

DROITWICH Standard

TREE & LANDSCAPE Specialists

Contact us today
FREEPHONE: 0800 747 1704
LANDLINE: 01905 886 566
treeandlandscapespecialists@gmail.com
www.treeandlandscapespecialists.co.uk

Friday, December 5th 2025 Week 49

[f droitwichstandard](https://www.facebook.com/droitwichstandard)

www.droitwichstandard.co.uk

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

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



MOT TEST CENTRE

THE HOME OF £30 MOT'S IN DROITWICH

Berry Hill MOT Centre Ltd

Unit 8 Northbank Berry Hill Ind Est
 Droitwich WR9 9AU Tel: 01905 771831

Professional DPF Reconditioning



Diesel Particulate Filter

100 affordable homes plan gets green light

by **Ryan Smith**
ryan.smith@bullivantmedia.com

PLANS for 100 new affordable homes in Droitwich have been given the go ahead.

Bromford Housing Association, which bought the site earlier this year, had its application for the layout, appearance, scale and landscaping for the site, on a field off Tagwell Road, approved by Wychavon District Council.

Outline approval for the 100-home development on the site was granted on appeal back in 2022.

The application site is located on the east side of Tagwell Road, south of Tagwell Grange and west of the M5.

After Bromford bought the 12-acre site from land promoters St Philips Land back in April, the firm announced the development would be 100 per cent affordable housing.

The original plans under St Philips Land included a mix of 60 per cent open market housing and 40 per cent affordable housing.

The homes are now set to a mix of one and two-bedroom flats and two, three and four-bedroom houses.

The firm said it would make the majority of the homes for rent, with the remainder available through our part-rent, part-buy shared ownership scheme.

Concerns about the development were raised by Droitwich Spa Town Council.

These included the safety of the site access road and a lack of information regarding active travel aspects, such as bus, cycle and walking route connectivity.

A consultation on the latest application ended on November 25, and three days later, it was approved under delegated powers.

In the decision notice, Wychavon District Council planners said: "It is considered the proposed layout, scale, appearance and landscaping are acceptable and would provide for a high-quality development that would have an acceptable impact on existing residential property and would respect the character and appearance of the surrounding area."

The amended plans and details remain within the parameters established through the original outline application.

Developer response

Bromford said it believed the development would contribute towards addressing Wychavon's 'challenging' housing requirements.

Bromford's senior land manager, Duncan Melville, said: "This is an exciting opportunity for us to increase the number of affordable homes we own in the Droitwich area.

"House prices across the Wychavon district are 12 times the average incomes, which is pricing local people out of being able to buy their own home and increasing demand for affordable rented homes."



HUNGRY FOR SUCCESS: A young Droitwich entrepreneur has been recognised by a prestigious awards scheme.

Alamin Miah (pictured) from the Vasaanti, took part in the International Bangladeshi Masterchef (IBM) competition where the

scheme's representatives visited him in the restaurant and assessed his social media content.

Following that, Alamin received the IBM Young Entrepreneur Award 2025 in recognition of his hard work, leadership and passion for excellence.

On the day of the awards, Alamin was well-supported by family and friends, including his uncle Shale Ahmed who is a local community champion and came all the way from Cannock on a Monday night.

Vasaanti owner Aki Miah said he was proud of his son's achievements.

"We extend our sincere thanks to our community for your ongoing support, which plays a significant role in our success.

"We look forward to continuing this journey with you."

Alamin, who recently completed an HR Management masters degree at Aston University, runs the family business' marketing and PR and is tasked with finding ways for the business and its reputation to improve.

He thanked the community and customers for their support over several years and said: "I was delighted to receive the award for something I enjoy doing on a daily basis."

Avery | Droitwich Mews CARE HOME

Christmas Fair

Saturday 20 December | 2pm - 4.30pm

Celebrate the festive season with us at our Christmas Fair. Enjoy a wonderful selection of stalls, festive food and drinks, entertainment, games, and plenty of seasonal cheer. It's the perfect chance to come together, meet the team, and share in the holiday spirit with our residents and community.

01905 934182 averyhealthcare.co.uk

Mulberry Tree Hill | Droitwich Spa | Worcestershire | WR9 7SS

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE

YOUR LOCAL DROITWICH INDEPENDENT TRADER

BLACK FRIDAY LAST FEW DAYS



FREE DELIVERIES WITH EVERY FABRIC ORDER



ADJUST-A-BED



HYPNOS AUTUMN SALE

DUAL MOTOR / CLOUD ZERO RISER RECLINERS AVAILABLE IN 3 SIZES

20% EXEMPTION FOR THOSE WITH QUALIFYING CONDITIONS

LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE

SEE OUR MAIN ADVERT ON PAGES 10 & 11

£1 BUS FARES EVERYDAY IN DECEMBER ACROSS WORCESTERSHIRE. SEE PAGE 9 FOR FULL DETAILS

Head back to Yuletides of yesteryear

VISITORS to Avoncroft Museum in Bromsgrove this weekend and next can step back to Christmases of years gone by.

The ever-popular annual Christmas Through Time runs from 10am to 3pm on both tomorrow and Sunday, December 6 and 7 and again next Saturday and Sunday, December 13 and 14.

At this weekend's event will be a Christmas stocking trail where children pick up a handmade festive stocking and visit each of the historic homes as part of the Through Time Trail.

They will be tasked with finding the elves hidden around the site.

Each house will be decorated in the relevant traditional style of the different eras, including, Tudor, medieval, wartime Yuletides and others.

And there will be tasty seasonal hot food and drink available from the cosy tea rooms, the chance to ride the model railway and youngsters can write and decorate their letters to Father Christmas before handing them to the man in the big red suit during a timed visit.

There will be photographic opportunities with Father Christmas and the chance to see his trusty vintage Morris Minor GPO van.

And there will be gifts for children

aged between two and 12.

Next weekend, December 13 and 14, the same activities will be available, along with others.

Medieval re-enactors will be setting up a medieval Christmas in and around the Town House.

The group will be making Christmas decorations, cooking festive fare and holding religious celebrations, including Christmas prayers in the Mission Church.

Other tasks will include preparing gifts, painting and decorative textile work, gaming and singing.

On December 13, Bromsgrove Recorder Consort will perform a selection of recorder music from throughout the ages.

On Sunday, December 14, it will be the turn of the Redditch Recorder Group which will be joined by Alcester Male Voice Choir.

A group spokesperson said: "We are delighted to be playing yet again at this wonderful event and will be performing a wide range of Christmas music spanning several centuries."

Visit: avoncroft.org.uk/whats-on or call 01527 831363 for more information and to buy tickets.

Night out to help out after hurricane

PEOPLE in Redditch are being treated to an evening of live entertainment - all to raise cash to help their twin parish of St Elizabeth in Jamaica after Hurricane Melissa tore through the island.

St Elizabeth, twinned with Redditch Borough since 2006, has been hard hit, with local towns like Black River and Brompton suffering extensive damage and loss after the category 5 storm devastated the island with 185mph winds.

Worst-hit areas include Fyffes Pen, Cambridge, Cotterwood, Speculation, Luana and Front Hill.

Businessman Damian Simpson, of D&D Roofing Supplies, originally from Black River, is leading a grassroots campaign in Redditch to collect and ship essential supplies to affected families.

Redditch's long-standing community ties to St Elizabeth, where a friendship link was first established in 1990, have seen Redditch Borough Council also join the appeal, with the authority providing additional collection points and promotional support.

tional support.

With infrastructure destroyed and many residents left without shelter, Damian and colleagues headed over to the area last week to donate their efforts to the rebuilding effort and have taken aid barrels with them.

Damian intends to fly out at the end of the month to distribute the collections and to help with his tradesman friends in rebuilding some roofs.

The community is hosting a concert fundraiser at St Stephen's Church next Saturday (Saturday 13), hosted by Jacko Melody.

There will be a DJ and Birmingham singer Claire Angel will be performing. They are being supported from entertainers both out of Redditch, Birmingham and Jamaica.

Claire is a world class vocalist and entertainer who delivers on stage.

The concert promises to be a real treat for any music lover to hear - it runs from 6.30pm until 9.30pm.

A life of bringing people together

by **Tristan Harris**

tristan.harris@bullivantmedia.com

TRIBUTES have been paid to a dedicated Bromsgrove community champion who has died.

Shan Moule, who was the churchwarden at St John's Church, was described by Adrienne Hall, Rev Janet Hatton and Sue Norton (known, along with Shan as the 'Fab Four') on behalf of the family as 'an extraordinary, unique person'.

"She had a strong Christian Faith, proven by her friendly, welcoming, big-hearted, encouraging, optimistic, calm and diplomatic ways."

Shan was known by so many people in Bromsgrove through her connections with St John's Church, St Andrew's Charford, Friends of the Hospital and Millfields School.

Shan attended St John's Church most of her life following in the footsteps of her parents. She became involved in the Sunday School during the 80s and 90s.

She was elected Churchwarden in the 2000s - a post she held for 20 years.

She served under three vicars, keeping everything going during two interregnums and overseeing the first successful Landmark Appeal.

Shan set up, 'Fundraisers R Us' to raise money for the church. The most notable events being the St John's Stall at the Elizabethan Market every June. She rallied many to take part.

Shan thought up a theme each year which included getting people of the church to dress up as Elizabethan royalty of the time.

Over the years, there was a variety of themes, including pirates, nail-makers and most notably monks.

Then there was the Christmas Market in the High Street when helpers had to dress up as Magi / wise men.

She organised medieval banquets for the Bailiff and Court Leet in the church hall, along with Swinging 1960s and 70s nights, Burns and Passover Suppers and more - they were all Shan's ideas.

Shan was renowned for making the most beautiful Easter gardens each year, inside the church which led to people journeying from far and wide to view them.

With a group of four friends who called themselves, 'The Fab Four', she ventured for 'Hooleys,' as she called them to Cornwall, Bath, Dorset, Blackpool and the Mint Lounge in Bromsgrove.

The best was Liverpool, hence the 'Fab Four' title - she sang with gusto, 'Ferry Across the Mersey', as she sailed across from Wallasey to Liverpool.

She coined a motto formed from an announcement made on the train going up to Liverpool: 'See it, say it, sort



it. Saw it, said it, sorted it, loved it.'

Shan was at her most contented when she was near the sea. No matter the weather or time of year she would go, at the very least to paddle - Wales and anything Celtic were her loves.

She had an infectious laugh and, no matter what difficulty arose, would always say: 'It will be alright'.

She was known as the big bead lady for wherever she went she was adorned with big beads.

She struggled with debilitating Parkinsons Disease over the last three years and spent the last year in the care of Chandlers Court, passing away at the beginning of November.

"Shan was a joy to be with, keen to bring people together. She was the life and soul of any gathering and will be sorely missed."

Shan's funeral takes place at St John's Church at 12pm next Wednesday, December 10 with the committal at Redditch Crematorium at 1.15pm.

Do you have a news or sports story?

Get in touch on 01527 588657



Having a change round? Then give

us a ring before you fling

We collect re-usable good quality furniture to either be given FREE to households who are in need or to be sold at our showrooms at

1 Sherwood Road, Bromsgrove B60 3DR

01527 882410

www.newstarts.org.uk

Ely International
Brass Band **WINTER** School
Celebration Concert
Friday, December 19th, 7pm
Routh Hall
Bromsgrove School B61 7HP
Tickets £5
Visit www.eibbws.org.uk for more info.

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
28



Giving plenty of Winslow thanks

DROITWICH honoured its iconic New World pioneer Edward Winslow with a special weekend of entertainment and thanksgiving.

The Edward Winslow Day celebrations took place last Thursday to Saturday, kicking off with an American flag-raising ceremony at St Richard's House and followed by a thanksgiving service at St Peter's Church.

There was also music and entertainment at St Andrews Shopping Centre, including line dancers and performances from the Salties Folk Trio, Voices Unlimited, and the Worcestershire Folk Players.

