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KIDDERMINSTER, STOURPORT, BEWDLEY & SURROUNDING AREAS

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THIS MAGAZINE IS  
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 INDEPENDENTLY

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## Discover Your Creative Side with Simply Art in Kidderminster

For over 20 years, Simply Art has been bringing together local people with a shared love of creativity, conversation and community. Established in 2005, the friendly group welcomes anyone with an interest in art, whether you are an experienced painter, a keen sketcher, or someone who has always wanted to pick up a brush but never quite found the confidence to begin.

The group meets every Friday from 12pm to 2.30pm at Holy Innocents Church Hall on Sutton Park Road in Kidderminster, of-

fering a relaxed and supportive environment where members can enjoy painting and drawing in whatever medium they prefer. Watercolours, acrylics, pencils, pastels and mixed media are all welcome, with everyone encouraged to work at their own pace and in their own style.

Simply Art is about much more than creating pictures. It is also a chance to socialise, meet like-minded people and enjoy a friendly chat over a cup of tea or coffee. New friendships have been formed through the group

over the years, with members encouraging and inspiring one another along the way.

From time to time, the group also invites talented local artists to attend sessions and share demonstrations, techniques and guidance in their specialist medium, helping members learn new skills and try different artistic styles.

The group is currently looking to welcome a few more members and would love to hear from anyone interested in joining. You do not need to be a professional artist or have any previous experience just an enthusiasm to have a go and enjoy being creative in good company.

If you are a budding artist, or would simply like to give something new a try, why not pop in for a cuppa one Friday soon?

For more information, please contact Sandra on 07596 285027.




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**Station Fund Shop.**

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July will be the second of our ever-popular 1940s events. All the stations will be decorated, and re-enactors will be out and about across the railway.

18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> July brings our brand-new Summer Gala.

From 21<sup>st</sup> July we then go into our Summer of Fun with activities for the children.

Check the SVR website for details and how to book.  
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## Local Business Backs Young Footballers & KEMP Hospice with New Team Sponsorship

Young footballers in the Wyre Forest are set to take to the pitch in brand-new kits this season thanks to the support of local business R Albert Accountancy Ltd - with KEMP Hospice proudly featured on the front of the shirts.

The new kits will feature the KEMP Hospice logo throughout the upcoming 2026/27 season. The sponsorship not only provides the young team with a smart new kit but also helps raise awareness of the vital care and support KEMP Hospice provides across the Wyre Forest community.

In an incredible gesture of support, R Albert Accountancy Ltd has funded the sponsorship and chosen to feature the KEMP Hospice logo on the kit to help raise awareness of the local charity.

Robert Albert, Director of R Albert Accountancy Ltd, nominated KEMP Hospice to feature on the kits as part of the sponsorship. "KEMP Hospice does amazing work and are a real treasure to the Wyre Forest community. I'm delighted to support both the team and KEMP by helping raise awareness of the charity and the incredible work they do." The team are excited to begin the new season wearing their new kit, and everyone involved hopes it will help inspire a successful and enjoyable 2026/27 season.

Emily Henderson, Corporate & Events Fundraiser at KEMP Hospice, said "We are incredibly grateful to Rob at R Albert Accountancy Ltd for this wonderful gesture of support. This is a fantastic opportunity to help raise awareness of KEMP Hospice and the care and support we

provide to local families across the Wyre Forest District. We are very fortunate to have supporters like Rob, who continue to champion our charity and create opportunities like this within our community. The new kits look absolutely brilliant, and we wish Wyre Forest Phoenix Under-12s every success for the season ahead."

KEMP Hospice provides free care and support for patients, families and carers across Wyre Forest living with life-limiting illness and bereavement.

For more information about KEMP Hospice visit  
[www.kemphospice.org.uk](http://www.kemphospice.org.uk)

## The Civic Celebrates 60 Years with Commemorative Tree



A special commemorative tree has been planted at The Civic in Stourport to mark the venue's 60th anniversary and its long-standing contribution to the local community.

The Civic has been at the heart of Stourport life since opening in May 1966, providing a welcoming space for community groups, social events, celebrations and live entertainment for generations of residents.

