malvern Three Counties Show for a celebration of countryside and rural life last weekend (June 13 to 16).

The action packed festival entertained over 90,000 visitors with thousands of animals, food and drink, countryside shopping, celebrities and special guests and much more.

The stars of the show were the 8,000 animals which were

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

showcased through livestock and horse equine parades. Other animal based entertainment included birds of prey, gun dogs, and sheep shearing competitions.

Family activities included sporting spectacles such as rock climbing, rugby, lacrosse and cricket. Other activities including cooking workshops, live music, machinery demonstrations and adven-

ture sports as well as engaging workshops on science, technology, English and maths.

Rounding out the weekend of entertainment included high octane motocross displays, tractor machinery showcases, British Army parachute display teams and horse carriage driving.

The festival, at the Three Counties Showground in Malvern, attracts nearly 100,000 visitors every year and is one of the largest livestock and equine shows in England.

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New art project brightens town

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

VIBRANT creative pieces have been dotted around Droitwich Spa as part of a new street art project.

The town's streets, buildings and underpasses have been transformed as part of the Droitwich SpART scheme - made possible through Wychavon's share of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The project builds on the success of the previous Underpass Art Project with several stunning installations already completed. An exciting new piece is set to be unveiled at Emms Haberdashery this summer.

Coun Richard Morris, leader of Wychavon District Council and executive board member for economic growth and tourism, said: "We take

pride in collaborating on this transformative project.

"We gained insights and feedback from the local community and the designs have been crafted which embody our shared vision."

One of the featured artworks, Droitwich Loves Books, was created by the talented Andrew 'Title' Mills for the Chawson Pleck Underpass.

It brings characters from children's literature to life, depicting them enjoying Droitwich's local landmarks.

This design was inspired by creative Chawson First School pupils, adding local involvement.

A 'Positive-Safe-Future' mural at Camp Furlong, created by Melanie JS, was developed with the enthusiastic input of Witton Middle School students. This has transformed the underpass into a brighter, safer space filled with uplifting images and messages. The final pan-

els proudly feature the students' designs, illustrating their pride in the town.

Another highlight is 'For the Love of Droitwich Spa' at The Talbot, crafted by WeTheSeeds in collaboration with the community.

This artwork celebrates Droitwich, highlighting its iconic landmarks and rich heritage. Residents are challenged to see how many they can spot.

The Rik Mayall's Comedy Emporium, by Milan Topovic, honours one of Droitwich Spa's most cherished residents, comedian Rik Mayall, incorporating elements from his beloved characters. He is depicted on a King of Hearts playing card, symbolising how his fans view him as the King of Comedy.

This piece was unveiled to coincide with the first-ever and highly successful Rik Mayall Comedy Festival, which ran from May 31 to June 7. Due to its popularity, the vacant unit which hosts the artwork was transformed into a merchandise pop-up shop during the festival.

And Vivid Memories: Reflections from Our Community at Union Lane was created by WeTheSeeds. The breathtaking installation showcases the cherished stories and memories of Droitwich Spa residents, serving as a welcoming sight for those arriving by train. From dancing at the Winter Gardens to memorable trips on the Pamela May, this art piece beautifully captures the essence of the community.

The artworks were funded by Wychavon District Council and Droitwich Spa Place Board.

For the Love of Droitwich Spa mural at The Talbot, crafted by WeTheSeeds in collaboration with the community. s



The group behind the Chawson Underpass art project. s



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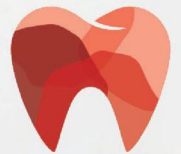
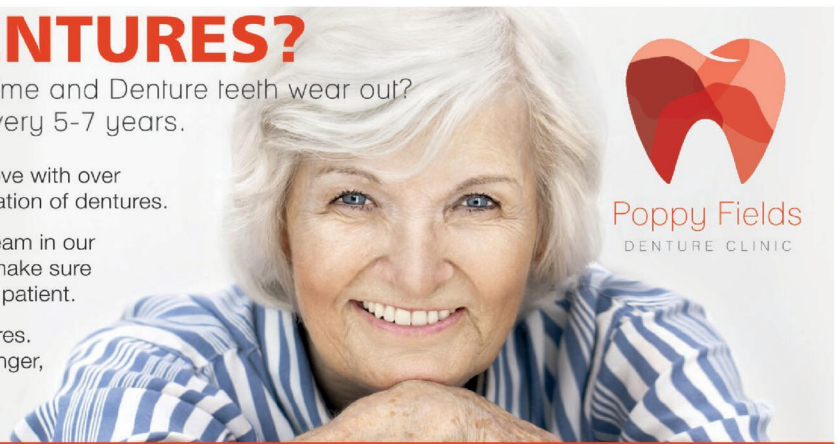
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Town firmly on Pumptrack map

by **Ashleigh Osborne**
ashleigh.osborne@bullivanmedia.com

"I look forward to seeing the pump track continue to thrive and inspire local young people and families."
"If you've never seen racing like this, I'd highly recommend coming along."
"The skill on show from both the very young and more senior riders was truly jaw-dropping."

CROWDS flocked to Redditch Pumptrack to watch the opening round of the British Pumptrack Series.

The event, hosted by Gravity Events UK and supported by Redditch Wheels Project and Redditch Borough Council, featured riders of all ages and abilities competing in races.

Categories ranged from young beginners to elite competitors.

The renovations at Redditch Wheels Project Skatepark aim to improve facilities and increase accessibility, providing a safer and more inspiring environment for skateboarding, cycling and other action sports.

The Redditch Pumptrack itself is an all-weather facility adjacent to the BMX track and skatepark, serving as a hub for local sport, recreation and youth engagement.

The British Pumptrack Series brings national-level competition to Redditch, helping to raise the town's profile as a centre for grassroots cycling and extreme sports while uniting the community through exciting events.

MP for the town Chris Bloore, who visited the event, said: "Events like this are a fantastic way to bring people together and celebrate the energy and talent in Redditch."

MP for the town Chris Bloore visited the event.





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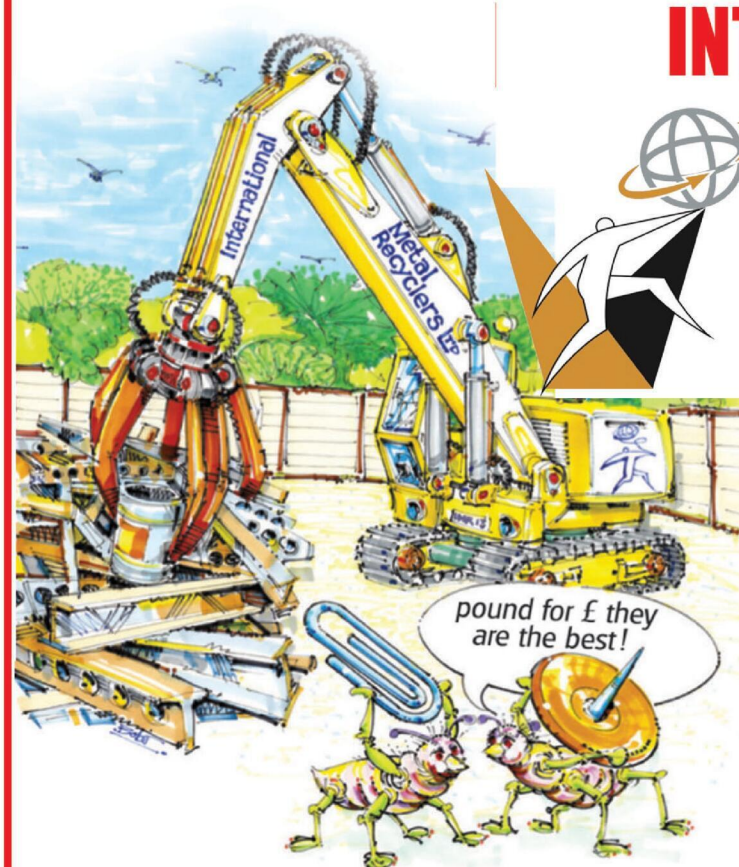


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Louise praised for her efforts

A FUNDRAISING manager from Barnt Green has received national recognition for her exceptional charity work.