And guests enjoyed a themed market in Victoria Square.

The inaugural 'Winslow Awards' saw local community champions honoured at a service in St Peter's Church.

Shelley Dixon, who has been volunteering with the Moving Forward project for the past few years, was named the Winslow Community Champion, while the Droitwich Lions won the group edition of the award.

Foodbank volunteer Anne Roberts won the Winslow Endeavour award and Suzi Wood, who devoted many hours of her time helping to revive, and later support, the Lido, won the 'Salt of the Earth' Award.

Held on Thanksgiving Day, the festivities give a nod to Winslow's involvement in the first-ever Thanksgiving dinner in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Winslow was a separatist and New England political leader who became a key figure among the Mayflower Pilgrims, becoming one of the first English natives to travel to what would become the United States.

The organisers of the Edward Winslow Day celebrations also received thanks from across the Atlantic from the Winslow Heritage Society over in the United States.

Craig Failor, the society's governor, sent a message wishing Droitwich well with the celebrations.

Mr Failor said: "We at the Winslow Heritage Society in the United States appreciate all that you have done and planned for Edward Winslow and his family.

"Our organisation recognise not only the great contributions of Edward but also those of his brothers Josiah, Kenelm, John and Gilbert.

"We wish we could be there to help you celebrate."

Winslow was born in Droitwich in 1595 and baptised in St Peter's church in the town,

He grew up in a family who were deeply involved in the salt production trade, owning their own salt pit.

In 1617, he travelled to Leiden, Holland, becoming a prominent member of the local English Puritan Church.

Three years later, he boarded the Mayflower, a ship that carried 102 passengers from England to the New World.

He was a founder of the colony at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and served as governor three times there.

In 1654, Winslow was chief of the three commissioners Oliver Cromwell sent on his expedition against the West Indies.

However, in May 1655, he died of Yellow fever on board his ship between Hispaniola and Jamaica and was buried at sea.



Coun Chris Bowden leads a thanksgiving service. s



The American flag raising ceremony takes place.



Music was played at the flag raising ceremony. s

Labradorite Rose Quartz Lapis Lazuli
 Peridot Garnet Amethyst
 Pearls Tigers eye
 Beryl Opal

Hand Crafted Jewellery

by
Olivia J Williams

Gift Boxed	Christmas Promotions	Choose from a wide selection of Gem Stones
Earrings £12.50	Now Available at Castle Contemporary Art Artisan Gift Shop	
Pendant £15.00		
Set £25.00		

Adjacent to Olivia J Hair & Beauty Salon - Les Tophams Garden Centre, Castle Nurseries B80 7DF
 email: olivijawilliams123@gmail.com

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

The lifts soon to be arriving...

A WHEELCHAIR user left humiliated after being stranded at Barnet Green station back in 2019 has said the 'awful' experience still haunts him to this day.

Dylan Cummings has spoken out amidst news that lifts will be brought into service soon to make Barnet Green Station more accessible for everyone.

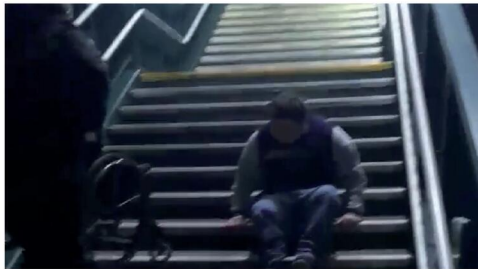
This comes almost seven years after Dylan told the Standard he had to sit down to shuffle up and down stairs to cross the footbridge at the station to get to his intended platform, missing two trains in the ordeal.

He said: "At the time of the incident, I felt completely humiliated - thankfully, I had my friends there to help me and carry my wheelchair. It was an awful experience, one that still haunts me to this day."

"I'm pleased the lifts have finally been installed, giving disabled people the access they require to go about their day."

"However, the length of time this has taken is utterly unacceptable."

"The timeline further showcases that the access issue



was not a top priority for the people in charge."

A Network Rail spokesperson said at the time that for lifts to be installed, a wider package of improvements would be needed, and funding would need to be secured for the additional work.

The approval and the funding for the lifts were agreed by the Department for Transport in June 2023, but complications with the design had delayed the scheme.

Barnet Green Parish Council had been campaigning for lifts since 2015.

Back in February, Network Rail began work on installing three lifts to link all four platforms at the station, and a spokesperson for the firm has now revealed to the

Standard that the works are going well and they are in the final stages of checks with West Midlands Railway to bring them into service soon.

The spokesperson added: "We thank passengers and the local community for their continued support as we make the station more accessible for everyone."

The 1995 Disability Discrimination Act made it a legal obligation to make all forms of public transport accessible to all.

Visit: nationalrail.co.uk for the latest updates.

Dylan Cummings was left stranded at Barnet Green station in 2019. s



Beaver Scouts in a plane at the RAF Cosford Museum. s

Flying high after RAF museum visit

MEMBERS of Astwood Bank Scout Group recently enjoyed a high-flying day out at the RAF Cosford Museum, thanks to the generous support of Astwood Bank Royal British Legion.

A total of 35 young people - Beavers, Cubs and Scouts - joined the trip, along with several members of the legion for a day packed with learning, exploration and fun.

The group explored the museum's impressive collection of aircraft, tanks and missiles, took part in interactive challenges and even stepped inside a real transport

plane to visit the cockpit.

They also had the chance to experience 4D and virtual reality flight simulations.

Sally Payne, group lead volunteer for Astwood Bank Scouts, said: "This visit was a wonderful example of what can be achieved when community organisations come together."

"The support of the Astwood Bank Royal British Legion made it possible for our young people to learn, explore and be inspired - together across generations."

"We are really grateful for their continued support."

DON'T MISS A NIGHT OF TIMELESS HITS

Experience the magic of soul music as Roy G. Hemmings, formerly of The Drifters, brings you The Sounds of Philadelphia and Motown! This electrifying live show features over two hours of iconic hits performed with a full live band and sensational singers. From the smooth grooves of Philly soul to the unforgettable Motown classics, it's a musical journey that will have you dancing in your seat and singing along to every word.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

The Artrix Theatre | Bromsgrove
Friday 6th February 2026
Start time 7:30pm

Box office: £29 | Online: £29 (+ fee: £2.50)

Box Office: 01527 361 324
artrixbromsgrove.co.uk



Roy G. Hemmings

THE SOUNDS OF PHILADELPHIA AND MOTOWN
Over 2 hours of classic hits in a 100% live show

QUASAR PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



Featuring hits by:

Including Hits By The Drifters, The Temptations, The Four Tops, The Supremes, Martha & The Vandellas, Stevie Wonder, Lionel Richie & more.

Hit after hit:

Dancing In The Street, I Can't Help Myself, Get Ready, All Night Long, My Girl, How Sweet It Is, Ain't No Mountain High Enough, Saturday Night At The Movies, Me & Mrs Jones, You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine & many more!

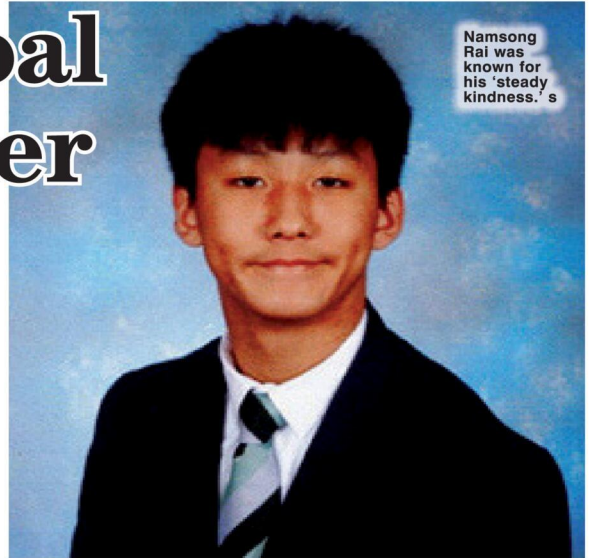
Starring:
The Fabulous
Roy G. Hemmings

Former Drifters member Roy G. Hemmings brings you the Hits of Motown, in one live action packed Show.



For more information visit royghemmings.com

Student honours pal with run fundraiser



Namsong Rai was known for his 'steady kindness.' s

A FRIEND and classmate of a Bromsgrove School student known for his steady kindness has paid tribute to him by running 1km for each year of his tragically short life.

by **Ryan Smith**
ryan.smith@bullivantmedia.com

Faisal Tukur ran 15km around the school grounds in honour of his friend, Namsong Rai, who died aged 15 in October after living with cancer for two years.

community in his own way. Students and staff knew him for his steady kindness and his gentle way of moving through each day."

Faisal took on the challenge to run 1km for each year of Namsong's life and has now raised almost £8,000 for charity.

Faisal added he wanted the run in memory of Namsong to carry his story and values forward.

Faisal said: "Namsong's death left a quiet space in our school and in everyone who knew him.

Half of the donations will support cancer research, and the other half will support people in Gaza.

"He spent his days at Bromsgrove School with a calm presence that people noticed, even when he said nothing.

Faisal added: "This was one of his final wishes. He wanted his name to bring help to people who lived with fear and loss every day.

"He shaped the Bromsgrovian

"Namsong found comfort where others saw nothing. That taught me to slow down and see life differently. Having him as my friend shaped me. I will hold that for a long time."

Bromsgrove School also paid tribute to former student Namsong in its newsletter.

A statement read: "Namsong had been unwell for some time, and he will be deeply missed by his many friends, by staff, and of course by his family.

"Namsong joined Bromsgrove School as a boarder in the Prep School when he was 10.

"He was a much-respected member of the community – kind, talented, and always eager to make the most of the opportunities available to him.

"At his very moving funeral, held at the start of half-term, parents, friends, and several staff who had known him especially well came together to pay tribute.

"Some of Namsong's friends took part in the service in a fitting reflection of the warmth and affection he

inspired in others. Our thoughts and prayers are with Namsong's parents, sister, and wider family. He was, in every sense, a Bromsgrovian

through and through." Visit www.gofundme.com/f/15-km-run-in-honour-of-namsong-rai to donate.

5,900-name petition to save district's greenbelt is handed to ministry

A PETITION calling to 'save Bromsgrove's greenbelt' has been presented to the House of Commons by MP Bradley Thomas.

The petition, signed by 5,900 people, demands the Government justify the 'flawed' formula used to calculate the increase and to rebalance the housing target so that Birmingham takes its fair share.

Back in July, Mr Thomas launched his Parliamentary petition in the wake of the Government increasing the constituency's house-building target by 85 per cent.

It also demands the increase is reversed, in addition to the reversal of the reduction in

Birmingham's housing target.

Bromsgrove district is 89 per cent green belt and 79 per cent rural.

The text of the petition is being sent to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government which must then respond within two months.

Mr Thomas said: "It's over to

the Housing Secretary and his department now.

"More than 5,900 people have made their voices loud and clear that they do not want our precious greenbelt bulldozed over in the name of a flawed housing figure.

"We want the 85 per cent increase in our housing target reversed.

"We want the reduction in Birmingham's target reversed and we want the Government to build on brownfield first and, where houses are built, provide communities with the infrastructure they need before any houses are built.

"It's just common-sense – but it's something this Government is clearly lacking."



windsor
CARPETS
1985 - 2025

40 YEARS
of excellence!



For all your
FLOORING
NEEDS



Unit 4, Brockhill Works, Windsor Road, Redditch, B97 6DJ
 Tel: 01527 61906 Email: info@windsorcarpets.com
 Web: www.windsorcarpets.com

Police appeal after M42 crash

DRIVERS had lucky escapes after several cars crashed on the M42 on Monday.

The incident happened around 7.40am between Junctions 1 (Lickey End) and 2 (Hopwood Park Services).

One vehicle - a silver car - left the scene before West Mercia Police arrived and officers are now trying to track them down.