The apple tree was generously donated by local businessman Andy Jones, owner of Vanguard Tree Surgery. Andy and Civic manager Caroline Caldwell are both members of the local BNI Wyre Forest Chapter, which has

long supported the venue and its activities.

Explaining the gesture, Andy said he chose an apple tree because it symbolises how The Civic continues to give back to the community year after year.

Sally Eastwood, trustee at The Civic, welcomed the donation, saying: "The tree is a lovely gift, and we are really proud to continue the work of The Civic."

Over the decades, The Civic has hosted countless memorable events and welcomed some famous names to its stage. Just over a year after opening, an unsigned band called The N'Betweenes performed at the venue before later

finding fame as Slade and releasing one of Britain's most iconic Christmas songs.

Music legends Robert Plant and Jimmy Page also appeared at The Civic during the 1980s following the breakup of Led Zeppelin, while drummer John Bonham performed there before his untimely death.

As The Civic celebrates six decades at the centre of community life, the newly planted tree will serve as a lasting reminder of its rich history and continued importance to Stourport and the wider Wyre Forest area.

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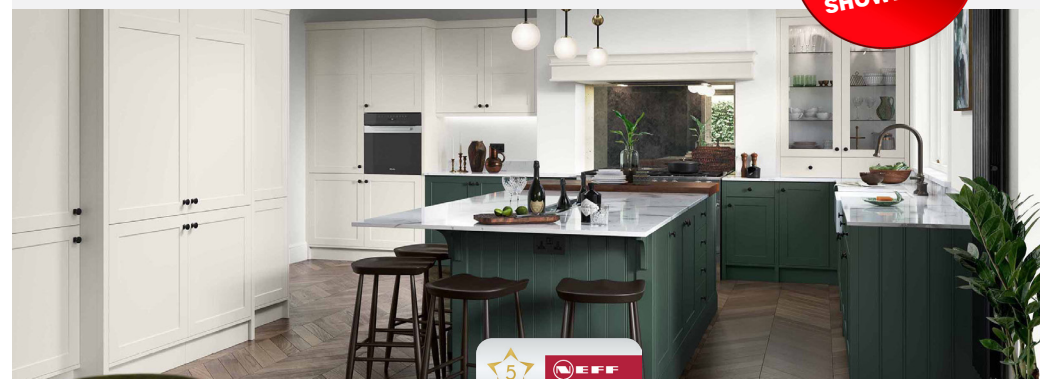
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## Local Author Tackles a Difficult Subject with New Children's Book

A local funeral celebrant and bereavement worker has written a groundbreaking children's book designed to help families talk openly about death, grief and funerals.

Kate Spohrer, author of *Granny's Real Fun*, has drawn on a lifetime of experience around funerals and bereavement to create a story that helps young children understand loss in a gentle and positive way.

Growing up as the daughter of a Church of England priest, Kate says funerals were a familiar part of life from an early age. Later, she trained as a bereavement worker and went on to officiate at many funeral services, experiences that inspired her to write the book.

Kate explained that throughout her work she repeatedly met adults who still remembered being excluded from the funeral of a parent or grandparent when they were children. She believes that, when handled sensitively, involving children in funerals can play an important role in helping them process grief and create healthy memories.

*Granny's Real Fun* tells the story of a much-loved grandmother whose grandchildren understand more than the adults realise about the kind of farewell she would have wanted. Through warmth, family memories and gentle storytelling, the book explores the special bond between grandparents and grandchildren while opening conversations about death in an age-appropriate way.

The book has been praised as a valuable resource for parents, carers, teachers and funeral professionals who are looking for ways to discuss bereavement with young children. Rather than focusing solely on sadness, it highlights remembrance, celebration and the importance of sharing memories.

Kate hopes the story will help break down barriers around discussing death with children and encourage families to approach the subject with honesty and compassion. *Granny's Real Fun* is available through Attwood Funeral Directors and can be ordered online.