Louise Dutton works for Cleft Lip and Palate Association (CLAPA) and was recently highly commended at the National Fundraising Awards.

Louise was one of three nominees short-listed for Newcomer of the Year at the ceremony hosted by the Chartered Institute of Fundraising last Monday in London's QEII Centre.

The fundraiser supports the national charity CLAPA as it supports those born with a cleft, and their families.

Louise said: "It was such an honour to be nominated.

"Being recognised alongside so many brilliant and inspiring individuals from across the

charity sector was a real privilege.

"I'm incredibly proud to represent CLAPA, and grateful for the opportunity to share the important work we do."

The Newcomer of the Year Award nominees are professional charity fundraisers who, in the last two years, had shown 'aptitude, ability and success beyond their experience.'

After just two years of working with CLAPA, Louise has now been promoted from Fundraising Officer to the Community Fundraising Manager.

Mikaela Conlin-Hulme, Louise's line manager and CLAPA's Head of Impact, nominated her for the newcomer award.

She said: "We're incredibly proud Louise was shortlisted and received a 'Highly Commended' award among such a talented group of fundraisers.

"Her impact at CLAPA has been immense.

"This recognition is a testament to Louise's dedication and we're thrilled her efforts have been acknowledged on a national stage."

Mikaela said Louise had 'transformed' CLAPA's community fundraising work.

A National Fundraising Awards spokesperson added: "Our awards celebrate and recognise the achievements of remarkable fundraisers who, in extraordinary ways, have made the world a better place.

Visit: clapa.com for more information.

Louise Dutton at the National Fundraising Awards. s



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Hospice looking for new link-ups

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

THE PRIMROSE Hospice and Family Support centre has launched a new corporate partnership programme, making it easier for businesses across Bromsgrove, Redditch and Rubery the chance to support the charity.

It is hoped the Primrose Partners link-up will have a big impact for patients and families in North East Worcestershire.

To sign up to be a Primrose Partner comes at no cost or obligation to the business – instead, the hospice is simply asking if they can contact the company on a monthly basis, through email, about any specific opportunities it has for them to get involved with the charity.

Hannah Isaac, the Primrose Hospice's corporate fundraiser, said: "I am excited about our new corporate offering.

"Primrose Partners is a great opportunity for both businesses and Primrose to support each other in ways we haven't before.

"It has been really encouraging to see so many local businesses showing interest in how they can support a local charity.

"I think the real difference with this partnership programme is the variety of opportunities that we are offering for businesses to get involved with Primrose, including volunteering, sponsorships, donations and multiple challenge events.

Hannah added: "Being able to pick and choose which offers suit your business, saves time and stress for all involved.

"We look forward to hopefully building relationships with more local businesses in the near future."

Businesses can visit: primrosehospice.org/support-us/primrose-partners/ or email Hannah at hannah@primrosehospice.org for more information on the scheme.

James Godsall, the managing director at Jukes insurance brokers. s



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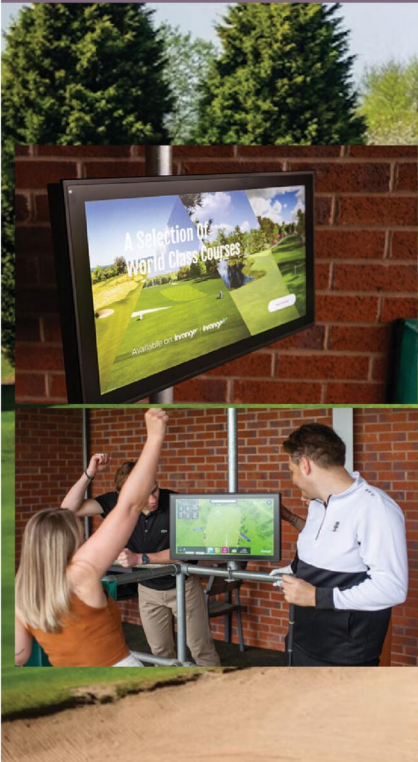
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With food and drink available on-site there's no need to book right now, but bay booking will soon be available via The Abbey Hotel website.



Eagle-eyed Andy hits 3k milestone

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

SUPER-SPOTTER police community support officer Andy Pope from Redditch has reached another marvelous milestone after identifying his 3,000th suspect while on patrol.

The eagle-eyed officer, who is part of West Midlands Police's Safer Travel Team, has a special gift which helps him remember faces of wanted men and women in the region.

The bad news for criminals is he has no intentions of stopping anytime soon.

As part of his role, the 47-year-old regularly patrols various transport hubs, including railway stations and on trains, along with the surrounding areas.

When starting a shift, Andy will often look through CCTV, video stills and police briefings to keep himself updated on those who are wanted.

His unique ability has seen him spot suspects in connection with a range of offences from attempted murder and



sex attacks to assaults and minor incidents.

These can often be in crowded places and award-winning Andy even managed to pick out people while they were wearing face masks during the Covid pandemic.

Andy said: "I'm just glad I can assist in catching crime suspects and keeping communities safe across the West Midlands."

"It's really hard to explain

how I manage to remember and spot faces, as it just comes natural.

"It's a nice feeling to have passed the 3,000 milestone since I started the role.

"I'm hoping there will be many more to come too."

Eagle-eyed PCSO Andy Pope has spotted his 3,000th suspect. Picture by West Midlands Police.



Police used a stinger to bring the pursuit to an end. Picture by WMP Traffic. s

Stolen Clio is stopped with stinger

POLICE caught up with this Renault Clio which was stolen from Redditch and then driven to south west Birmingham.

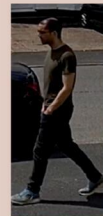
Officers from West Midlands Police's Traffic Unit spotted the car - which was being pursued - in Longbridge.

Then West Mercia Police's specialist Worcestershire Operational Policing Unit

(OPU) used a stinger to bring the chase to an end.

The Clio crashed at the junction of Longbridge Lane and Bristol Road South and both the driver and passenger were arrested.

Checks then found the driver was already wanted for two other offences.



Incident prompts police plea

WEST Mercia Police have released this picture of a man (left) they want to speak to after a suspicious incident in Rubery.

Officers received reports of a man behaving suspiciously in the Gunner Lane area around 12.30pm on Saturday and are looking into the matter. They

believe the man pictured could help with their enquiries.

Anyone who recognises the man in this image is asked to get in touch with Hagley and Rubery Safer Neighbourhood Team by emailing: hr.snt@westmercia.police.uk with what they know.