Witnesses or anyone with information or dash cam footage should email PC Holly Newton at holly.newton@westmercia.police.uk call her on 07890 520481 or if they can help.

Thieves steal Audi

AN AUDI A3 was stolen from Redditch and police are investigating.

The car was taken without keys last Friday night. Witnesses or anyone with information should call police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Shoplifter jailed

A BROMSGROVE shoplifter who was arrested by the Safer Neighbourhood Team on Wednesday has been jailed for 12 weeks.

Anthony Richardson, 41, of no fixed abode, was convicted of six counts of theft from a shop, common assault, criminal damage and breaching his Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

He was sentenced when he appeared at Kidderminster Magistrates' Court last Friday.

Gymnasts go head over heels at year to remember

GYMNASTS from across Bromsgrove and Redditch enjoyed a stellar year competing in a range of prestigious events throughout 2025.

Members from Bromsgrove Gymnastics Club started the year with a performance in the British GymFusion display in Manchester.

GymFusion is the British Gymnastics Festival Programme, designed to celebrate the spirit of gymnastics for all, in a non-competitive, inclusive environment.

The display took place at the Lowry theatre, with the Bromsgrove club performing to a 'storytelling' theme provided by British Gymnastics.

And the gymnasts performed elements from their favourite stories including Little Red Riding Hood, Matilda, Run Boy Run, Titanic and Mamma Mia.

The team included gymnasts

by Aaron Sutcliffe
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

aged from eight to 18-years-old while the athletes also met Team GB Olympic gymnast Abi Martin.

The club then took part in a four-piece competition on floor, beam, bars and vault.

Bromsgrove's gymnasts won team and individual medals across all age groups.

And the club ended the year on a high, competing at the North Solihull and Birmingham Challenge Cup.

Bromsgrove's under-seven team won gold with youngsters also claiming individual gold and silver in the same category.

The club's under-13 and under-15 teams both won gold while Bromsgrove gymnasts secured individual gold in both categories.



Bromsgrove Gymnastics Club competed at GymFusion. s

And the club's under-nines team won silver while the under-11 team took bronze.

Bromsgrove also won gold in both the individual women's intermediate and advanced section events.

Head coach, Andrea Paice, said: "All the gymnasts have worked extremely hard this year at their gymnastics skills - we are so proud of all the gymnasts."

"We thank all of the gymnastic coaches for helping the children along in their gymnastics journey."

Bromsgrove Gymnastics Club train at Meadows/Parkside Schools on Mondays and Saturdays.

The recreational club is open to children from three-years old and above.

For more information, visit bromsgrovetgymnasticsclub.co.uk or call or text head coach Andrea on 07540 671196.



Members of Bromsgrove Gymnastics Club stand with their medals. s

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



Organiser Tony Maslen and Father Christmas with Viva La Diva. Picture by Tristan Harris. © Bullivant Media Group Ltd. s



Viva La Diva (right) perform as the chosen youngsters from Jellybabies Nursery, Anthea and Rupert get ready to switch on the Christmas lights. s



Millie Carrie, four, with Father Christmas.



The band 'Road to Nowhere' were among those performing some Christmas classics. s

Let there be lights...

AROUND 200 people turned out for Rubery's annual Christmas lights switch-on.

Prior to the illumination, there was an afternoon of festive fun and an appearance from Father Christmas.

Entertainment included live music from the Snow Sisters and Viva La Diva, alongside carol singers and choirs.

Visitors enjoyed food, beverages, and Christmas stalls, perfect for picking up seasonal treats and gifts.

Organiser Tony Maslen thanked everyone who attended, performed and worked behind the

scenes to make sure everything went well.

Bromsgrove District Council Chairman, Coun Sam Evans, attended the event, along with Coun Esther Gray.

Coun Evans gave a speech before the big countdown and switch-on.

Afterwards, he told the Standard: "A huge thank-you to everyone who took part in Rubery's Christmas Lights switch-on and the festive fun on New Road.

"Despite some rain earlier in the day it was good that it held off in time for the switch-on."

Performers are being urged to

enter this year's Rubery's Got Talent. The contest takes place at midday next Saturday, December 14, at Rubery Memorial Club, New Road.

Singers, dancers, musicians and comedians are all welcome to perform sets or routines of up to 10 minutes.

There will be three age categories - under 12s, 12 to 17 and 18s and over.

Trophies and cash prizes will be up for grabs for the winners.

Email organiser Tony Maslen at a.maslen@blueyonder.co.uk or call him on 0121 457 9308 for more information.



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





Happy to help!



Find us on **facebook**

Call 7 days a week 8am-9pm

01527-894777

www.direct-floors.co.uk

Study reveals worst councils for rejected recycling rates



Residents are putting in items for recycling which are being rejected into Redditch and Bromsgrove bins Picture by Ashleigh Osborne. © Bullivant Media Group Ltd.

THE WORST councils in the West Midlands for the amount of recycling being rejected have been revealed.

by James Reid

Figures from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) place many of the county's local authorities in the list with some of the highest recycling rejection rates across the region.

Redditch Borough Council stands at third in the table with 18.48 per cent of its recycling being rejected.

Out of 7,420 tonnes of waste sent to be recycled, 1,371 tonnes were rejected.

Worcester City Council is not far behind in fourth with a rejection rate of 16.05 per cent, and Wyre Forest District Council is in fifth with 14.74 per cent.

The Malvern Hills, Bromsgrove and Wychavon District Councils come in at seventh, eighth and ninth respectively with rejection rates standing at 13.67 per cent, 12.16 per cent and 12.01 per cent.

Topping the table in the region is

Coventry City Council where recycling rejection rates stand at 27.99 per cent. In the city, 10,236 out of 36,567 tonnes are turned away from Energy-from-Waste plants, potentially reaching landfill instead.

Regionally, the West Midlands holds the fourth highest rate.

Last year, the Government proposed a change in policy to simplify recycling across England and bring in dedicated containers for residual (non-recyclable) waste, food waste (mixed with garden waste if appropriate), paper and card, and all other dry recyclable materials (plastic, metal and glass).

This new legislation is set to come into effect in 2026.

Mark Hall, waste management expert at Birmingham-based BusinessWaste.co.uk which carried out the research, said: "There is a certain onus on households to ensure they are recycling correctly to reduce contamination.

"However, we'd encourage local councils to dedicate resources to educating the public on how best they can avoid recycling rejection with guidance on what can and can't be recycled, alongside tips for cleaning materials.

"Local councils could also consider imposing fines more frequently to those who regularly disregard recycling rules as a deterrent."

Recycling is rejected when incorrect items are placed in containers that are unable to be recycled.

A Redditch Borough Council spokesperson said: "We recognise the importance of reducing recycling rejection rates and are actively working to support residents in recycling correctly.

"Every household receives annual

guidance on what can and cannot be placed in recycling bins as well as a reminder of their responsibilities regarding use of our services.

"We're also planning to expand our education and engagement efforts next year, supported by funding from Extended Producer Responsibility payments."

A spokesperson for Bromsgrove District Council said: "We are committed to improving recycling outcomes and reducing contamination both from households and litter bins.

"In Bromsgrove town centre, we've recently identified issues such as fast-food grease and broken glass affecting recycling quality from recycling litter bins.

"In response, we've commis-

sioned new bins with improved recycling options to help prevent cross-contamination.

"Alongside this, we've issued detailed guidance to all households regarding their domestic recycling collections and are increasing messaging around bin use, especially during our current bin replacement programme.

"We're also preparing to launch more proactive education campaigns next year, funded by Extended Producer Responsibility payments."

Residents can visit bromsgrove.gov.uk/residents/my-place/bins-and-recycling/ or redditchbc.gov.uk/residents/my-place/bins-and-recycling/ and click on 'What can I put in my bins?' to find out more.



Redditch Cat Rescue

Invites you to our

Christmas Fayre

At Beoley Village Hall
Near Redditch, B98 9AN

Sunday 7th December 2025
12.00 – 3.00pm

Entrance: a donation of cat food!
Tombola, Raffle, Homemade Cakes,
Bottle Stall, Gifts,
Tea and coffee shop,
Lots of Christmas Bargains!

Come and support your local rescue centre

www.redditchcatrescue.co.uk
Charity Number 1163874



Very Reasonably Priced Christmas Gifts Available !!






Every day in December, a single bus journey will cost no more than £1 on any route across Worcestershire.

Whether you're dashing into town for last minute gifts, visiting loved ones, or travelling to work, let the bus take you there for less this festive season.



www.worcestershire.gov.uk

 **worcestershire**
county council

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE

BLACK FRIDAY LAST FEW DAYS

Who Are We?

OVER 35 YEARS OF LOCAL SERVICE - Caring for Droitwich homes with comfort, quality, and a personal touch

COMMITTED TO "COMFORT FOR EVERY CUSTOMER" - Supportive, stylish, and affordable mobility furniture from trusted British brands.

FAMILY-RUN, FRIENDLY ADVICE - Guiding you to the perfect Rise & Recline Chair or Adjustable Bed for your home.

MORE THAN FURNITURE - helping make life at home easier, more comfortable, and more enjoyable for you and your loved ones.



FREE ARMCAPS WITH EVERY FABRIC ORDER



Riser Recliner Chairs

Enjoy comfort, support, and style with our wide range of quality recliner chairs and matching sofas.

- Choose from a huge selection of fabrics, leathers, and colours
- Find sizes to suit your home and personal comfort
- Take advantage of excellent Pre- and After-Sales Service
- Enjoy discounted prices & VAT exemption available

Adjustable Beds

Experience effortless comfort and independence with our range of adjustable beds - designed for quality sleep and everyday ease.

- Simple, one-touch control
- Available in Single, Double, and Dual models
- Fantastic fabric and headboard options
- Discounted prices & VAT exemption available



Why Choose Us?

- FRIENDLY, PERSONAL SERVICE** - offering honest advice and personal attention you can trust.
- FAST, HASSLE-FREE DELIVERY** - Delivery often within 24 hours, with free setup and installation.
- QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR COMFORT & STYLE** - Furniture, beds, and mobility items chosen for quality and lasting comfort.
- PROUD BRITISH BRANDS** - Supplying trusted names like Celebrity, Sherborne, Highgrove, and Adjust-A-Bed.
- TRUSTED & RELIABLE** - Built on honesty, value, and a reputation you can rely on.
- WE COME TO YOU** - Home visits available by appointment - we bring our service to your door.

"Another Great Experience - Fantastic Service starting in the Showroom, right through to delivery and installation. Five Star Service! Fantastic Products!"
(L.H. Sept 2025)



"Fabulous Products. Lovely and Helpful Staff and Good prices - what more could you ask for!"
(CB August 2025)



"First Class Service again. Very reasonable prices for good quality furniture. Quick delivery. Very Helpful and Friendly Staff. Highly Recommend them!"
(MQ July 2025)



Free parking | Free local Delivery, Installation & Disposal Available | Family-run for over 35 years

Open 7 days! Monday to Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm | Sundays 10:30am – 4:30pm



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

SUPERVALUE FURNITURE & BED CENTRE BLACK FRIDAY LAST FEW DAYS

LARGE RANGE OF SUITES, SOFAS & CHAIRS UP TO 50% OFF TO CLEAR



IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!