[www.attwoodfunerals.co.uk/grannys-real-fun-book](http://www.attwoodfunerals.co.uk/grannys-real-fun-book)



## Just for Pets Stocking the Best Rated Dog Foods with Advice You Can Trust

When it comes to feeding your dog, there's plenty to think about. Just for Pets believe pet parents deserve confidence in every bowl – and that starts with offering foods known for their nutritional excellence.

Just for Pets shelves are filled with some of the highest rated foods on independent site all about dog food including trusted names like Years, Cotswold Raw, Eden, Rockster, Orijen, Acana and many more, but great products are just one reason to visit your local store. Friendly teams, real expertise.

Just for Pets in store teams are passionate, approachable and trained to help you make the right choices for your individual dogs needs.

Whether you're welcoming a new puppy, supporting an active adult, managing sensitivities or caring for a senior dog, Just for Pets can guide you through suitable options and help tailor nutrition to your pets needs. No jargon, no pressure just informed advice.

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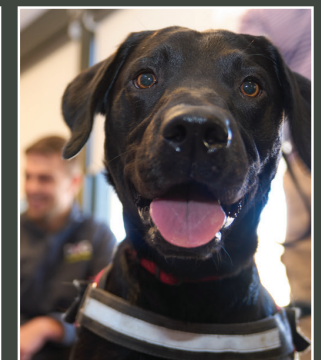
The store chain made the decision to remove rawhide from their shelves many years ago, choosing instead to offer healthy alternatives for modern pet parents.

More than just food While nutrition is at the heart of Just for Pets there's much more to discover in store from exciting toys and enrichment products to everyday essentials like collars, leads, harnesses and cat litter.

Need help finding a harness that fits? Just for Pets teams are always happy to help with harness fittings, free of charge to give you peace of mind that your pet is comfortable and secure.

Here to help you and your pet Just for Pets combines trusted products with knowledgeable support so you can feel confident you're giving your pet the very best.

Pop in and chat with your local team today  
[www.justforpets.co.uk](http://www.justforpets.co.uk)



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*The "Bottomless" Pool in the Forest!*

For decades, children growing up around the Wyre Forest dared each other to visit a dark woodland pool in the forest rumoured to have no bottom. Stories claimed branches thrown into the water would mysteriously disappear, while older locals warned youngsters to stay away after heavy rain. In reality, the pool was likely just deeper than nearby streams, but that never stopped generations of local children turning it into one of the forest's spookiest legends.

*The Pub Sign That Went Missing Overnight!*

One long-standing local tale tells of a painted pub sign in a Wolverley village mysteriously vanishing overnight during the 1970s. Villagers searched nearby lanes and hedgerows, convinced it was a prank, but the sign was never found. Months later, rumours spread that it had turned up hanging in a barn miles away after being taken by students on a late-night adventure. Whether true or not, the story still gets mentioned in pubs whenever signs are being cleaned or replaced.

*The Sheep That Escaped Onto the Severn Valley Railway!*

A story still told by some railway volunteers recalls the day a runaway sheep wandered onto the tracks near Arley. Services were briefly slowed while staff attempted to guide the stubborn animal away from the line. According to the tale, the sheep calmly ignored everyone before eventually following a passenger eating a sandwich back through a gate to safety. The incident became a favourite local story, especially among families travelling on the heritage railway.

## THIS MONTHS

# Local Lowdown Quirky Tales & Local Lore

*The Cat That Rode the Steam Train!*

In the days when steam trains regularly passed through the Wyre Forest area, railway workers spoke fondly of a ginger cat nicknamed "Whistle." According to local legend, the cat would regularly hop aboard trains at stations including Bewdley and travel short distances before calmly stepping off at the next stop. Conductors apparently became so used to the furry passenger that some would leave scraps of food waiting on the platform.



*The Bell That Could Predict Rain!*

An old Wyre Forest saying claimed that if the church bells sounded unusually loud across the valley, heavy rain was on the way. Residents in villages around the forest believed changing weather conditions carried the sound further before storms arrived. Older generations often trusted the bells more than weather forecasts, and some still swear the tradition works today especially during muggy July afternoons when thunder clouds gather over the trees.