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The national competition where even the winners were crying



The National Town Crier Champion for 2025, Jeremy Holland from Cinderford. s

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

A FIERCELY competitive battle of Town Criers from across the nation was hosted in Bromsgrove over the weekend as the town's crier celebrated a momentous personal milestone.

The National Town Crier Championship, hosted by Bromsgrove's ever present crier Kevin Ward, welcomed 25 criers from across the UK and even one from Australia on Saturday (June 14) to battle it out for a trophy.

Following a procession of all the competitors, joined by the Bailiff and members of the Bromsgrove Court Leet, the first cry "My Home Town" was heard in Bromsgrove High Street.

Each competitor then performed two rounds of cries, one of which had to focus on their own home town. The cries were heard by many onlookers and scored by seven judges.

There was a break for lunch where Criers mingled with shoppers and enjoyed lunch at a café or restaurant of their choice, thanks to sponsorship from the Bromsgrove Society.

After lunch it was all aboard a vintage Midland Red bus cour-



The 25 town criers who descended on Bromsgrove for the historic annual championship. s

tesy of the Transport Museum at Wythall for a journey to Avoncroft Museum.

On the steps at the back of Guesten Hall, overlooking the site, the second round of the Championship was held. The cry was titled "Why Visit Museums?"

At 5pm, the winners were announced and the trophies handed out, with local dignitaries present to hand out the awards.

The Carole Williams Trophy for the Best Ambassador was awarded by chairman of Bromsgrove Councillor Samuel Evans to Studley Town Crier, Adrian Smith.

Town Crier Paul Gough, from Nuneaton and Bedworth, presented the trophy to the Championship in memory of his late partner Carole Williams, who has also been a town crier.

MP for Bromsgrove, Bradley Thomas handed out trophies for the best four criers - judged based on accuracy, clarity, content, diction,

inflection and volume.

The National Champion was crowned as Jeremy Holland from Cinderford, with John Criffiths from Sleaford in second place and Mark Wylie from Calne in third.

The Bob Walker trophy for the best placed crier who hasn't won a Guild Competition before, was awarded to Judy Campbell from Echuca Moama, Australia.

Other awards were given for best dressed crier, best dressed couple, and best dressed consort.

Event host and Bromsgrove's Town Crier for the past 40 years, Kevin Ward presented thank you gifts to the judges and his organising team.

He said: "What a stunningly successful championship we had and it's all down to the help, support and hard work of the organising team and judges."

Visit www.facebook.com/TownCriersCompBromsgrove for more information.



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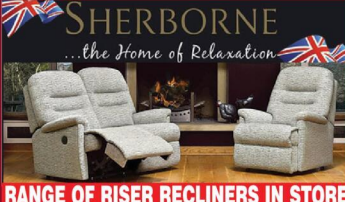
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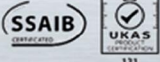
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Petrol alarm is fuel for thought

PEOPLE are being urged to ensure they store petrol and other fuels safely to avoid it catching fire and damaging property.

Many people use the liquids in lawnmowers and other appliances but if not stored correctly, it can be dangerous.

Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service's head of prevention, Emma Roberts, said: "Petrol is a highly flammable liquid and when not handled safely has the potential to cause a serious fire or explosion."

"This means there is always a risk of a fire if there is a source of ignition nearby so storing petrol safely is covered by legislation."



Residents are being urged to store petrol and other fuels correctly.

Safety advice

Anyone storing fuel should use containers designed for that purpose. Never overfill the container - check the markings on the side - and never smoke when handling fuel.

Residents should avoid storing fuel containers in the same building they live in - choose a secure outbuilding.

Fuels such as petrol give off very flammable fumes - only buy the amount needed (small amounts) and take care when handling them.

Petrol or fuel should be decanted in well-ventilated areas to stop fumes building up.

Anyone storing more than 30 litres at home should inform the local Petrol Enforcement Authority.

Visit: hse.gov.uk/fireandexplosion/petrol-storage-club-association.htm for more.

People should always plan escape routes from areas of their home and fuel should never be stored on these routes.

And, as with other fire safety issues, always ensure smoke alarms are fitted and working. If storing fuel at a commercial property, always comply with the Fire Safety Order and include the fuel when conducting risk assessments.

In the event of a fire, get out, stay out and call 999.



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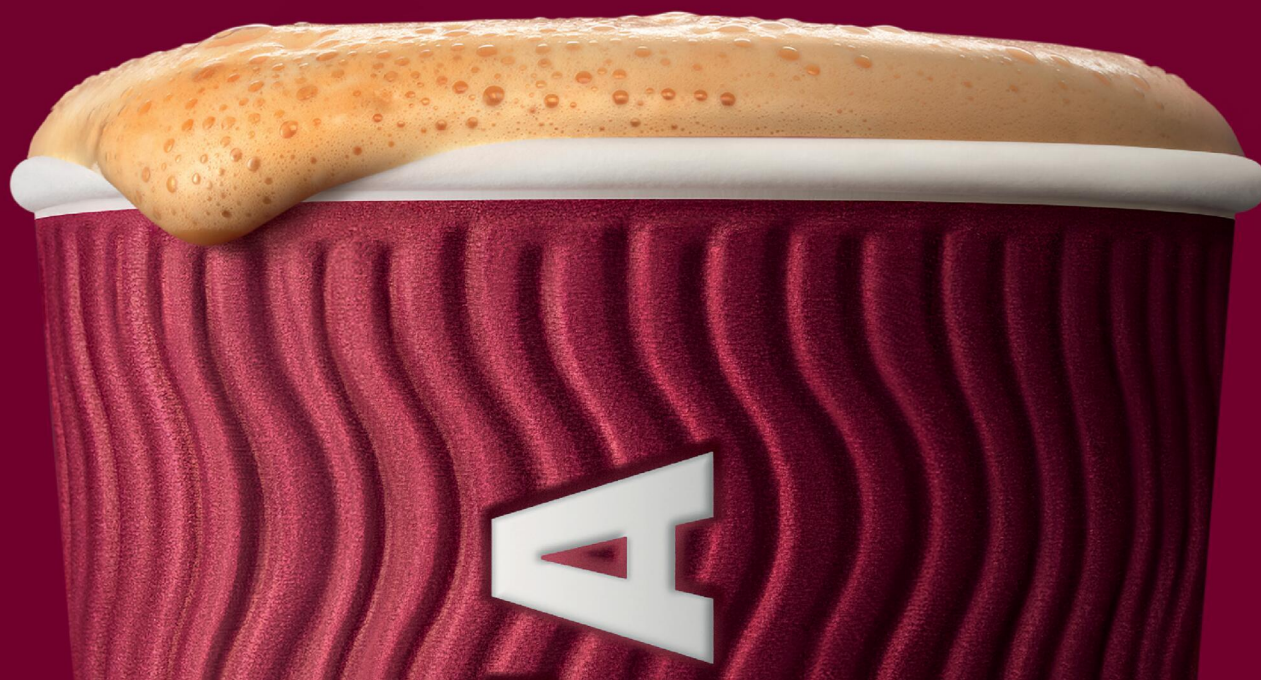
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Climate crisis spurs write stuff in author

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

A BROMSGROVE author has written a new book sharing his insights on how climate change is impacting our environment and 'erasing their memory'.