MODELS IN STORE

Sleepeeze Super King for the price of a King
King for the price of a Double
5% discount on a Double
Applies to mattress only purchases, mattress and divan purchases and mattress, divan and headboard purchases



LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE

HYPNOS **AUTUMN SALE**
KING SIZE MATTRESS FOR THE PRICE OF A DOUBLE



FREE ARM-CAPS WITH EVERY FABRIC ORDER

Celebrity

DUAL MOTOR / CLOUD ZERO RISER RECLINERS AVAILABLE IN 3 SIZES



Enchanted Home Beds

LUXURIOUS HANDCRAFTED BESPOKE BEDS & MATTRESSES



LARGE RANGE OF MODELS IN STORE

LAZBOY Live life comfortably



RANGES OF OAK BEDROOM FURNITURE IN STORE



NEW CORNER GROUPS IN STOCK

Buoyant UPHOLSTERY



SALE £4495 NOW £995

UK MADE CORNER GROUP, MANAGERS SPECIAL WAS £1495 NOW £995 !! LIMITED STOCK



HIGHGROVE

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



Silentnight



NEW RANGE NOW IN STORE

Harrison Spinks The True Bedmasters



MORE LAZBOY MODELS IN STORE

LAZBOY Live life comfortably



FROM £495



FROM £399

RISER RECLINERS LARGE RANGE IN STORE



NEW GPLAN MODELS INSTORE



BEDROOM RANGE AVAILABLE IN GREY MIST OR WHITE WITH SOLID OAK LIGHT TOPS



OAK LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM RANGE



NEW MANGO LIVING ROOM RANGE IN STORE



LUXURY SOFA BEDS IN STORE



CUSTOM SIZES AVAILABLE TO ORDER



UK MADE FULLY ASSEMBLED BEDROOM RANGES



BESPOKE UK MADE SUITES, SOFAS & CHAIRS INSTORE



EX SHOWROOM DISPLAY BED MODELS, SAVE UP TO 50% OFF TO CLEAR



facebook



Free parking | Free local Delivery, Installation & Disposal Available | Family-run for over 35 years

Open 7 days! Monday to Saturday 9:00am – 5:30pm | Sundays 10:30am – 4:30pm



Google

01905 796507 | info@svfonline.co.uk

21-29 HIGH STREET, DROITWICH SPA WR9 8EJ

COP30 shows we have to make things work to save humanity

COP30 (United Nations Conference of the Parties) ended recently last weekend in Belem, Brazil - a city on the edge of the Amazon rainforest and on the frontline of the fight against Global Nature degeneration. One bright spot of Cop30 was that

Colombia and the Netherlands, backed by 22 nations, will independently advance a road map to fossil fuel phaseout, beginning with a separate conference in April 2026. We have to make that work for the sake of humanity.



Eco Action



Column written by Extinction Rebellion Bromsgrove

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
- Smart TV Setup & Installation

Local, Independent Business

Fully Mobile - I come to you!

Friendly, No-Nonsense Support

Call Carl on: 01527 509100

or 07887 877911

info@rtechcentre.co.uk

www.rtechcentre.co.uk

So let's all write to Ed Miliband, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, demanding that the UK is included and plays a leadership role.

Write an email to our MP, Bradley Thomas - or if you do not live in Bromsgrove, your MP - and cc Ed Miliband in.

Also ask Bradley to represent your views.

Since the Paris COP ten years earlier, the annual process has depended upon voluntary NDCs (National Determined Contributions - statements of intention), and consensus agreement.

So this was always going to be a difficult meeting.

The US (world's historically largest climate polluter) refused to send a delegation (although California attended) and many heads of state were notable by their absence including Sir Keir Starmer, save for a photo op.

Other petro-states were emboldened by this, and by the huge number of fossil fuel lobbyists present.

It started very positively with the creation of a Forest Fund and Brazil's president saying it was all about implementation and that the world needed 'road maps that would enable humankind, in a fair and planned manner, to overcome its dependence on fossil fuels'.

At one time this was supported by 89 countries (out of the 190 present), but any words about fossil fuels did not appear in the final communique.

It seems clear that the petro-state 'robbers', led by Russia and Saudi Arabia, fought against fossil fuel phase-out and won.

They are 'robbers' of consensus and 'robbers' of health for our planet.

At the end, there were two large opposing groups and the final agreed text is, a form of climate denial.

Good Things from COP30 - thousands of people, many of them young and from indigenous groups, descended on Belem and gave continuous demonstrations - it was colourful, loud and appropriate.

Yet very few gained access and a hearing.

In the hall, some of the most compelling communicators were not national delegations, but those people who spoke from lived experience.

UK position - As you would expect, Miliband's Guardian article put a very rosy spin on Britain's role at COP30.

But Parliament's Climate Change Committee says our efforts remain far short of what's required.

We need our politicians to have courage.

In the UK, the priority now must be to deliver the changes needed for climate and nature, support a just transition, contribute to the new Forest Fund, advance climate justice and restore ecosystems through the science-led CAN Bill.

Follow @xrbromsgrove on Instagram or email: bromsgrove@extinction-rebellion.uk for more on Bromsgrove Extinction Rebellion (XR).

Column supplied by Bromsgrove Extinction Rebellion

Countdown to Christmas

Get into the spirit by checking out **EVERYTHING CHRISTMASSY!!** on our Festive Pages!

Log on to:
redditchstandard.co.uk
bromsgrovestandard.co.uk
droitwichstandard.co.uk
 then click **Countdown to Christmas** and all will be revealed

REDDITCH & ALCESTER Standard BROMSGROVE Standard DROITWICH Standard



ROWBERRYS

The Growing Nursery, Farm Shop, Butchery, Deli and Restaurant

Christmas @ Rowberrys

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Mon-Wed: 8.30am-5.00pm

Thurs-Sat: 8.30am-5.30pm

Sunday: 8.30am-4.30pm

Lower Chaddesley Corbett,
Kidderminster DY10 4QN

Tel: **01562 777 003**

Home-Grown Poinsettia's
£5.99 each or 2 for £10



Home-Grown Cyclamen
XL £4.99 each,
mini £2.49 each or 5 for £10



Premium low needle drop
Nordman Christmas
Trees.



Quality hand made Holly Wreaths.



Over 30 years experience
Prices start at £8.99

HOME GROWN
QUALITY
POTATOES
PRICES FROM
£7.99 FOR 25KG



Rowberrys Farm Butchery,
Open 7 days a week
Stocking English Lamb,
Beef & Pork. Fresh fish
available everyday.
Home-made sausages
galore.
Turkey orders still being
taken.



Have you visited our new
Chocolate Counter?

Over 45 hand finished Belgian
chocolates including vegan,
vegetarian and reduced sugar.



Only Cannoli available
@ Rowberry's



Sweet smooth
fillings encased
in a toasted
waffle 6 flavours
available

We have a wide choice of
Giftware available from
mugs to glasses, placemats,
coasters, cards and trinkets.



Don't forget to browse our
new Pet Foods section

A unique place steeped in history - welcome to my new workplace

BROMSGROVE MP Bradley Thomas was elected at last July's general election.

Since then, with his party in opposition after having held Government for 14 years, the former Wychavon District Council leader has been settling into his role as a Conservative backbencher.

Standard editor **Tristan Harris** journeyed down to Westminster for this special two-part 'Day in the life of an MP' feature.

WHEN you walk through the airport style security to gain access to the Palace of Westminster, you are instantly wowed by the hundreds of years of history played out in the buildings.

Westminster Hall - your first port of call - dates back to between 1097 and 1099 and, as well as the ornate stained glass windows and impressively constructed beams holding up the roof, there are plaques adorning the floor marking historic events in the room's history. These range from foreign leaders addressing Parliament, including Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama, to the lying in state of Queen Elizabeth II, The Queen Mother and George VI among others. This was also where Charles I was convicted of treason and sentenced to death in 1649.

After journeying through more historical rooms, you enter the Central

Lobby - with the House of Commons to the left and Lords to the right.

The Lobby is circled by statues of Prime Ministers, including Margaret Thatcher and Winston Churchill, along with the busts of others.

Strolling into the Commons, is a weird experience for an outsider - having seen it on TV on a daily basis, you suddenly find yourself in there. You find yourself recalling historical political moments and thinking about the debates undertaken and all the decisions made - of varying success on the nation's fortunes.

Before Parliament sits, there is the Speaker's Procession - The Speaker and his staff are led by the Serjeant at Arms carrying the mace, and the doorkeeper. It was an incredible experience to watch this spectacle before the mace was placed down in the Commons, always facing the party in power.

The Lords is a completely different vibe as you are hit by the pure extravagance - the gold back wall, regal red benches and the gold throne from which The King carries out the official state opening of Parliament.

Mr Thomas said: "It is a unique and, when you first arrive, surreal place of work."

As well as the historic buildings, you also have heavily armed police officers wandering around with machine guns.

"It's a fine line - democracy needs to be as publicly accessible as possible but there also needs to be security



Bromsgrove MP Bradley Thomas in Westminster Hall.

to protect it."

The Royal Palace of Westminster is also pretty much self-contained with bars, restaurants, cafes, shops and even its own Post Office.

Each of the 650 MPs all have their own office within half-a-mile of Westminster.

Mr Thomas added: "My office is one of the furthest out so once I'm here, I tend to stay here for the day."

"I can work in the library or in one of the cafes which prevents me having to journey back and forth in between debates I need to attend or vote on."

When votes are taken, the division bell rings, giving all MPs eight minutes to get to the House of Commons to vote on whatever bill is being debated.

It means it needs to be heard right across Westminster and, more importantly, MPs need sufficient time to get back and go through the 'aye' or 'no' lobby.

Because of that, the system has bells in all Government buildings as well as some surrounding properties.

But it is not just the 'Punch and Judy' political arena where most of an MP's work takes place.

In Mr Thomas' words: 'That is just the tip of the iceberg'.

"Most of an MP's work goes unseen, behind the scenes - working for my constituents."

■ Next week, we will delve into what that - the bulk of a Member of Parliament's workload - entails.

REDDISTORES

safe | secure | selfstorage



SELF STORAGE SOLUTIONS FOR HOME & BUSINESS

For further Information Call

01527 62308

Weights Farm Business Park,
Weights Lane, Redditch B97 6RG

www.reddistores.co.uk

Reddistores Self Storage Redditch

We have a wide range of units in our heated facility ranging from 25sq ft -380sq ft, with the majority on the ground floor.

The facility is accessed via key code entry with 24 hour CCTV, plus all indoor units have their own alarm linked to ADT. The facility and grounds are well maintained and lit, and offer a safe environment for customers 7 days a week.

We also offer a man and van service free of charge for two hours, to help bring your items into storage. Our prices are competitive but we will price match any other facility quote within 5 miles should you find it cheaper, plus we offer discounts for long term customers.

UNITS AVAILABLE WITH NO CONTACT





THE FOX INN

CHADDESLEY CORBETT

Bookings now being taken for *Christmas*

CHRISTMAS FAYRE MENU *(excludes Sundays)*

Adults: £20 | Children: £15

Single course festive carvery -

Adults: £15 | Children: £12

CHRISTMAS DAY MENU

FULLY BOOKED

Adults: £80 | Children: £50

BOXING DAY MENU

LAST FEW SPACES

3 courses

Adults: £25 | Children: £20

NEW YEARS DAY MENU

3 courses

Adults: £20 | Children: £15



The EDDIEbus needs YOU!

Volunteer drivers required



The EDDIEbus is a Bromsgrove based Charity which was established in 1985 and recently celebrated this year 40 years of service.

We are urgently looking for additional volunteer drivers to drive the EDDIEbus.

The EDDIEbus takes groups of elderly people in the Bromsgrove District for days out. The bus can be driven with a normal car driving licence.

For details and more info contact

-  GEOFF on 07805 400180 or
-  ROBERT at theeddiebus@gmail.com
-  Website theeddiebus.org.uk

Everyday Drives for Disabled Independent and Elderly.



Hospice has it all wrapped up

THE PRIMROSE Hospice's pop-up gift-wrapping station is returning to the Kingfisher Shopping Centre - just in time for people to take one more thing off their festive to-do list.

The stall will be in the centre's New Walk from December 18 to 23 and people will be able to take their presents along to have them beautifully wrapped in exchange for a small donation to the hospice and family support centre. There is no need to take along paper or book ahead - everything

will be covered (literally). This year the Primrose is offering a drop 'n' go service where people drop off their presents to the charity's 'elves', the wrapping will be taken care of and then they can be picked up later that same day.

Gabrielle Grubb, the Primrose Hospice's fundraising manager, said: "Our Christmas wrapping stall is all about spreading festive cheer within our community as well as raising vital funds for Primrose Hospice."