## Caring for the Community with TLC Care at Home

### *Domiciliary/Community Care what does it mean?*

More and more people are choosing to stay at home in later life, and why not? Most of us spend the majority of our lives working to pay for our home and bills so why shouldn't we enjoy it during our retirement and golden days!

### *But what does it actually mean to have care and support at home?*

Here at TLC Care at Home we provide a local, family based, person centred approach to support and care for people in

their own homes. We provide support to a variety of clients in the Wyre Forest area and we are passionate about enabling people to stay at home safely for as long as possible.

When most people think about community care they tend to think of stereotypical tasks such as making a cup of tea and sitting with someone and having a good chat. Whilst this is correct as part of the role, there is also a lot more expected of care staff in the community.

Care and support with TLC Care at Home is tailored to an individual and the majority of day-to-day tasks that our carers

complete are as follows:

- **Personal care:** this includes assisting someone to get washed, showered/bathed, and dried then dressed in their chosen clothing.
- **Incontinence care:** this includes assisting someone to go to the toilet and aiding them to manage additional needs, which can include incontinence pads, stoma bag care, and catheter care.
- **Medications:** support with medication is a massive part of supporting someone in the community. All our staff are trained to aid with medication administration, collections, reordering and disposals.
- **Food and drinks:** this can include preparing a home cooked meal or helping someone to cook independently, as well as monitoring what the client is eating and drinking.
- **Mobility:** as we age our mobility changes and this can be linked to medical conditions or sadly just part of the aging process. Supporting someone to mobilise and walk safely in their own home requires input from professionals such as Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists. Care staff are provided in depth manual handling training as well as continued training in the community and guidance for each individual who has support.



- **Safety and wellbeing:** the safety and wellbeing of our clients is at the heart of everything we do and we are obligated and regulated to protect vulnerable individuals. All care staff are trained to recognise, report and act on any concerns or suspicions of abuse.

This list is not exhaustive, and support services can range from a few hours a week to 24-hour support, where we also assist clients to manage their household with general chores and cleaning.

When completing assessments, we look at matching staff to clients and where possible matching personalities to ensure that both our clients and staff have a positive visit. A lot of planning and preparation goes into our visits. We look at preferred times, medication timings, location, skin integrity and many other factors. Care Coordinators within the Domiciliary/Community Care sector face challenges daily to keep everyone happy and safe whilst managing expectations.

Throughout the Wyre Forest area there is a high demand for care and support, and all care

providers work closely with Social Workers/Social Services, GP's and Consultants, District Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Mental Health/Learning disabilities professionals, Pharmacies, and any other professionals involved as required. As a care provider it can be a challenging balancing act to provide support, but we feel that to provide an "Outstanding" service you really do have to care. We are always going above and beyond to make the care experience as enjoyable as possible.

We, like all care providers are regulated by CQC and we have strict policies and procedures to ensure standards of care are maintained. CQC monitor and review all care providers including Domiciliary/Community Care and we are proud that during our last assessment we achieved the highest rating possible "Outstanding" To provide care and support is a privilege and recently we have undertaken the decision to branch out and look at the options of TLC Care at Home providing Extra Care (also known as supported living).

We are overjoyed to announce that we have been awarded a contract with Worcestershire County Council and The Community Housing Group, to take over the care provision at two of the largest Extra Care schemes in Kidderminster, Berrington Court and Arch Hill meaning that we can expand our expertise in providing tailored support and care from May 2026.

When it comes to seeking Domiciliary/Community Care it can be overwhelming at first but it's important to remember that support is available whether it's for you or a loved one, and services are available to stay at home with dignity for longer.

### *Help can be sought from:*

- **Your Doctors Surgery:** Your GP has the facilities to make a referral based on your current health and circumstances and may also be able to provide assistance from local services such as the district nurses.
- **Your local council:** Your local council can assess your needs and establish what they are able to offer you that is funded, meaning they will pay all or most of the costs. (There is a threshold for care being fully funded and this would be explained to you in detail when an assessment is carried out.)
- **Private care providers:** feel free to get in touch to discuss options available, there is no obligation and we are here to help make the care journey as smooth as possible!