Drawing on cutting-edge research, ancient knowledge, and ecological systems thinking, author Shameem Kazmi offers a compelling narrative bringing the global climate crisis into sharp, local relevance.

Shameem said: "The ocean doesn't

just respond to climate change - it remembers it.

"That memory has guided monsoons, seasons, and human survival for millennia.

"But it's beginning to fade."

A familiar voice in sustainability circles, Shameem is internationally recognised for his leadership in science-led environmental strategy, innovation, and research and development across global corporations.

Birmingham-born, now living in Bromsgrove, his latest work - *When the Ocean Forgets: How Climate Change is Unravelling the Earth's Memory* -

brings a deeply personal dimension to the climate conversation, inviting readers to rethink how we perceive nature, memory and resilience.

The book explores the ocean as a living archive of climate history and aims to connect indigenous wisdom with modern climate science.

Shameem added: "This book is about more than science, it's about remembering what we've forgotten and finding our place again."

The book has been published independently. Visit: amazon.co.uk and search for 'When the Ocean Forgets' for more and to buy it.



Birmingham born, Bromsgrove based author - Shameem Kazmi - has penned a new title on climate change and its impacts on the environment's past, present and future. s

Call to raise standards as housing target increases

EVER since I was first elected last July, I have fought to protect our precious greenbelt.

I have been warning about the Labour Government's decision to increase the mandatory housing target for Bromsgrove by 84.7 per cent and what this could mean for our constituency.

Now, following the publication of Bromsgrove District Council's Draft Local Plan for future development within our area, we can see what this means in reality.

Residents have my full support in opposing proposals that will destroy our countryside, which aren't designed to the highest standards and where there is no new sup-



Westminster Diary

Bradley Thomas MP
writes for *The Standard*

porting infrastructure.

Our constituency is 89 per cent greenbelt, and our rural identity, which serves as a strategic buffer between rural Worcestershire and urban Birmingham, is under serious threat.

When I was elected last year, I was given a mandate to fight against inappropriate greenbelt development to protect our rural

way of life. I have been doing this, raising it with the Deputy Prime Minister in the House of Commons.

Whilst an MP has no formal role in the planning process and cannot stop planning applications, I will be responding to Bromsgrove District Council's consultation to express my deep concerns at these plans on behalf of constituents.

I also believe that, for too long, the planning system has prioritised mediocrity, and local people are fed up with identikit red-brick monotony destroying the character of our towns and villages.

People are rightly concerned new housing often isn't complementary to their commu-

nity and that it will not be a worthy addition to their neighbourhood.

It is crucial the District Council produces mandatory design codes, in consultation with local people, to ensure future housing is built to the highest possible standards.

It is Bromsgrove District Councillors who will decide where new housing goes.

From June 30 to September 22, the Council will hold a consultation - bromsgroveplan.commonplace.is - and I encourage as many people as possible to respond.

I will continue to engage with residents in the weeks ahead to ensure we're in the best position to fight any proposals that may come forward.

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Festival has music and so much more

AFTER this weekend's launch of this year's Bromsgrove Festival in the town centre, along with the Court Leet Fair Day, there will be another packed week of events for all tastes in the coming days.

Tomorrow (Saturday), the annual Silk Painting Display will go on show at Rubery Library until July 19. The works from the South Birmingham Guild of Silk Painters will be available to view from 8am to 8pm for Libraries Unlocked users or usual opening times. Entry is free.

Live music

On Wednesday (June 25), Craig Ogden will give 'A Celebrity Recital' at New Guesten Hall, Avoncroft Museum as part of the Festive Classics series. Craig's guitar repertoire will include music by Scarlatti, Villa-Lobos and Rodrigo. The concert starts at midday with lunch at 1pm. Tickets, available at festive-classics.co.uk or by calling 01527 832492 - can include just the performance or lunch as well.

Bromsgrove Folk Club and Festival will host Tania Opland and Mike Freeman at Catshill Social Club, Meadow Road, at 8pm on Thursday (June 26). The pair will use hammered dulcimer, guitar, violin, cittern, Native American flute, percussion and more as they perform songs in many languages. Visit: bromsgrovefolkclub.co.uk for tickets and more information.

At 3pm next Friday (June 27), there will be 'Folk and Fry-ups' at The Lemon Tree. The relaxed afternoon of folk music is free - people can just turn up.

The Everly Brothers by Candlelight takes place at 7.30pm next Friday (June 27) at Artrix. The soul-stirring songs of the American duo will be brought to life by Gerry Slattery and Lars Pluto in this unique acoustic theatre show which also includes fascinating stories and anecdotes and a live string quartet. Visit: artrixbromsgrove.co.uk for tickets and more information.

The Players Platform at 11am next Saturday (June 28) sees young musicians showcase their skills. It is brought to Catshill Methodist Church, Golden Cross Lane, by The David Morgan Trust which sup-



Craig Ogden will perform at the first Festive Classics of the season on Wednesday. Picture courtesy of Craig Ogden.



ports children and young people in Bromsgrove District to develop their understanding and appreciation of music. Admission is free. Visit: davidmorganmusictrust.org for more information.

At 12.30pm and 6pm next Saturday (June 28) at Artrix, Stardust Dance Academy will bring their '25 Terrific Years' show to the stage. Visit: artrixbromsgrove.co.uk or call 01527 361324 for tickets and more information.

Celebrations of Live by the Midland Sinfonia will take place at 7.30pm next Saturday (June 2) at St Laurence's Church in Alvechurch. The concert will celebrate anniver-

saries through music. Visit: midlandsinfonia.co.uk for tickets and more information.

The City of Birmingham Brass Band will perform in the Jubilee Bandstand at Sanders Park from 2.30pm to 4.30pm next Sunday (June 29). The event is free and people are being urged to take along their chairs or blankets and a picnic for a relaxing afternoon.

Victoria's School of Dance showcase their 'Rising Stars' at 1.30pm next Sunday (June 29) at Artrix. Visit: artrixbromsgrove.co.uk or call 01527 361324 for tickets and more information.

Drama

All and Sundry will perform 'Dangerous Obsession' at Artrix

from Wednesday to Saturday (June 25 to 27). Performances start at 7.30pm. The show centres on a quiet and unassuming man who is obsessed with pinning the blame for his wife's accident on someone else. He turns up at Sally and Mike Driscoll's home, invites himself in and threatens to reveal secrets that could change their lives forever. Not recommended for under 16s. Visit: artrixbromsgrove.co.uk or call 01527 361324 for tickets and more information.

Art

Avoncroft Arts Society's annual art show takes place from 10am to 4pm next Saturday (June 28). There will be plenty of works on offer from members of the society, along with tea, coffee and homemade cake. Admission is £1 payable on the door. Under 16s go free. There will also be free workshops to take part in. Visit: avoncroftarts.org.uk or call 01527 833829 for more information.

Poetry

Award-winning Rubery poet Spoz - aka Giovanni Esposito - will perform 'Pedestrian Poetry' in Bromsgrove town centre from 11am to 3pm. The community event is free.

Visit our website for more on the first weekend of the Bromsgrove Festival and go to: bromsgrovethefestival.co.uk for more on these and other upcoming events.