"When we wrap your gifts, you're helping provide compassionate care and support to our patients and families

when they need it most.

"Pop along, meet our amazing volunteers and let us help make your Christmas shopping that little bit easier."

Every donation helps Primrose continue providing free, vital care and support to patients and families.

The generosity will help the charity meet the £1.95million it takes every year to keep its services running.

The Primrose Hospice would like to thank all of its volunteers and the Kingfisher Shopping Centre.

Call the fundraising team on 01527 889796 or visit primrosehospice.org for more information.



Lunchtime Specials and Under 60s Menu £10.25

Tuesday to Saturday
12 noon to 5pm

Golden Oldies Only £9.75

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

Mid Week Roast on a Thursday £12.25

3 course Sunday Lunch £19.25 - 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

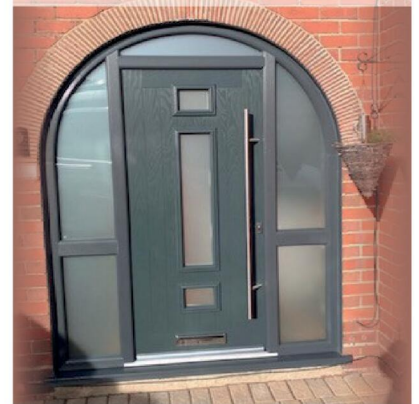


BIRMINGHAM GLASS SERVICES LTD



**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

JC GLAZING & REPAIRS LTD

A FRIENDLY, HONEST & RELIABLE SERVICE...

Have your double glazed units misted up?
Don't despair help is here!
WE CAN REPLACE THEM
 Call us for a free quote

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

ANYTHING TO DO WITH GLASS & WINDOWS

A-RATED WINDOWS SUPPLIED & FITTED

- 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

Energy Efficiency

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

Patio Doors French Doors
 Front Doors Back Doors
 Composite Doors

Card payments accepted **VISA** **MasterCard**

Call Jon on **01527 857 786**
 or **07931 198 152**



The Santa Sleigh is kicking off in Redditch. s

He's coming your way

REDDITCH Round Table members have been busy brushing down the reindeers and readying the famous red suit for Father Christmas to make his way across the borough this December.

The world's largest men's only voluntary club is inviting families across the town to see Santa.

Santa will start his tour of the borough today (Friday, December 5), visiting Astwood Bank and tomorrow (Saturday), he will be in Greenlands and Lodge Park.

Next up, the sleigh will travel to Callow Hill Community Centre, Abbeydale, Riverside and Abbey Stadium Estates on Sunday, December 7, and to Winyates West and Ipsley December 8.

On December 9, Father Christmas heads to Winyates Green, on December 10 he will be in Woodrow and on December 11 at Morrisons and Matchborough East.

Matchborough West will get its first Santa visit on December 12 and he will then to Crabbs Oaks on December 13. He will be in South Oakenshaw on December 14.

Father Christmas' next destination on December 15 will be Winyates East, on December 16 he will journey to Church Hill South and Wharrad Close and visit Headless

Cross on December 17.

Brockhill North will be visited next on December 18, with Batchley and Brockhill South on December 19.

Then, with five days to go until the big day, Father Christmas will be in Webheath on December 20 for his final visit.

Table chairman Paul Marsh said: "We're buzzing for this year's sleigh run - last Christmas you incredible lot helped us raise thousands for local good causes and, whilst it's never been about the money raised, we're absolutely aiming to smash that total again."

"The support we get from the community is unreal and we can't wait to see everyone out on the routes."

"This is our 45th year running the Redditch Santa Sleigh - a proper local tradition now - and it just gets bigger, brighter and jollier every single year."

"Our previous Santa sleighs have helped us raise much-needed funds for local charities and we are keen to continue to show our support and this year do even more."

"We can't wait to see all the community."

Visit redditchsanta.co.uk to track the route.

Elgar Coaches Tours
GET AWAY THE ELGAR WAY

DAY TRIPS

Saturday 13th December Longleat Festival of Light - Explore iconic sights as you embark on a grand day out this Christmas as The Festival of Light presents British Icons with Wallace and Gromit and friends!£79 Adult £69 Child
 Saturday 20th December National Memorial illuminated Arboretum. Memorials illuminated with sound telling their stories.£45

2026

Sunday 10th January Cotswold Designer Outlet for January Sales£25
 Sunday 25th January Strictly Come Dancing Live at Utilita Arena, Birmingham matinee performance£99
 Sunday 15th February Birmingham International Tattoo Matinee performance£65
 Saturday 18th April Clarks Village & Wells£28
 Saturday 9th May Harry Potter Studio Tour£95 Adult £90 Child
 Sunday 17th May RHS Garden Bridgewater with Cream Tea£58
 Sunday 2nd August Liverpool - The Beatles Story£46
 Monday 10th August Highclere Castle£58
 Saturday 19th September Andre Rieu£135
 Sunday 18th October Westlife 25 The Anniversary World Tour bp pulse LIVE Birmingham£139
 Thursday 10th December Waterloo A Tribute to Abba Utilita Arena Birmingham£69

Plus many more including Seasides, Markets and Cities. We also do gift vouchers. We regularly update our Day trips brochure throughout the year.

NEW EARLY 2026

20th February Winter Weekender in Exmouth Staying at the lovely seafront Cavendish Hotel, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes a day excursion to Torquay and time to explore Exmouth at your leisure 4 Days from £235
 6th March PRICE HELD ! Tribute Weekend at The Riviera Hotel Torquay Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Entertainment Acts are Lionel Richie, Gary Barlow and their resident tribute act 4 Days from £205
 13th March Springtime in Bognor Regis for Mothers Day Staying at the Royal Norfolk Hotel, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes excursion to Worthing 4 Days from £245
 27th March Spring Weekender in Tenby Staying at Cliffe Norton Hotel, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes excursion to Laugharne & Saundersfoot 4 Days from £289
 3rd April Easter at the Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes excursion to the Mumbles and Swansea 4 Days from £255
 23rd April Coastal Escape to Cornwall Staying at The Falmouth Hotel, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes a Peninsula Tour and a half day excursion to Truro 5 Days from £599
 8th May May on the English Riviera Staying at the Belgrave Sands, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Also includes an excursion to Plymouth 4 Days from £395
 24th May Wester Ross Explorer part of Scotland's 500 route 7 days from £999
 5th June Northumbria Coast with Puffin Cruise & Seabirds Staying at the Copthorne Hotel, Newcastle, Dinner Bed & Breakfast. Includes Boat Cruise 4 Days from £355
 12th June Potters - Hopton on Sea Fully Inclusive. Also includes day excursion to Cromer and Sheringham 4 Days from £545

For our 2026 Brochure please phone and we will post a copy to you or check out our website.

01905 333349

We also do private hire phone us for your bespoke price.

Safe travels

ELGAR COACH HOLIDAYS

SPECIALISTS IN ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING

Longbridge Cladding & Roofing Ltd
 A local team you can trust

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

Group's reason for celebration

A SUPPORT group in Redditch has been awarded accreditation for the Matrix Standard, the nationally recognised quality framework for organisations delivering advice and guidance services.

Batchley Support Group (BSG) aims to empower local people by encouraging residents to take part in community activities. It also promotes the area's regeneration and access to services in a bid to reduce health inequalities. And it works to bring about more social inclusion and life-long learning, along with campaigning on local issues.

The group said the achievement reflected its ongoing commitment to providing high-quality, impartial and effective support to individuals and the local community.

The Matrix Standard is managed by the Department for Education and is a benchmark of excellence in the delivery of information, advice and guidance.

The decision to award the Matrix Standard follows a visit by the assessor who scrutinised the group's policies and procedures, interviewed the group's staff and service users and met with partners.

Mark Barron, BSG community manager and director, said: "This latest award is invaluable to us as a major support group in Redditch which gives our clients and funding bodies assurance that we are providing the highest level of support that is needed."



Phil Berry, chair of the group's trustees said: "I would like to place on record our thanks to the manager, staff and volunteers who have all worked hard to achieve this major accreditation."

"Without them and their dedication we would not be able to deliver the services and support that we can offer to our community."

Batchley Support Group, established for over 30 years, provides a community food pantry, accredited education and training support, housing and benefits advice and support from its premises in Prospect Hill, Redditch.

Mark Barron displays a copy of the accreditation certificate with some of the staff and volunteers. s



Avon ROOFING

PROFESSIONAL RELIABLE TRUSTED

avonroofing6@gmail.com • www.avon-roofing.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL • RELIABLE • TRUSTED

- ◆ New roofs
- ◆ Re-roofs
- ◆ Roof repairs
- ◆ Tiles/slates replaced
- ◆ UPVC ROOFLINE PRODUCTS
- ◆ Fascias
- ◆ Cladding
- ◆ Soffits
- ◆ Guttering
- ◆ Down pipes

15% OFF

when mentioning this advert

- ◆ Flat roof solutions
- ◆ EPDM rubber roofs
- ◆ Chimneys rebuilt
- ◆ Re-pointing
- ◆ Re-bedding DRY VERGES
- ◆ DRY RIDGES
- ◆ EAVES PROTECTION SYSTEMS (EPS)

Commercial roof projects undertaken

Free Quotations - All Work Guaranteed

Call Jake on 07389 844 856 or 01789 507 131 for a free quotation

Find us on Google



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

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

CAROL SERVICE

The Parish Council would like to invite you to their Carol Service being held on

Saturday 13th December 2025 starting at **5.00pm**
at The Main Hall, Avoncroft Arts Society, Redditch Road, Bromsgrove.

The Service will be conducted by the Revd Alan Conant and will be followed by free hot drinks and refreshments provided by the Parish Council.





Bainbridge

Bespoke Opticians

**WE
HAVE
MOVED**

We are a family-run opticians with over 40 years of experience.

We are a small and friendly team dedicated to consistently providing the highest level of service.



Look out for the big orange glasses on Evesham Road!

After 35 amazing years in the Kingfisher Shopping Centre, we have finally found a place to call home! We are ready and waiting to welcome you at 679 Evesham Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 5LJ.

Want to see what we are all about?

We would love to meet you and show you why we are multi-award-winning opticians and eyewear stylists.

Reasons to visit us:

- 45 minute eye examinations as standard
- Advanced technology and equipment
- Relaxed and homely environment
- Refreshments including our famous 'specucchino'
- Complimentary styling with colour analysis
- Beautiful niche frames sourced world-wide
- A 60 day 'love your glasses' guarantee
- Eyecare plan with 10% off all eyewear
- Flexible interest-free payment plans
- 400 5 star google reviews across both practices
- FREE parking, a disabled space and a bike shelter



Book your eye examination or styling consultation

NOW!

Redditch: **01527 64691** Harborne: **0121 4278201**

info@bainbridgebespokeopticians.co.uk

www.bainbridgebespokeopticians.co.uk



CARING People CARING Places at Christmas

Embrace the spirit of kindness by caring for others this Christmas

Christmas is a season traditionally associated with joy, togetherness, and generosity, and while many of us look forward to festive celebrations with family and friends, it's crucial to remember that not everyone experiences this time positively.

For many individuals in our communities, Christmas can amplify feelings of loneliness, anxiety, and isolation. Therefore, caring for those around us during this season takes on a heightened importance, as it can transform lives and create a greater sense of belonging. Acts of kindness and support can have a profound impact on individuals who may be struggling.



Award-winning Day Care Centre for adults in Redditch & Bromsgrove specialising in dementia care

- Are you or your loved one living with dementia, sensory impairment or disability?
- Are you becoming socially isolated?
- Would you like to meet others in the same situation?

Come and join us for a whole range of fun activities including art and craft work, pool, beauty therapy, games, gardening, cooking, relaxation sessions and much more.

Meet others and make new friendships in our friendly and supportive award-winning centres. We are open five days a week, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Ask your social worker about funding for this service.