**You can call  
TLC Care at Home on:  
01299 272 897 or email them at:  
wecare@tlc-careathome.co.uk**

If you require any advice on support available at home, including what additional benefits you may be entitled to, you can contact Age UK Advice Line on 0800 678 1602. Lines are open 8am-7pm, 365 days a year.



TLC Care at Home are a well-established family run, Home Care Provider who have built up an excellent reputation within our local communities

We have recently been rated as **OUTSTANDING** by CQC and this puts TLC Care at Home in the top 3% of providers in England



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Our dedicated Care Team are here to help support you with 24/7 care provision should it be required. At TLC Care At Home, we are dedicated to supporting people with wide range of needs, including Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Physical Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, Sensory Impairments and supporting our aging population.

Depending on your individual needs, we can offer varying degrees of support from young adults to very mature people. TLC Care at Home are here to help anyone who requires care and support to enable them to remain living at home for as long as it is safe to do so.

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Ever open the fridge and find a motley crew of lonely veggies and a few lingering bits of cooked meat?

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a hint of ginger, and a dash of garlic.

In minutes, you've transformed forgotten fragments into a vibrant, flavour-packed feast. It's quick, delicious, and best of all, a brilliant way to banish food waste.

So next time your fridge looks like a veggie and meat orphanage, remember the stir-fry,

For more information on becoming a food waste superhero visit [www.lets wasteless.com/foodsavvy](http://www.lets wasteless.com/foodsavvy).





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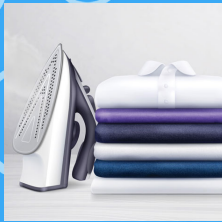
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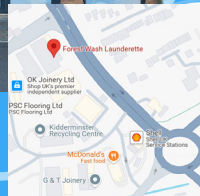
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## Mark Garnier Member of Parliament for Wyre Forest

Confidence. That trust, that belief that tomorrow will be much the same as yesterday. Its incredibly important. Its important because we all need to know that when we do something, when we take some risk, that everything else will be stable.

A business, for example. When it decides to invest in something a new production facility, a new division, a new product it needs to know that everything else will be the same for a while. That decision will be based on current factors, laws, direction. Change the laws or policies just after that investment commitment is made, and the plans go awry, money is

lost, and the wrong people have to take the blame.

That is why this current government is so utterly dismal. We have no idea who will be prime minister next week. The people in charge of the defence of our country have had enough, and stepped back – people, by the way, who are regarded as high quality, decent, honourable individuals. We have a prime minister and a chancellor who are gas lighting the country, their MPs and themselves on the state of our country.

This uncertainty has a direct effect on all of us. Our economy

shrank (again) in April, inflation is up, unemployment is up, the benefits bill is up, and young people are facing the worse opportunities for employment for a generation. Within 2 years of coming to power, this government is falling apart. A No 10 senior civil servant is quoted as saying Starmer is the worse prime minister he has ever encountered, unable to make decisions, to take responsibility, and generally hopeless.

But this uncertainty has further impacts on us all. Government bond yields are going up. This is important, because these yields determine what interest rates we pay on our mortgages. If the bond markets lose confidence in the government and its ability to manage its money, then we all pay higher mortgage rates.

Who know where this will all end. There is a lot going on, but none of this seems to be getting any better. Who would have thought we could be in this much mess, so quickly, and with a government with a huge majority?

Mark holds regular weekly surgeries: to book an appointment please contact his office via:

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E: [mark.garnier.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:mark.garnier.mp@parliament.uk)

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# Bewdley Museum Unveils Stunning New Look

Visitors to Bewdley are being welcomed by a transformed entrance at Bewdley Museum following the completion of a major improvement project designed to enhance the visitor experience while preserving the site's historic character.

The work, completed earlier this month, has seen the museum's entrance porch converted into a bright, enclosed and weather-proof space through the installation of elegant arched glass windows and a new glass double doorway behind the building's Grade II listed gates. The result is a more accessible and welcoming arrival point that blends modern convenience with the museum's heritage.