Do you have a story? Get in touch by emailing editor@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk

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More drug users sticking to their rehab programmes

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

A TREATMENT programme for drug users in Worcestershire has seen more than double the number of former offenders continue their treatment when they have left prison.

Many people who find themselves in that situation receive treatment while they are serving time but struggle to stick to their programme when they are released.

The Continuity of Care programme aims to stop this happening by supporting individuals to continue with this structured treatment so, when they are released, they still actively taking part in the programme back in the community.

The Safer Worcestershire Partnership, which runs the scheme, includes Public Health in Worcestershire and Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion.

It has been successful in using funding from both the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) to support drug and alcohol treatment provider, Cranstoun.

Forming relationships



The support workers build up relationships with drug takers during their time in prison, creating bonds which lead to positive behaviours.

Once individuals leave prison, these relationships continue in the community meaning the treatment is more likely to continue.

This turnaround in former offenders continuing with their treat-

ment programme has been recognised by Public Health leaders in Worcestershire.

Worcestershire County Councillor Karen May, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing said: "The number of people continuing with their treatment is normally quite poor but in Worcestershire, we've seen a rise to 51 per cent.

"This is a massive improvement,

from 25 per cent just a year ago to more than double in just a few short months."

Matt Burke, Cranstoun's county manager, who is commissioned to provide the on-the-ground support acknowledged this success.

He said: "This is great news. We know we're making a difference to people's lives when they come out of prison, how much this positively impacts on the local community.

"Seeing these figures proves it all the more."

West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion added, as the senior officer responsible for the Combatting Drugs Partnerships, he was pleased to be working with partners to tackle drug use.

"It's important drug users, who have often been involved in other crimes, continue to receive support to integrate back into society and prevent them from committing further offences and causing harm to communities.

"I hope that, through the Safer Worcestershire project, we are able to continue seeing an increase in the number of people using the programme."

The team are now looking for more ways to ensure the number of people engaging in community treatment continues to increase.

Matt Burke from Cranstoun, the alcohol and drug treatment for the county. s

WEST Mercia Police has announced plans to make staff cuts to save cash.

The force and its police and crime commissioner (PCC) said they 'had to make significant savings and improve efficiencies' in a statement released last week.

While police officer numbers are not set to be affected, other staff will be asked if they want to reduce their working hours or take voluntary resignation.

A statement from Chief Constable Richard Cooper and Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "We believe these measures, along with a police-staff recruitment freeze, will help stabilise our financial position."

The statement added they had already made some redundancies in non-police officer roles, helping 'achieve crucial savings' with 'further reductions necessary'.

To support this, West Mercia Police is introducing two voluntary schemes to minimise the need for further compulsory redundancies this year.

The two schemes are a voluntary and temporary reduction in hours scheme, and a Mutually Agreed Resignation Scheme (MARS) allowing staff of either organisation to voluntarily resign with a lump sum payment.

Neither organisation shared details of how many positions would be affected or how much money they needed to save.



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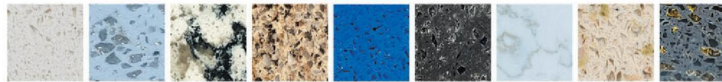
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Pippa Sanderson from Malvern Bitters, an award-winning, small batch UK cocktail bitters company based on the Malvern Hills. s



Sarah Starkey, owner of Commonwood Farm, a sixth generation family farm in Knighton-on-Teme, Tenbury Wells, specialising in vintage perry and cider. s



There were plenty of stalls to peruse from a variety of producers at Sixways Stadium. s



Cofton Greens was among the businesses at the event – it supplies microgreens to independent restaurants. s Pictures by Helen Yandell Photography.

Taste for success

SIXWAYS Stadium in Worcester held the first-ever Taste Worcestershire Producer and Buyer Event.

by Aine McLean

The get-together showcased more than 25 of the county's independent food and drink producers from across hospitality, retail and tourism.

The event, held on May 20, was created to strengthen local supply chains and give producers the opportunity to advertise their goods to Worcestershire.

More than 65 buyers attended, representing numerous hotels, farm shops, restaurants, supermarkets and visitor attractions.

It shone a spotlight on the incredible produce available in Worcestershire and has given a platform to many deserving producers.

The occasion was certainly a commendable celebration of quality, creativity and collaboration.

Lorna Robinson, visitor economy and destination manager at Visit Worcestershire, said: "It was absolutely fabulous to see so many meaningful connections being made – the energy in the room was fantastic." She also added her excitement

for a further event in October – Taste Worcestershire – which will highlight the county's food and drink. The event will showcase what is on offer in the county and to motivate more people to dine out during this unmistakably quiet hospitality period.

Producers or businesses interested in getting involved can email visitworcestershire@worcestershire.gov.uk to request a business pack.

October 2025 plans and details for Taste Worcestershire will be announced soon.

Go to visitworcestershire.org – the Visit Worcestershire website – for the latest updates.



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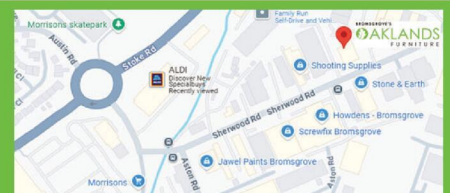
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Thanking water supplier for constant flow of cash

HEARTFELT thanks have gone out to an independent panel which has helped to change the lives of millions of people through Severn Trent's Community Fund.

Back in 2020, the water company committed to donating £10million to projects in the region over a five-year period.

An additional £1.6m was given in further support to help our communities deal with the impact of Coronavirus.

A total of 57 community organisations in Worcestershire have been supported since the creation of the fund with a total of £716,032.66 awarded over the past five years.

The fund was initially set up to support new projects with a link to one or more of our three elements of community wellbeing – People, Place and Environment.

These help oversee the fund and review applications for funding and an independent panel was set up so customers decide where the money goes.

Lee Fletcher, Community Fund Panel member, said: "I have loved working with Severn Trent's Community Fund.

"They are doing such fantastic work within the community, and it has been a pleasure to be part of the panel for three years."

The company has since committed to donating another £10million



of profits up to 2030. A new panel will now be welcomed in as the Community Fund transitions to the next five year period.

Ian Jelley, Chair of the Community Fund Panel, said: "I have been really impressed with what the Community Fund has done over the past five years, seeing all the organisations that have submitted applications has been very humbling, but it also shows the need for funds like this."

The Community Fund team has sent out its thanks to every panel member who has helped the fund have a huge impact over the past

five years.

Paul Evans, Community and Education Lead for Severn Trent, said: "The Community Fund was set up to benefit our customers, so it made complete sense to have our customers helping to make the decisions about where this money was awarded and all the panel members have been absolutely fantastic.

"We want to say a huge thank you to every member of the panel who has supported the fund over the past five years.

"Their passion for helping our customers, these projects and insight has been a huge value for making

sure we are funding projects that have a huge benefit for our customers.

"Now we look to the next five years, and we look forward to working with the new panel and any future members we welcome."

Visit stwater.co.uk/community-fund for more information.

Severn Trent's Community Fund panel have worked to distribute £10 million to community projects across the UK including 57 organisations in Worcestershire. s

'We must build on crime drop'

WEST Mercia has bucked the national trend as the Office for National Statistics recorded a six per cent fall in overall crime and reductions in key crime types.