VIP Day Centre Redditch The Barn
The Craft Centre, Winyates Centre, Redditch, B98 0LA
☎ 01527 375014 ✉ redditch@vipdaycentre.co.uk

VIP Day Centre Bromsgrove Amphlett Hall
Crown Close, Bromsgrove, B61 8DW
☎ 01527 375015 ✉ bromsgrove@vipdaycentre.co.uk

Head Office ☎ 0330 174 0857 ✉ info@vipdaycentre.co.uk

🌐 www.vipdaycentre.co.uk 📱 VIP Day Centre 🐦 @VIPDayCentre



CARING People CARING Places at Christmas

Simple gestures, such as checking in on neighbours, volunteering at local shelters, or offering to share a meal, can make a significant difference.

These actions remind people that they are not alone and that there are others who care about their well-being. At a time when some may feel forgotten or overlooked, such kindness can

provide vital emotional support.

Furthermore, the holiday period can be particularly challenging for individuals facing financial hardships. Christmas often brings with it a pressure to spend on gifts and festivities, which can be overwhelming for those already struggling to make ends meet.

By showing compassion and understanding, we can offer practical help – be it through donations to food banks, sponsoring a family in need, or simply acknowledging their challenges. In doing so, we not only alleviate some of their burdens but also foster a culture of empathy within our communities.

Community initiatives during Christmas also promote connection and solidarity. Local events – such as Christmas markets, community dinners, or charity drives – can bring individuals together, breaking down social barriers and reminding us of our shared humanity.

These gatherings can be particularly heartwarming as they create opportunities for everyone to participate, regardless of their circumstances. They serve to reinforce the idea that we can all contribute to our community's spirit of generosity and care.



The Hawthorns care home is a specialist facility for elderly people with dementia in Evesham. The homely environment linked with therapeutic activities encourages confidence and assists in maintaining daily living skills.

The care of each individual is our highest priority and we believe that residents and their families should contribute towards the planning of their care and that care plans should be individually tailored to meet personal needs.

Considering Elderly Care in Evesham?



The Hawthorns Care Home

Church Street, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 1EP

For more information call us or visit:

01386 444 330

www.shaw.co.uk/hawthorns



Shaw healthcare
wellness • happiness • kindness



Proud to be employee-owned and a Real Living Wage employer

CARING People CARING Places at Christmas

Moreover, caring for others is not just a one-off act; it helps to build resilient communities. When we demonstrate compassion during the festive season, we lay the groundwork for ongoing support throughout the year.

Such gestures can inspire others to follow suit, creating a ripple effect of kindness that extends far beyond Christmas. This culture of care can strengthen community bonds, fostering networks of support that individuals can rely on throughout their lives.

The importance of inter-generational relationships cannot be understated during the festive period. Sharing stories and experiences between young and old can provide both groups with valuable insights and a sense of belonging.

Activities that involve different generations, such as carolling or crafting decorations, can cultivate mutual respect and understanding. This dynamic can be particularly enriching for those who may feel disconnected from their peers during Christmas.



Arden Foot Health (mobile)

**Problem feet?
Need help trimming nails?
Feet need a treat?
...don't be defeeted!**

Caring, professional service in the comfort of your own home.

Jenny Bates
BSc, DipCFHP, MPS Prac.

Fully qualified Foot Health Practitioner, DBS certificate, insured.



- ✓ Corns
- ✓ Callus
- ✓ Cracked skin
- ✓ Fungal nail infections
- ✓ Athlete's Foot
- ✓ Dry sensitive skin
- ✓ Verrucae
- ✓ Diabetic feet
- ✓ Ingrown Toenails
- ✓ Fingernails
- ✓ Foot Massage
- ✓ Paddings, dressings
- ✓ Orthotics

Call/text/WhatsApp:

07999426763

Email: ardenfoothealth@outlook.com

www.ardenfoothealth.co.uk

Follow me 'Arden Foot Health'

Albion Lodge

Retirement Home

ROOMS AVAILABLE

We are a family run establishment and the care we provide is very much based on the ethos that we look after people as if they are part of our own family.

Offering individualised care, we aim to maintain independence whilst providing support.

Please feel free to contact us for an informal chat about what we can offer

What we offer

- 24-hour care
- Period property
- Village setting
- Two acres of lawns
- Special baths
- Disabled access vehicle
- Two lifts
- Respite rooms pre-bookable



Albion Lodge Retirement Home, Hanley Swan, Worestershire, WR8 0DN Tel: 01684 310626
Email: info@albionlodge.co.uk www.albionlodge.co.uk



Max will be giving the talk in a suit of armour. s

Richard III talk is fit for a king

THE LATEST talk in Redditch History Society's annual programme takes place this Monday, December 8, and focuses on the life of King Richard III.

The presentation is being given by speaker will be Max Keen, a retired teacher and avid historian who has gained many followers for his stimulating appearances and his animated talks on the expanding range of historical figures he is passionate about.

Max not only gives lectures on his subjects, he inhabits the characters and dresses in historically accurate full costume as appropriate including, in this instance, a suit of armour.

The presentation will also include multi-media projection.

This lively exposition of the many fascinating and controversial facets of the life of Richard III, the last Plantagenet and

the king from the 15th century whose body was found in a car park.

The talk promises to be another riveting afternoon of history and a spectacular final talk for 2025. Mince pies will be available after the meeting.

The society meets from 2pm to 4pm on the second Monday of every month.

Non-members are always welcome for a £4 admission fee and refreshments are available after the talk for just 50p per person.

There will be no meeting in January, but the 2026 season starts on February 9 with a talk on The Worcestershire Regiment by Lt Col (Retired) Mark Jackson.

Further details of the 2026 season can be found at: redditchhistorysociety.org.uk or on the leaflet, available at Redditch Library and The Palace Theatre.

History magazine hits the shelves

THE BROMSGROVE Society, the town's local history group, is celebrating its 40th anniversary of its annual magazine. The Bromsgrove Rousler - the popular local history publication - has been published every year since 1986.

The special 40th edition, which is now available, is a bumper issue packed full of stories on themes old and new.

Rousler Editor Mike Sharpe said when the magazine was launched, it was dedicated to the people and places that had shaped the town's history.

"It serves the same purpose today and I am delighted to be the editor for this special 40th anniversary issue."

Big Bertha, the legendary banking engine that plied up and down the Lickey Incline, is one of the stories featured.

Railway enthusiast Alastair Moseley has written a retro-



spective on the famous engine in what will be the 70th anniversary year of her being withdrawn from service.

An eye catching painting of the locomotive by the railway artist Roy Wilson features on the cover.

Andrew Maund, an expert on AE Housman, reflects on how the poet's childhood in Bromsgrove influenced his life and work.

Three of the contributions focus on personal stories. Australian resident Fran Roberts researched her great-grandfather Thomas Swift who ran Bromsgrove's first commercial cinema.

Anstice Hughes recounts how a chance discovery in a newspaper led to new findings about her ancestor, John Skan.

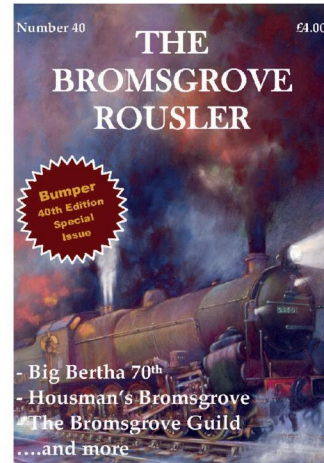
And in the latest of his interviews with Second World War veterans, Neil Beaumont tells the story of Albert Malin who served on the tumultuous Arctic convoys.

Also, well-known local historian Jenny Townshend looks at the Walford sisters, highly artistic and talented women who lived in Bromsgrove in the early 20th century.

The Rousler is available from a wide range of retail and other outlets across the district, priced £4.

It can also be ordered through the Bromsgrove Society's website: bsoc.co.uk and via bromsgrovesoc on social media.

Mike Sharpe with the latest edition of The Bromsgrove Rousler. Picture by Marcus Mingins 4825006MMR



This reappraisal is an important contribution to knowledge of the town's most famous son.

Prof Ben Bennett outlines new research being undertaken to identify and catalogue the Bromsgrove Guild's work overseas. The Guild was a notable chapter in the town's history.

Going back to the late 18th century, Alan Robertson describes the Bromsgrove Annuity Society, one of several early mutual organisations set up to fund healthcare and pensions in the days before the welfare state.



Live music performances are coming to The Potting Shed Cafe to raise funds to help the homeless in Birmingham. s

MUSICAL BENEFITS: Live music performances will take place at The Potting Shed Cafe and Restaurant at Singletons Nurseries in Bromsgrove to help the homeless in Birmingham.

The concerts have been organised by the Birmingham-based community interest group 'I'm Homeless, Get Me Out Of Here' and will take place from 12pm every Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the run up to Christmas.

The cash raised will fund practical support for people experiencing homelessness, turning gigs and open mic nights into a steady pipeline of donations for on the ground help.

The volunteer-led effort focuses on supplying essential items such as clothing, toiletries and basics for move on rooms through partnerships with local

projects. Ursula Colville will perform Christmas songs on the violin at The Potting Shed, inviting visitors to enjoy festive classics while backing the charity's work.

Audiences are encouraged to donate and share the message to help keep the immediate support flowing to those most in need this winter.

Formed as a community interest company, the group keeps donations close to the streets by collaborating with Birmingham services to furnish rooms and provide practical supplies that ease the transition from homelessness into stable accommodation.

Through regular music events and community collections, it mobilises local venues, performers and patrons to make a tangible difference across the city.

Coughton Court now in Historic Houses scheme



A NATIONAL Trust property near Alcester has joined Historic Houses membership scheme after the property goes back to being family run.

The Throckmorton family will resume the running of Coughton Court in 2026, after taking over from the National Trust.

The National Trust has managed the visitor operations at the historic property under a short-term arrangement with the family since 2005.

The conservation charity will continue to do so until early next year, following which the property will return to an independent family-run house.

Magnus and Imogen Birch Throckmorton are descendants of Sir Robert Throckmorton who built the house in 1409. The young couple and their two children already call Coughton Court home and manage the estate's gardens while the National

Trust looks after the property and visitor experience.

Coughton Court is currently closed for the winter season and will reopen its gates in March 2026 where visitors will be able to explore the house.

The Historic Houses membership scheme is priced at £68 per year for a single member with additional adults charged at £60 per year.

Magnus Birch Throckmorton said: "We're really looking forward to welcoming visitors back to Coughton Court in 2026 and are thrilled to be part of the Historic Houses scheme."

"It's a privilege to be continuing our family's stewardship of this remarkable place, and to share its incredible history and beauty with visitors. Coughton is a place for everyone, whatever their age, to explore and enjoy."

The Throckmorton family will resume the running of Coughton Court in 2026, after taking over from the National Trust. s

Seasonal 'spike' prompts stark warning over drink driving

MOTORISTS are being warned about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the run up to Christmas and new year.

Although the issues are a priority for West Mercia Police all-year-round, there is usually a spike during December and the festive season as people get together with friends, family and work colleagues.

According to shocking statistics released by the force, there have been 13 fatalities and 132 serious injuries on the roads where alcohol has been a contributory factor.

An additional 24 fatalities and 100 serious injuries have occurred involving drugs.

West Mercia Police said whilst the vast majority of drivers across the three counties did the right thing, officers arrested 186 people during December last year for being over the limit whilst behind the wheel. It launched this year's Operation Christmas Presence on Monday, December 1 - its annual clampdown on drink and drug-driving.

Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs has devastating consequences to all those involved - reducing harm on the roads is a key commitment for the force as part of the Police and Crime Commissioner's West Mercia Safer Communities Plan.

The police stressed there was 'no fool-proof way of calculating how



much motorists could drink and remain under the limit or knowing how much an individual person could drink and still drive safely.

"Any amount of alcohol can affect your ability to drive and there are numerous consequences of driving with alcohol in your system.