The upgraded entrance now

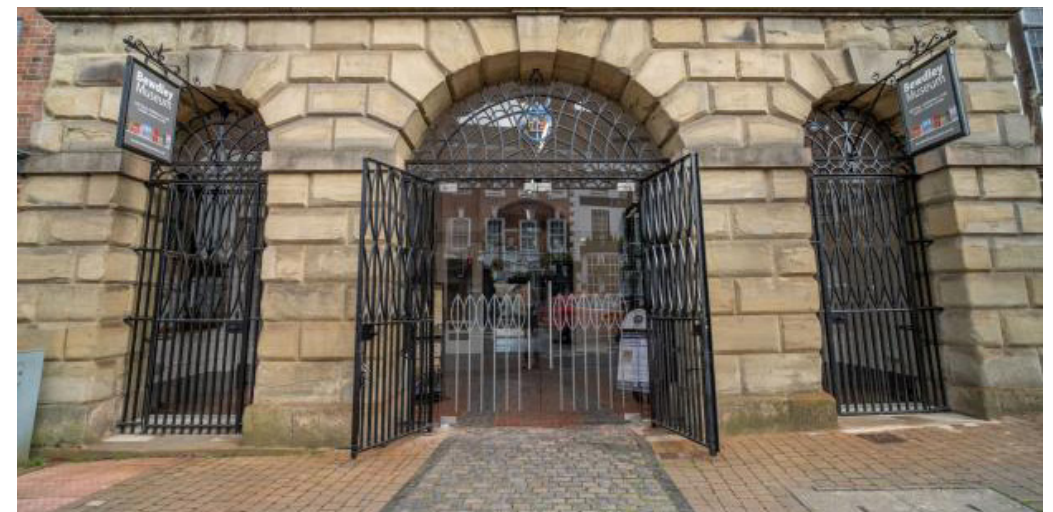
features integrated heating, improved lighting, restored historic gates and acoustic panels, creating a comfortable environment for visitors throughout the year. Museum leaders believe the new space will not only improve first impressions but also provide additional opportunities for exhibitions, displays and special events.

The project forms part of wider efforts to attract more visitors to Bewdley and encourage people to spend longer exploring the town's independent shops, cafés and attractions. Funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund alongside support from Wyre Forest District Council, the investment reflects a commitment to boosting tourism and supporting the local economy.

Importantly, the museum re-

mained open throughout the renovation work, continuing to welcome visitors to its galleries, gardens, craft workshops and resident artisan businesses. The improvements mark another step forward for one of the district's most popular cultural attractions, which offers free admission and a varied programme of exhibitions, live music, workshops and family-friendly events throughout the year.

As the summer season gets underway, the revitalised entrance provides a fitting gateway to a museum that celebrates the rich heritage of Bewdley and the wider Wyre Forest. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a regular supporter, there has never been a better time to rediscover this treasured local landmark.





## Volunteer Opportunity

### Help Bring Local News to Those Who Need It Most

For many of us, keeping up with local news is as simple as picking up a newspaper, browsing a website, or scrolling through social media. But for people who are blind or visually impaired, accessing local news can be far more challenging.

That is where the Wyre Forest Talking Newspaper comes in. This remarkable local charity has been providing an invaluable service to blind and visually impaired residents across the Wyre Forest area for many years. Every week, dedicated volunteers record local news stories, features and community updates, ensuring that listeners remain informed, connected and engaged with what is happening in their local area. Now, the organisation is appealing for new volunteers to join its editorial team.

The role offers a rewarding opportunity to make a genuine difference in the lives of local people. Editors are responsible for selecting and preparing articles from The Shuttle news-

paper each Thursday, ready for recording in the Talking Newspaper's studio on the following evening.

Once recorded, the news programmes are distributed to listeners throughout the area, helping them stay connected to the community they live in. For many recipients, the service provides much more than just news. It offers companionship, inclusion and a vital link to local life.

The charity is particularly keen to hear from people who have a few hours to spare each month and who would enjoy being part of a friendly and supportive team. No previous experience is necessary, and volunteers will receive guidance and support from existing members.