From December 2023 to December 2024 there have been decreases in shoplifting by five per cent, residential burglary by 22 per cent, serious violence offences by 10 per cent, theft from the person by four per cent and vehicle offences six per cent.

Whilst rape offences have fallen by two per cent, other sexual offences have risen by 10 per cent.

PCC John Campion said: "As PCC, I am focused on ensuring the public are not only safe but feel safe too.

"This significant drop in crime, going against the national picture, demonstrates the proactive work West Mercia Police is doing to tackle the bread-and-butter issues that communities care about.

"There is no room for complacency, and I remain concerned about the prevalence of violence against women and girls in our society.

"That's why I am committed to working with the Chief Constable to build on these foundations by delivering more for the communities of West Mercia."

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Departing Mon 13 Oct '25

On this fantastic break we enjoy the island's natural beauty as well as a nostalgic journey on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway and a visit to fascinating Osborne House. The Isle of Wight is the perfect place to enjoy a relaxing few days away.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel & ferry crossings from **Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ 4 nights at the Shanklin Beach Hotel, Shanklin (JG2+ rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ **2 for 1 bar**
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway
- ✓ Excursions to Osborne House, Cowes & Ryde

Optional Island Highlights Tour (£15pp)



RAILWAY 200: THE GREATEST GATHERING OF LOCOMOTIVES

Departing Fri 1 Aug '25

Come and celebrate the 200th anniversary of the modern railway at The Greatest Gathering! Hosted by Alstom's historic Derby Litchurch Lane Works, this promises to be the UK's biggest gathering of trains, showcasing the past, present and future of our railways.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from **Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Admission to The Greatest Gathering

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- Book by 04 Jul 2025



ELVIS EVOLUTION & LONDON

Departing Sun 28 Sep '25

He is the 'King of Rock and Roll' whose legacy cannot be underestimated, and now we can experience Elvis Presley's legendary journey for ourselves at Elvis Evolution in London. Don't miss your chance to see this celebration of one of music's greatest icons.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel from **Redditch**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) outside London with breakfast
- ✓ Admission to Elvis Evolution
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing



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Departing Mon 11 Aug '25

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- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the South Devon Railway
- ✓ Cruise on the River Exe
- ✓ Free time in Exmouth
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Optional excursion to Teignmouth (£11pp)

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Single Supplement £50

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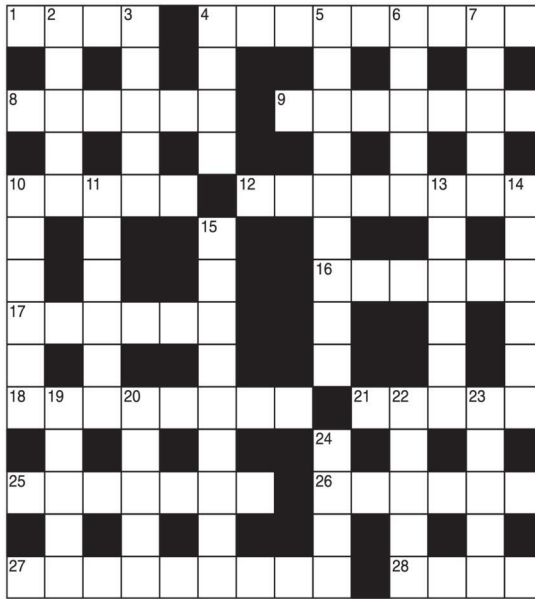


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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 & 21 Across Film star nicknamed 'Duke' (4,5)
- 4 A student of the Earth's crust (9)
- 8 Surname of the dramatist who wrote The Caretaker (6)
- 9 Wife of Nabal and later of David (7)
- 10 & 25 Across Author of All Creatures Great and Small (5,7)
- 12 A strict disciplinarian (8)
- 16 Sir Thomas More's imaginary perfect island (6)
- 17 French royal House from 1328-1589 (6)
- 18 Ancient classical Indian language (8)
- 21 See 1 Across
- 25 See 10 Across
- 26 Animal skeleton used in cleansing (6)
- 27 & 23 Down The witches' sabbath held on the eve of May 1st (9,5)
- 28 The third son of Adam (4)



DOWN

- 2 Pen name of Marie Louise de la Ramee (5)
- 3 Saltpetre (5)
- 4 Hindu spiritual leader (4)
- 5 Trees with racemes of bright yellow flowers (9)
- 6 Benjamino ---, famous Italian tenor (5)
- 7 River on which Paris stands (5)
- 10 PG Wodehouse's perfect English valet (6)
- 11 Magician and bard who aided King Arthur, in legend (6)
- 13 Household, especially table, linen (6)
- 14 Sleep-like state (6)
- 15 Artificial lake for storing water (9)
- 19 The betel nut genus of palms (5)
- 20 Thick, sweet liquid (5)
- 22 Bitter ---, purgative drug (5)
- 23 See 27 Across
- 24 Part of the Thames, through Oxford (4)

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1 John; 4 Geologist; 8 Pinter; 9 Abigail; 10 James; 12 Martinet; 16 Utopia; 17 Valois; 18 Sanskrit; 21 Wayne; 25 Herriot; 26 Spongel; 27 Wajpuris; 28 Seth.
 DOWN: 2 Ouida; 3 Nitze; 4 Guru; 5 Laburnum; 6 Giff; 7 Seine; 10 Leves; 11 Merlin; 13 Napery; 14 Trance; 15 Reservoir; 19 Arca; 20 Syrup; 22 Aloes; 23 Night; 24 Isis.

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS: 6 Freedom; 7 Cover; 9 Mad; 10 Extempore; 12 Composition; 15 Impertinent; 17 Staggered; 19 For; 21 Stew; 22 Assault. DOWN: 1 Treat 2 Set; 3 Hoax; 4 Competent; 5 Reproof; 8 Lessen; 11 Foreigner; 13 Patter; 14 Imitate; 16 World; 18 Else; 20 Gap.

Crossword

VEGETABLE: Stamford Bridge, Naseby, Mons Graupis, Lewes, Boyne.
 NINE: Marston Moor, Culloden, Towton, Harfings, Bosworth, Maldon, Flodden, Sedgemoor, Prestonpans, Tewkesbury, Wating Street, Reichstag.
 REICHSSTAG: Falkirk, Evesham, Orgreave, St Albans.

Wordwheel Pathfinder

Past, Fast.
 Hold, Hole, Pole, Pose, Post.
 Ladder: 1 U, 2 A, 3 N, 4 Y, 5 S, 6 M, 7 E, 8 I, 9 L, 10 Z, 11 R, 12 B, 13 Q, 14 P, 15 C, 16 K, 17 O, 18 J, 19 H, 20 G, 21 X, 22 W, 23 D, 24 I, 25 V, 26 F.