"If caught over the limit, motorists

face six months' imprisonment, an unlimited fine and a ban from driving for at least one year (three years if convicted twice in 10 years).

"Beyond these penalties, those choosing to drive under the influence of either drink or drugs jeopardise the safety of all road users."

Supt Stuart Bill, of West Mercia

Police, said: "The drink drive law has been in place for 60 years with the ability for officers to deliver breath tests at the side of the road since the 1980s.

"It's therefore extremely frustrating that some motorists still drive under the influence of alcohol.

"With the variety of non alcoholic options now available there really is

no excuse.

"Any amount of alcohol or drugs can affect your ability to drive and there are numerous consequences of driving with alcohol or drugs in your system."

West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "There is absolutely no excuse for drinking or taking drugs and then getting behind the wheel.

"The consequences can be catastrophic - not just for the driver, but for innocent people, families, and entire communities.

"With road safety at the heart of my police and crime plan, I fully support efforts to reduce harm on our roads.

"Through high-visibility patrols and robust enforcement, West Mercia Police will ensure those who choose to put lives at risk are identified and brought to justice."

Operation Christmas Presence will run throughout December with high visibility patrols carried out across Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Shropshire.

The campaign will also raise awareness of a number of issues, including domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour.

For more on the campaign, visit this story on our website and click through the link at the bottom for West Mercia Police's 24 Days of Christmas where different advice and tips will be put up on a daily basis until Christmas Eve.

West Mercia Police has launched 'Operation Christmas Presence' to clamp down on drink and drug driving over the festive season.

★★★★★ Trustpilot

By Coach from Bromsgrove, Redditch

Reader Travel

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL - OVO
AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Departing Thu 26 Feb '26

Cirque du Soleil is back at the Royal Albert Hall, one of the world's most famous venues, and invites you to suspend disbelief for the mesmerising spectacle of one of their most renowned shows, OVO.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Redditch, Bromsgrove**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel outside London (JG3 or JG4 rating) with full English breakfast
- ✓ Circle ticket to the Cirque du Soleil - OVO at the Royal Albert Hall (evening performance)
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

2 Days by Coach only £209
Single Supplement £50

ABBA VOYAGE
LIVE IN LONDON

Departing Sun 29 Mar '26

Have you always wanted to experience the magic of an ABBA concert? Well now is your chance to say Thank You for the Music! Join us at the ABBA Arena for the incredible ABBA Voyage; where the global pop icons appear on stage as digital avatars brought to life.

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Redditch**
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel (JG3 or JG4 rating) with breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to ABBA Voyage at the ABBA Arena with coach transfers (dancefloor, standing)
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

Upgrade to a seated ticket in Block F or K for £25pp or Block G or J for £45pp

2 Days by Coach only £229
Single Supplement £60

ISLE OF WIGHT
'ROYALS & RAILS'

Departing Mon 4 May '26

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 Burlington Hotel, Sandown (JG2+ rating) with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Entertainment some evenings
- ✓ Heritage train journey on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway
- ✓ Excursions to Osborne House, Cowes & Ryde

Optional Island Highlights Tour (£15pp)

5 Days by Coach only £419
Single Supplement £60

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.

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 ATOL protected No. 10389. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room & holidays on 11 bookings (max 10 to 11 days post publication, after which prices may fluctuate). Calls to OSO numbers are free with inclusive min. inc packages, else standard rates apply. Choices of date, hotel, airport or pick up location may incur a supplement. Please see website or call for full details.

SILVER JEWELL
BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS
2024

BEST COMPANY
UK COACHING HOLIDAYS

Bonded Coach Holiday Member 7032



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



Family Notices

Tel: 01527 588688 Email: reception@bullivantmedia.com

DEATHS

OLIVER

Rita
Née ANDREWS

Aged 95 Years
Passed away peacefully on
Friday 21st November 2025
Now reunited with beloved Husband Bob
A treasured and much-loved Mum, Nan,
and Great Nanny
Rita will be greatly missed by all her family
and friends
A service to celebrate Rita's life will be held
at Redditch Crematorium on
Wednesday 17th December 2025 at 1.15pm
Family flowers only please, donations if so
desired to Midland's Air Ambulance via
Thomas Brothers, The Funeral Directors,
Birchfield House, 494 Evesham Road,
Redditch, B97 5JF.
01527 547777
Thank you



DEATHS

QUINNEY

Paul Edgar

Died 2/10/25
In Bristol Hospital
RIP Paul
From your loving
Family

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Huntleys Funeral Services

Over 140 years of service to families in Redditch

Basic funeral £2,450* (excl. third party fees).
A funeral service for your loved one that's at an affordable price, but without any compromise on the care we provide.

01527 906 553

58 Ipsley Street, Smallwood B98 7AE

Call us 24 hours a day for support, help and advice,
or to find out more about our prepaid funeral plans.

* Limited choice of date and time for service and commital,
excluding cremation fees. Terms and conditions apply
- please ask us for details.

www.huntleysfunerals.co.uk

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



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: kporter@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

TNS

THE NURSERY SHOP

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



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

James Giles and Sons Ltd
Est. 1918
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





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



Family Notices

Tel: 01527 588688 Email: reception@bullivantmedia.com

FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Say goodbye your way

Reassure your loved ones that your funeral is the one you wanted — not the one they hoped you wanted. Choose from a fully prepaid plan or simply record your wishes with no upfront payment.

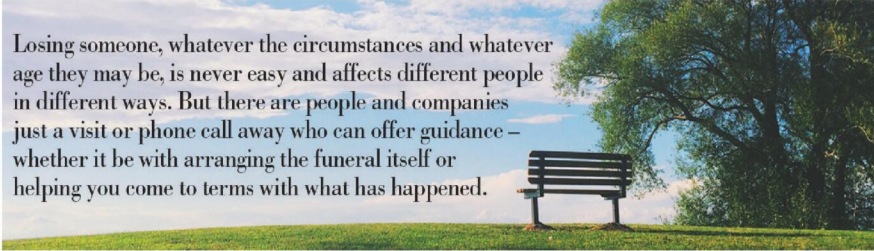
Arrange an appointment today

0121 459 9111

Offices in Northfield, Cotteridge and Rubery



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



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.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

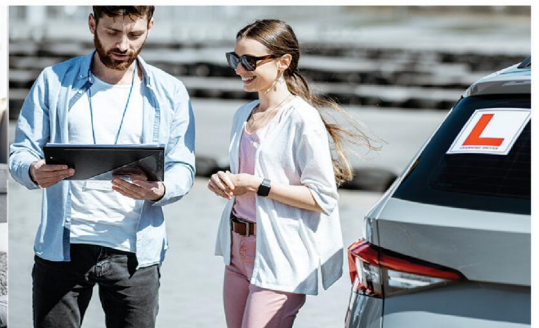
info@rlreafuneraldirectorsltd.co.uk

17 Rock Hill, Bromsgrove, Worcs B61 7LL



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

Call our team on **01527 588688**

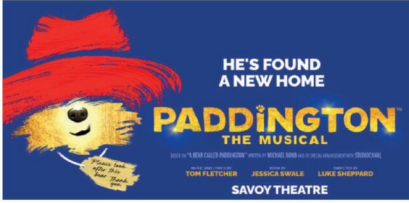


Classified

www.directory247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

JustGo! Holidays **Standard** Reader Travel



PADDINGTON THE MUSICAL
EVENING SHOW & LONDON

Departing Thu 26 Feb '26, Sat 16 May '26,
Sat 17 Oct '26, Sat 14 Nov '26, Sat 21 Nov '26

Marmalade sandwiches at the ready! Come along to the Savoy Theatre for one of the West End's most anticipated shows, Paddington the Musical, where this lovable little bear arrives in London from deepest, darkest Peru and embarks on an unforgettable adventure!

SO MUCH INCLUDED...

- Return coach travel from Redditch, Bromsgrove
- Overnight stay at a selected hotel outside London (JG3 or JG4 rating) with full English breakfast
- Grand Circle ticket (evening performance)
- Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing

2 Days by Coach only £189
Single Supplement £45

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

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

D53570 KINGS COUGHTON LANE, ALCESTER
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between the junctions of the A435 and Alcester Heath.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 08.00hrs - 15.00hrs.
Order Commences: 9 December 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 9 December 2025.
Access & Diversion: Alcester Heath, A435 and vice versa.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

WALCOTE ROAD, HASELOR
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable wastewater pipe repairs.
Order Commences: 8 December 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 12 December 2025.
Access & Diversion: Walcote Road, Wood Lane, Pelham Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: CSP, Tel: 08007 834 444.

D53660 ALAUNA AVENUE, ALCESTER
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic between its junctions with Hertford Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 08.00hrs - 16.00hrs.
Order Commences: 9 December 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 9 December 2025.
Access & Diversion: Hertford Road north and south bound. Access to Burton Court may be limited while works are in progress.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

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 5 Dec 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence
LOVE SCAFFOLD LTD of 25 Jevroise Road, Birmingham, B29 5QS is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To add an operating centre to keep 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers at The Old Machine Shop, 1 Brook Street, Redditch, B98 8NG. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centres 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. Representors 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 at www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-making-representations-to-the-traffic-commissioner

PUBLIC NOTICES

Keeping you up to date with all the latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences, Licences To Sell Alcohol, Probate Notices....

SALES & WANTS

MISCELLANEOUS

'Desperately Seeker' 'LAURA'
Number Plate XL17 URA (Laura)
£2000
Great investment or personal use
079631 43727

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

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

MAMAS & Papas, large rocking horse on wooden frame. Very good condition (collection only) £60.00. Tel: 07934132759

BLACK wrought iron ornate slimline wall mirror. Decorative frame with glass / wrought iron leaves. 39" long x 12" wide approx. £60.00. Tel: 07934132759

FIVE Minton Bellemeade salad plates (8") blue flowers, bone china, very good clean condition. £4.00 for all. Tel: 07934132759
POUFFE wine colour £4 02476 306871

MISCELLANEOUS

MOBILITY SCOOTER
Pride Go Go Elite Traveller
Easily comes apart for car boot
Charger
New batteries
Could deliver
£295
01789 778174

CARPET offcut - 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. £3.00. Tel: 07934132759

LADIES M & S classic fully lined lightweight jacket with detachable hood. Light turquoise. Hardly worn. Size 12. £3.00. (1 Can forward photos if interested)
Tel: 07934132759

REVELATION durable travel suit / garment bag, with shoulder strap & carry handle. Two hangers, multiple pockets, zip closure, colour black. £4.00. Tel: 07934132759

CHILDS battery operated white fur covered dog on wheels bars & moves to voice command 15" L 9" H 3-5 yrs £10 ono 0121 444 5250

MISCELLANEOUS

MOBILITY scooter red colt pride, has new battery, charger basket and rear carrier and waterproof cover. Comes apart for transport £250. collection only. 07796218119

COFFEE Machine Nescafe Dulce Gusto With coffee pods £20 07743929558

KIDNEY shaped dressing table and stool Excellent condition £75 07743929558

ADULT bicycle helmet boxed unused size 53-59 cm £10 ono 0121 444 5250

CHILDS Quad Bike red & black 12 volt comes with suspension & charger suits 4-7 yr old £40 0121 444 5250

FISHER Price Trio 50 easy click bricks crazy creatures suit 3-5 yrs £10 0121 444 5250

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)

MISCELLANEOUS

FISHER Price Trio 100 easy click bricks with storage box building set suit 3-5 yrs £20 0121 444 5250

GENTS / Boys Carrera Valcan Mountain Bike 27 speed gears, 18" frame, 27.5" wheels Sprung front suspension Very little use, immaculate condition £220 07956 108134

MOUNTAIN Bike full suspension 90% Alloy phone for full spec £60 07962061144

FREE as new condition Marcy rowing machine get fit in the New Year 07706092175

MOBILITY Scooter Excellent condition little used 4 wheel type folds for car, battery £200 collect 01608 664874

THREE seater sofa and matching armchair, extremely comfortable £50.00 07941298266



GEM in TOUCH

We love hearing from you!