Volunteering is often described as one of the most rewarding ways to spend your time. Not only does it benefit others, but it can also provide new skills, friendships and a real sense of achievement. In this case, volunteers will know that their

efforts are helping some of the most vulnerable members of the community access information that many of us take for granted. At a time when community services are increasingly reliant on volunteers, organisations such as the Wyre Forest Talking Newspaper depend on local people stepping forward to ensure their valuable work can continue.

If you enjoy reading, have good attention to detail and would like to contribute to a service that genuinely changes lives, this could be the perfect opportunity.

Anyone interested in finding out more about joining the editorial team is invited to contact the Wyre Forest Talking Newspaper on 07415 641019. Simply leave your name and contact number, and a member of the team will return your call.

A few hours of your time each month could help ensure that local news continues to reach those who need it most.

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- 3rd - Tiamat Gaming 7pm-11pm
- 6th - Brew Monday 10am-2pm
- 6th - Andy's Man's Club 7pm-9pm
- 8th - Wellbeing craft workshop 11am-2pm
- 11th & 12th - Jelleyfest Craft Fayre 11am-4pm
- 13th - Andy's Man's Club 7pm-9pm
- 17th - Tiamat Gaming 7pm-11pm
- 20th - Andy's Man's Club 7pm-9pm
- 22nd - Wellbeing craft workshop 11am-2pm
- 27th - Andy's Man's Club 7pm-9pm
- 29th - Wellbeing craft workshop 11am-2pm

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## Severn Valley Railway Launches £1 Million Appeal to Complete Station



The Severn Valley Railway has launched an ambitious £1 million fundraising campaign aimed at completing one of the most iconic features of its Kidderminster station.

The new "Raise the Roof" appeal seeks to fund the construction of a heritage-style platform canopy at Kidderminster Town Station, bringing to life the original vision for the railway's southern terminus. The project will see the installation of an authentic Great Western Railway-inspired canopy spanning the station's double platform, further enhancing one of the region's most recognisable visitor attractions.

The appeal has been given a significant boost by a substantial legacy donation, allowing the project to move forward and providing momentum for what railway officials describe as one

of the most ambitious station enhancement schemes in the organisation's history. Supporters, local businesses and members of the wider community are now being invited to help raise the remaining funds needed to complete the development.

Kidderminster Town Station has been carefully developed over several decades to recreate the atmosphere and character of a traditional Great Western Railway station. Railway leaders believe the addition of the canopy will complete that transformation, while also improving the experience for the thousands of visitors who travel on the heritage line each year.

The appeal comes during a period of significant change and investment for the railway. Recent organisational reforms have seen the railway move towards a new charitable structure de-

signed to strengthen its long-term future and unlock additional funding opportunities.

Running for 16 miles between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth, the Severn Valley Railway remains one of Britain's best-loved heritage railways and a major contributor to the local visitor economy. The latest fundraising effort aims not only to preserve the railway's historic character but also to ensure future generations can continue to enjoy one of the West Midlands' most treasured attractions.

Further information about the appeal and how to support the project is available through the Severn Valley Railway: [www.svr.co.uk](http://www.svr.co.uk)

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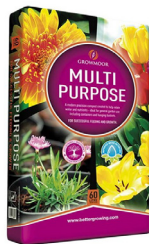
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- Redditch Hub:** Heart of Worcestershire College Peakman Street, Redditch, B98 8DW
- Wyre Forest Hub:** The Point at Kidderminster College, Market St, Kidderminster, DY10 1AB
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## Plant of the Month

### Lavender

Few plants capture the feeling of summer quite like lavender. With its vibrant purple flowers, calming fragrance and ability to attract bees and butterflies, lavender becomes one of the standout plants in gardens throughout July.

Originally associated with Mediterranean climates, lavender grows surprisingly well in the UK, particularly during warm, sunny summers. It thrives in well-drained soil and enjoys plenty of sunlight, making it ideal for borders, patios, pathways and pots. Once established, it is also relatively low maintenance and drought tolerant, which has helped make it increasingly popular with gardeners looking for hardy plants that still provide plenty of colour.