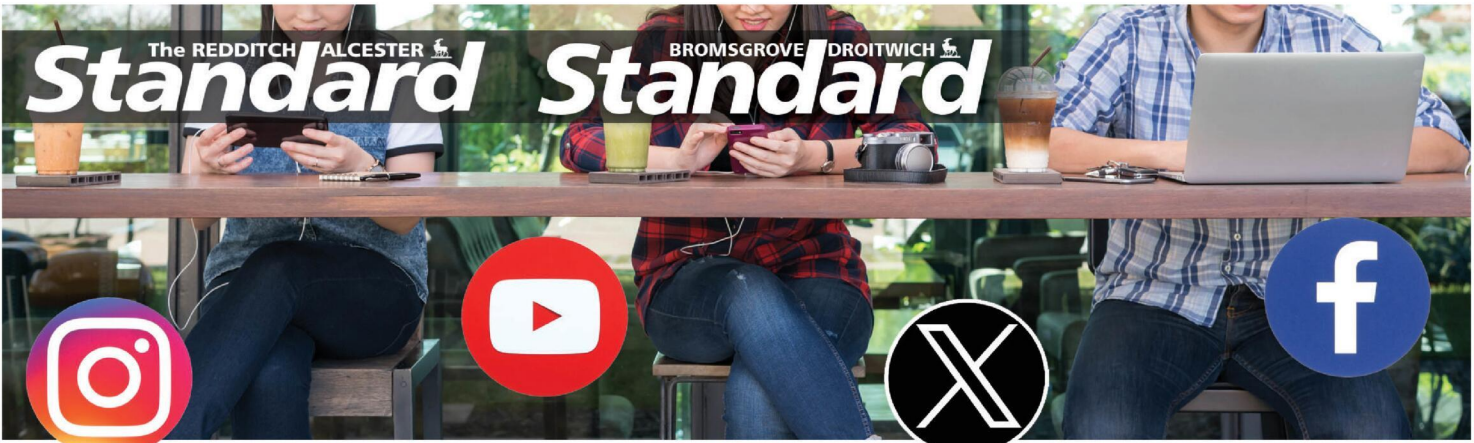
Codeword

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

Hard

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

UPPER SPERNALL FARM ROAD, SPERNALL
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to replace telegraph pole.
Order Commences: 23 June 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 23 June 2025.

Access & Diversion: Upper Sperrall Farm Road, Sperrall Lane, Burford Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: M J Quinn, Tel: 01543 547 118.

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 20 June 2025

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL & REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Advertisement Key: CA = Conservation Area, LB = Listed Building

25/00609/FUL CA
Site: 3 Canal Cottage, Whitford Bridge Road, Stoke Prior, Worcestershire B60 4HE
Proposal: Replacement Conservatory Roof, doors & windows

25/00657/LBC LB
Site: 47 High Street, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 8AW
Proposal: Replacement of external AC condensers on flat roof on a like for like basis.

25/00624/LBC LB
Site: Ruins Of The Old Hewell Grange, HM Prison Hewell, Hewell Lane, Tardebigge Worcestershire
Proposal: General masonry repairs and structural interventions to the portico structure and flanking northwest wall.

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

Comments can be submitted online, via email to newplan@bromsgrovedredditch.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.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Birmingham and Midlands Plumbing and Drainage Ltd trading as Drain Doctor of Unit B, Asquith Court, Saxon Business Park, Bromsgrove, B60 4FF is applying for a licence to Unit B Asquith Court, Saxon Business Park, Bromsgrove, B60 4FF as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers, and to use Unit B Asquith Court, Saxon Business Park, Bromsgrove, B60 4FF as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

SHEILA HARRISON Deceased

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 anyone having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the deceased, late of Parklands Care Home, Callow Hill Lane, Callow Hill, Redditch, B97 5PL, who died on 26/04/2022, must send written particulars to the address below by 21/08/2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests notified.

Stallard March and Edwards
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WRI 11W Ref:ACPI/100262-1

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Inductotherm Europe Limited Retirement Benefits Plan (1971)

Notice under section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925

Please note that this notice relates to the Inductotherm Europe Limited Retirement Benefits Plan 1971 (the "Scheme").

The Trustees of the Scheme (the "Trustees") intend to finalise the winding up of the Scheme. Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925 of the intention to wind up the Scheme and transfer its assets.

The Trustees of the Scheme believe they have the names of everyone who had a right to benefits under the Scheme. However, if you were (i) an employee of Inductotherm Europe Limited and (ii) a member of the Defined Benefit ("DB") section of the Scheme, and think you have an entitlement to benefits under the Scheme, or you are a widow, widower, civil partner, child, dependant or other beneficiary of such an employee and, in either case, you have not already been contacted by the Trustees in relation to this or in relation to the transfer of your pension rights, please write to:

Claire Petzer, Cartwright Group Limited, 250 Fowler Avenue, Farnborough Business Park, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 7JP, using the email address: Claire.Petzer@Cartwright.co.uk

Please include your full name, address, date of birth, National Insurance number and date of joining the Scheme (if known).

Your claim must arrive on or before 31 August 2025. Late claims may not be accepted.

As soon as possible after the expiry of this notice on 31 August 2025, it is the intention of the Trustees to complete the winding up of the Scheme, having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have prior notice. After that time, the Trustees shall not be liable to any other person with DB benefits under the Scheme.

If you have recently been contacted in respect of the transfer of your pension rights under the Scheme, then you do not need to write to the Trustees as they already have your details.

Issued for and on behalf of the Trustees of the Inductotherm Europe Limited Retirement Benefits Plan (1971).

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FOUR Tier Glass Stand, Gamr Console Stand Tel 0788 2124182

19 CDs - sealed for sale. Tel 0788 2124182

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ROBUST Sovereign Shop Rider Scooter. Good Condition £350 ono 01527 832003

BOARD Games Monopoly Northampton Saints Rugby Game. Brand New, unopened. £25.00 ono. Tel: 07979 494716

RUNNER BEAN Plants. £1.75 a tray of 12 plants Phone 01905 778926

CARPET offset - brand new, berber, hard wearing, felt backed, mid brown / cream mixture, no matching pattern so could cut & piece together. size 6 foot 8 inches long x 2 foot 1 inch wide. £4.00. Tel: 07934132759

MISCELLANEOUS

ROYAL Albert tea service, 8 cups, saucers, plates, sugar bowl, milk jug, large plate £50 Tel: 01789 763306

PEDESTAL Drill GWO £60. Welder Mig Turbo £40 Tel: 07733 061256

LADIES M&S classic fully lined summer jacket with optional hood. Light turquoise. Hardy worn. Size 12. £4.00. (I can forward photos if interested). Tel: 07934132759

PENNINE Aztec Trailer Tent, old but, but loads of life £50 (needs light repair) Tel: 01299 266127

TWO Daily Telegraph Zero Gravity Garden Recliner Chairs (including carry bags). 1 Navy, 1 Stone (Grey), £40.00 each. Telephone number - 01905 769944

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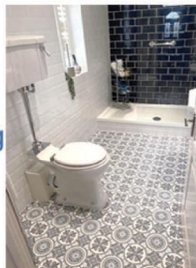
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ADAMS
Stephen John
Died 14/6/2016
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Mom, Dad, Simon, Beau, Courtney,
Family and Friends
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DEATHS


ADAMS
Anthony “Tony”
Aged 73 Years
Passed away suddenly on Wednesday 4th June 2025
A much-loved Husband to Kate. A devoted Dad and Grandy to Rachel and Rita. A beloved Brother
Tony will be greatly missed by all his family and friends
A service to celebrate Tony's life will take place Redditch Crematorium On Friday 27th June at 10.15 am
Family flowers only please. Donations if so desired to Midlands Air Ambulance to
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DEATHS