TO SUBMIT A FREE ADVERT PLEASE EMAIL freeads@bullivantmedia.com

The REDDITCH & ALCESTER Standard

Website: www.RedditchStandard.co.uk

Online Newspaper: www.RedditchStandard.co.uk/editions

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheRedditchStandard2

Twitter: <https://x.com/RedStandard>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/redditchstandard>

GENERAL ENQUIRIES
01527 453737

ADVERTISING
01527 588629
National & Agency: Mediaforce - 0207 832 1649
Email: adverts@redditchstandard.co.uk

NEWSDESK
01527 588697
Editor: editor@redditchstandard.co.uk

SPORTSDESK
01527 588659
Sport: sport@redditchstandard.co.uk

BROMSGROVE & DROITWICH Standard

Website: www.BromsgroveStandard.co.uk

Online Newspaper: www.BromsgroveStandard.co.uk/editions

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheBromsgroveStandard

Twitter: <https://x.com/bromstandard>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/bromsgrovestandard>

GENERAL ENQUIRIES
01527 574111

ADVERTISING
01527 588729
National & Agency: Mediaforce - 0207 832 1649
Email: adverts@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk

NEWSDESK
01527 588697
Editor: Tristan Harris - editor@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk

SPORTSDESK
01527 588659
Sport: sport@bromsgrovestandard.co.uk

Classified

www.directory247.co.uk

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

SERVICES

BUILDERS

BRICKWORK H.BOOT

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

CARPENTRY/ JOINERY



AJB CARPENTRY

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE
AND QUALITY WORKMANSHIP
Covering: kitchen fitting, roofs, doors,
stairs and much more to help with
your carpentry based home
improvements.
Call today for your free quote!
Call Ant on
07827 324754
f AJB Carpentry

DECORATING & PAINTING

C&M Decorators

Father and Son • Interior and Exterior
32 years experience • Fully Insured
Tel **01527 576136**
Mob **07850 380162**

FENCING

FENCING & FENCE REPAIRS

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

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

HAIRDRESSERS

Hair by Sharon

in the comfort of your own home
Care Home Visits Available



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

07971 684 353

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

PLASTERING

LCJ PLASTERING SERVICES

General Property
Maintenance
All Aspects of Plastering
30 Years Exp
Call Craig Berrows
0777 1875865

PLUMBING

SB 4 Plumbing & Heating

- Gas Fires
- Gas Cookers
- Gas Central Heating and Maintenance.
- Gas Appliance Landlord/home
- Safety Checks.
- Plumbing faults/installation.

Email: stuart4heating@gmail.com

www.sb4plumbing.co.uk

Call me for domestic work

MOBILE

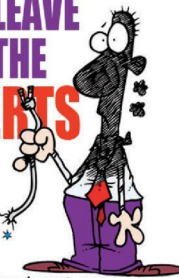
07951 485 329

REMOVALS/ STORAGE

MAN WITH A VAN REMOVALS

House moves local & long distance
Collection and delivery
Single items to full van loads
House Clearances
Collection of unwanted household items
Waste Carrier No: CBDU68635
T:01527 514 666 M:07843 854 289
ManWithaVanRemovalsRedditch.co.uk

BEST LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS



Check out our
Classified pages!

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. CBDU 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. CBDU122354

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
FRO 020 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

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



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



Double award for the KIA PV5

THE Kia PV5 Cargo has been named both the 'Van of the Year' and 'Compact Van of the Year' at the 2026 What Van? Awards.

The What Van? Awards celebrate the best brands, products and businesses in the LCV industry, with a glamorous awards event hosted at the London Hilton Bankside hotel. Awards are evaluated by a distinguished

panel of independent experts from across the UK LCV sector.

The PV5 Cargo was praised for its sophisticated design and strong single-charge driving range, while also earning high marks for comfort, precise steering, cabin quietness and overall drivability. It also received a perfect 10/10 score in a separate review published by What Van?, the only electric LCV to achieve this year-to-date.

Paul Philpott, President & CEO of Kia UK said: "Winning 'Van of the Year' at the What Van? Awards is a tremendous endorsement for the PV5 that arrives just as the very first units arrive in the UK.

"We are immensely proud of this new product, and our new UK network of dedicated PBV dealerships will lead the way in demonstrating its strengths to customers as we seek to lead electrification efforts in the light commercial vehicle sector." From winning the 'One to Watch' accolade at the 2025 What Van? Awards to 'Van of the Year' at this year's event shows the progression and immediate impact the PV5 has had on the LCV industry.

These latest awards join the Kia PV5's fast-growing collection, having this year already picked up the

'2026 International Van of the Year' trophy; 'Best Electric Van' and outright 'Van of the Year' at the 2026 Parkers Van and Pickup Awards; and 'The Sun Van of the Year' at the News UK Awards. The PV5 Passenger has also been named 'Family Car of the Year' at the BBC TopGear.com Awards 2026.

The Kia PV5 Cargo is initially available in L2/H1 form with a choice of two battery packs to prioritise range and payload. The PV5 Cargo Long Range delivers up to 258 miles on a single charge (WLTP Combined), and has a payload capacity of 690kg. The PV5 Cargo Standard Range offers up to 184 miles of range (WLTP Combined) and offers a payload up to 790kg. Future variants will include L1/H1 and L2/H2 formats, as well as Chassis Cab and Crew variants joining the line-up in 2026.

In October 2025, the PV5 Cargo officially entered the Guinness World Records, achieving 'the greatest distance travelled by a light-duty battery-powered electric van with maximum payload on a single charge', travelling 430.84 miles (693.38km).

Kia's PBV strategy is designed to meet evolving commercial needs. The PV5 Cargo delivers a practical, electric solution for fleets and operators seeking efficiency and reliability, backed by an industry leading seven-year/100,000-mile warranty

as standard. The Kia PV5 Cargo and Passenger are available to order now from Kia's brand-new PBV Centre network, with

first customer deliveries expected before year-end.

Kia plans to introduce the larger PV7 in 2027 and the PV9 in 2029.



Mechanical Repairs
M.O.T. Work Diagnostics
Servicing etc...

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

USED CARS WANTED TOP PRICES PAID!

Older cars considered.
We can visit you and pay on the spot.
ALAN REED CARS (1976) LTD
07831 245 313

FOR SALE: The Mightiest MINI of Them All

(MINI 5-Door Hatch • 1.6 One • Manual • Petrol • Black • 84,329 miles
• Registered March 2013)

Behold the **BEST. CAR. EVER.** Yes, it's **MINI** in size... but **MEGA** in attitude. This sleek black hatchback has been loved, cherished, adored, and routinely reassured that it is, in fact, "the best car ever." It now seeks a new human with great taste... someone who appreciates style, personality, and looking effortlessly cool in any neighbourhood.

- MINI car. MAX charm.
- SMALL size. BIG Personality.
- Tiny footprint. Huge fun.
- 1598 cc of "heck yes."
- Best car ever? Yep.

The Juicy Facts

- Mileage: 84,329 miles of joyful adventuring
- Fuel type: Petrol (the classic, the original, the vibe)
- Engine size: 1598 cc of eager oomph
- Body type: Hatchback (the most practical of the cuties)
- Colour: Black — slimming, stylish, never goes out of fashion
- Transmission: Manual — for people who actually enjoy driving
- First registered: March 2013, a vintage of distinction

Looking for a Good Home

This MINI has been treated like royalty (friendly royalty, not the stiff-upper-lip kind). It deserves someone who will appreciate its beauty, nurture its zoom, and maybe even give it a cool name like "Sir Mini III" or "Lil' Thunder."

What You Get

- A car that fits everywhere
- he joy of knowing you've chosen the fun... and AWESOME option
- A car that parks anywhere (experience others watch you in envy)
- A dashboard that makes you feel happy everytime you look at it.
- A driving experience best described as "WHEEEEEEE!"
- The smug satisfaction of having the best taste in town!

If you want a car that's fun, friendly, frugal, and full of character, then congratulations — your search ends here.

Fully Serviced and maintained, taxed and MOT to March '26

£4,000

07889 016452

DM me. Take it for a spin. Fall in love. Drive away smiling.
Only good homes need apply.



**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 3JZ
TEL: 01527 875432

01527 875432/837070

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

WANTED

THE VERY BEST CARS & VANS

WE PAY MORE FOR LOW MILES,
LOW OWNER &
FULL SERVICE HISTORY

PLEASE CALL DOMINIC
07581 566064
HAGLEY CARS
EST. 40 YEARS

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

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

LANDMARK
LANDSCAPING & DRIVEWAYS
FREEPHONE 0800 191 0282
www.landmarkdriveways.co.uk
Honey Orchard, Doverdale, Droitwich, WR9 0QB
• Block Paving • Patio's • Slabbing • Driveways
• Tarmacadam • Brickwork • Turfing • Graveling
• Resin Bond • Paths • Forecourts • Fencing
All Work Guaranteed for 5 Years - No Deposit Required
ebark Checkatrade.co.uk Google

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

Spa pegged back by Tuffley as home winning run halted at six

by Aaron Sutcliffe
aaron.sutcliffe@bullivantmedia.com

FOOTBALL: DROITWICH Spa saw their six-game winning run at home in the league come to an end following a 1-1 draw against Tuffley Rovers.

The Saltmen took the lead courtesy of Jay Sauntson's close-range finish only for Kieran Alder's strike to draw the visitors level after the break at the King George Playing Fields.

And the result means Droitwich sit third in the Hellenic League Premier Division table, four points behind leaders Slimbridge who have a game in-hand.

Andy Crowther took charge of Spa for the 199th time while goalkeeper Joe Stockton made his debut in goal in his second spell with the club.

Stockton made a comfortable save early on as he kept out Alder's driven effort from just inside the penalty area.

Spa responded with a chance of their own on the quarter-hour mark when Sam Hurdman glanced a header wide.

And the home side went close moments later when Josh Hurdman and James Lemon exchanged passes as the former forced Tuffley goalkeeper Robin Hoffland into a crucial save.

The teams continued to trade chances as Tuffley's Harry Mustoe headed narrowly wide from close range.

Stockton then punched a corner to safety before keeping out another dangerous ball into the box as the visitors pushed for the opening goal.

And Hoffland punched a corner clear at the other end from under his own crossbar before Stockton superbly denied Macaulay Herbert from close range.

The first half remained an end-to-end contest as Hoffland tipped J Hurdman's dipping shot over the crossbar.

And Droitwich eventually broke the deadlock on 36 minutes when Sauntson poked home from close range following a corner.

Spa almost doubled their lead after the break as Cory Rudd's effort from 20-yards out flashed inches past the top corner.

However, Tuffley drew level on 62 minutes when Alder curled a first time shot into the bottom right corner from the edge of the penalty area.

And Stockton made a crucial save minutes later to deny Karnell Chambers when one-on-one.

Spa responded with a chance of their own as Hoffland held Lemon's powerful first time effort.

The home side continued to push for a winner as Soms Sibanda headed Charlie Tilley's cross narrowly wide of the post.

However, neither side could strike again as the game ended all square.

Droitwich are next in action against Fairford Town on Saturday, December 6 with kick-off at 3pm at Cinder Lane.

Jay Sauntson celebrates after putting Spa ahead. Pictures by Mathew Mason.



Lewis Phillips clears his lines.



Yokohama Authorised Tyre Dealer

JEFFERIES TYRES
Est 1988

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



TRADE TYRE PRICES TO THE PUBLIC



EDWARDS CAR REPAIRS

- Engine tuning
- MOT preparation and submission for final MOT
- Cam belt replacement
- Clutch Replacement
- General repairs
- Welding
- Servicing
- Insurance work welcome
- Supply and fit all parts for all makes & models

All types of work undertaken, why not give us a call or just drop in

Rear of 8 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, Birmingham, B45 8NE
0121 445 5414
Email - enquiries@edwardsrepair.co.uk