JARVIS
Anthony “Tony”
Aged 62 years
Taken far too soon on Tuesday 10th June 2025.
A Beloved Husband to Julie and a much-loved Dad, Grandad, Brother, Uncle and Friend.
Tony leaves a huge void in the lives of his family and friends he will be greatly missed.
A service to celebrate Tony's life will take place at Redditch Crematorium On Friday 11th July 2025 at 2.00pm.
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DEATHS

Lawrence Albert Grubb
from Studley, Warwickshire
Passed away on 19th May 2025 aged 86.
Funeral to take place on Friday 27th June at 11am at
The Vale Crematorium, Evesham Road, Fladbury, Pershore, WR10 2QR



DEATHS

MORTIMER
Michael David
Aged 84 Years
Passed away peacefully on Sunday 8th June, 2025 at the Alexandra Hospital.
Beloved Husband to Andrea. A dearly loved Dad and Grandad. Michael will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.
A service to celebrate Michael's life will take place on Wednesday 2nd July, 2025 at Christ Church, Matchborough B98 0EP, Redditch at 10.15am.
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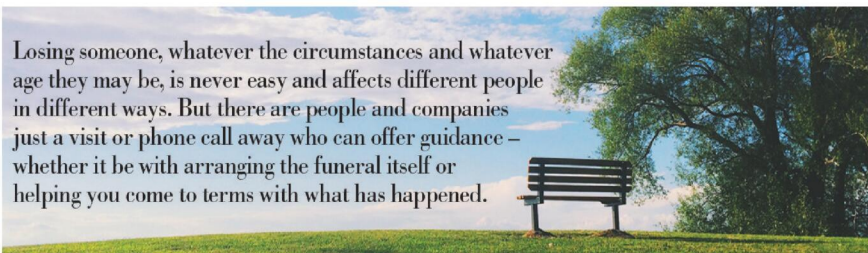
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Good news for Dacia

DACIA'S offer of the best value for money on the market is once again recognised after winning a hat-trick of awards at the What Car? Car of the Year Awards 2025.

The Sandero, famed for offering affordability without compromise, was named the 'Best Small Car for Value' for the fourth consecutive year. It also marks the 12th time that the model has been recognised at the awards.

With prices starting from £14,200 on-the-road, the Sandero remains the most affordable car in the UK.

Dacia's versatile family car, the Jogger, was named the 'Best Seven-Seater for Value' for the third year in a row.

With a mix of SUV and estate car design, and unrivalled value with pricing starting from £18,400 on-the-road, it's no surprise sales jumped 77 per cent in 2024 compared to the previous year.

The latest generation Duster also continues its winning streak, being named the 'Best Small SUV for Value'. With prices starting

from £18,850, its modern, robust design, practical interior as well as the option of 4x4, is already striking a chord with the nation.

What Car? Editor, Steve Huntingford, said: "Tempting pricing is obviously key to the appeal of the Sandero, Jogger and Duster. Crucially, however, they also deliver real value for money, because they're practical and comfortable choices that offer a level of technology you wouldn't expect."

Luke Broad, Dacia Brand Director for the UK, added: "Dacia is always focussed on giving the best value for money on the market, so to win three-value based awards from the professionals at What Car? magazine and website is fantastic."

"To win two of these awards for multiple years is exceptional, and really proves that our offering is an unrivalled combination of affordability without compromise."

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Team Vertu complete the set on BTCC calendar after victory for Ingram at Thruxton

by Aaron Sutcliffe
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

BTCC: DROITWICH-based Team Vertu achieved a special milestone following Tom Ingram's victory at Thruxton in the latest round of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC).

Ingram's win for Team Vertu means the Droitwich team have now tasted victory at every circuit on the BTCC calendar.

The high-speed Hampshire circuit was the only venue where the EXCELR8-run team had yet to make it onto the top step of the podium.

However, team driver and title contender Ingram ended Team Vertu's quest for a first race victory at the circuit.

Ingram, Tom Chilton, Adam Morgan and the returning Senna Proctor continued Team Vertu's fine start to the season while the latter driver just missed out on a podium finish in the final race of the weekend.

Team Vertu team owner, Justina Williams said: "It's great to have scored our first win at Thruxton and we've shown really strong pace across the



Tom Ingram celebrates after completing the set for Team Vertu at Thruxton. Picture by Darren Price.

weekend, even though the end results for the four drivers have been mixed.

"Senna in particular however has done a great job after so long out of a car and I'm confident that we have a great chance of success going forwards with the strength we have in depth across the driver line-up."

Proctor added: "My return to the series could certainly have gone a lot worse, and I think three top-10 finishes gives me a good platform to build on.

"To be honest, I'd say that I over-performed in qualifying to get into the Quick Six but then underperformed a little in races, although that is largely down to the fact that I've not been in a BTCC car for three years and have a little bit of rustiness to get rid of.

"That was definitely the case in race three at the start, but I know there is a lot more to come over the remainder of the season.

"The car is fantastic and so much different to when I previously raced it during its debut season.

"It might be the same shape as it was in 2020 but under the skin, it's changed in pretty much every way.

"The team has done a fantastic job with it, and credit to them - so I can't wait to really get the best out of it as I get back up to speed."

Spa skittled for 63 by Himley in defeat

CRICKET: DROITWICH Spa CC were skittled for just 63 in an 82-run defeat against Himley 2nds.

Spa bowled Himley out for 145 at St Peter's Playing Fields after the latter side won the toss and elected to bat.

However, only Droitwich skipper Martyn Davies managed double figures with the bat as Himley bowled Spa out for just 63 in 34 overs.

The result means Droitwich sit fourth in the Worcestershire County League Division One table.

Spa captain Davies (1-23) took the game's first wicket when he bowled Himley opener Mathew Boroughs (0) for a duck.

However, Spencer Grove (44) and Matt Bowen (33) put on 65 runs for Himley's second wicket.

And Max Young (3-30) brought an end to the partnership as he snared Grove and Jim Abbs (0) in the same over.

Young struck again to remove Adam Passmore (12) which sparked a mini collapse.

After Himley passed the 100-run mark, Jonathan Miles (2-24) trapped Jeevan Klair (4) LBW before Adam Keen (1-13) removed Chris Boroughs (0) by the same method.

And Xavier Ariam Thuriappah then ran out Ben Hopkins (0) as

Himley slumped to 112-7. Late runs from Kieran Patel (25) helped Himley reach 145 all out in 46.5 overs.

However, Spa struggled with the bat as openers Sam Woolley (2) and Harry Butler (7) both fell to the bowling of Matt Jeavons (5-13) inside the first nine overs.

And Sam Cookson (3-25) then bowled Thuriappah (7) to leave Spa on 24-3.

Droitwich lost their next four wickets for the addition of just five runs as Himley took command of the game.

Jeavons returned to bowl Miles (4) and Lincoln Kellett (4) in the same over.

And Cookson then accounted for Young (1) while Jeavons claimed his fifth wicket with the dismissal of John Phillips (0) with Spa in trouble on 29-7.

Davies (13), Noah Hunt (8) and Keen (6) all faced more than 30 balls each as Spa's tail order dug in.

However, Himley eventually claimed the wickets of all three batters as Ben Hopkins (2-5) took the final wicket with Spa all out for just 63 in 33.1 overs.

Droitwich are next in action against Bartestree and Lugwardine on Saturday, June 21 with the game to start at 12.30pm at Bartestree Playing Fields.

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