July is when lavender is usually at its peak flowering stage. The distinctive scent is instantly

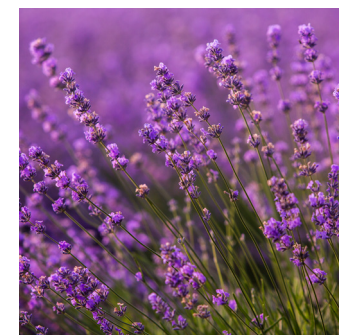
recognisable and is often linked with relaxation and wellbeing. Many people cut and dry lavender stems during summer to use indoors, whether in homemade bouquets, scented drawers or natural sleep sprays.

Beyond its appearance and fragrance, lavender is also highly valued for supporting wildlife. Bees and pollinators are particularly drawn to its nectar-rich flowers, helping gardens become more environmentally friendly and beneficial for local ecosystems during the height of summer.

There are also many different varieties to choose from. English lavender remains one of the most popular due to its strong fragrance and resilience, while French lavender offers slightly more unusual flower shapes and colours.

Garden centres and local nurseries often see strong demand for lavender during July as people refresh outdoor spaces and prepare gardens for summer gatherings. Its neat appearance works well in both traditional cottage gardens and more modern outdoor designs.

Whether planted in borders, lining pathways or growing in decorative pots, lavender remains one of the most versatile and recognisable plants of the British summer season, bringing colour, fragrance and wildlife into gardens year after year.





## Kitchen Island Ideas Ideas for Family Homes

Kitchen islands have become one of the most popular features in modern family homes, transforming kitchens into social spaces that are used for far more than just cooking. Whether large or small, a well-designed island can provide extra storage, seating and workspace while helping create a more open and practical layout.

For many families, the kitchen has become the centre of the home, used for homework, entertaining, family meals and everyday routines. A kitchen island naturally creates a central gathering point, allowing people to cook, eat and socialise together more comfortably.

One of the biggest trends this year is incorporating built-in seating into islands. Breakfast bars with stools remain hugely popular, particularly for busy households looking for infor-

mal dining options. Waterfall worktops and contrasting island colours are also continuing to grow in popularity, helping islands stand out as feature pieces within the kitchen.

Storage is another major advantage. Deep drawers, hidden cupboards and integrated appliances can all help reduce clutter and improve organisation, especially in family homes where kitchen space is constantly in use. Some homeowners are even adding wine coolers, charging stations or built-in shelving to maximise practicality.

Lighting also plays an important role in making an island feel like the focal point of the room. Pendant lighting remains a popular choice, adding warmth and atmosphere while helping define the kitchen space visually. Even smaller kitchens can benefit from compact islands or

moveable designs that provide flexibility without overcrowding the room. In open-plan homes especially, islands can help separate kitchen and living areas while still maintaining a spacious feel.

As kitchens continue evolving into multifunctional living spaces, the kitchen island remains one of the most desirable additions for families looking to combine style, storage and everyday practicality within the heart of the home.





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## Is It Time to Replace Your Boiler? Why Summer Is the Best Time to Upgrade



Most people only think about their boiler when something goes wrong usually during the middle of winter. But according to heating experts, summer is actually the ideal time to consider replacing an older boiler before colder weather returns.

One of the biggest advantages of upgrading during summer is avoiding the seasonal rush. As temperatures drop later in the year, heating engineers often become extremely busy dealing with breakdowns and emergency callouts. Booking a replacement during warmer months can mean quicker installation times, more appointment flexibility and less disruption to daily life. A new boiler can also significantly improve energy efficien-

cy. Older systems often work harder to produce the same level of heating and hot water, leading to higher energy bills. Modern boilers are designed to be far more efficient, helping households reduce energy usage while improving overall performance.

There are also several warning signs that may indicate a boiler is nearing the end of its lifespan. Frequent breakdowns, unusual noises, inconsistent heating, rising energy bills or radiators taking longer to warm up can all suggest it may be time for an upgrade. Most boilers typically last between 10 and 15 years depending on maintenance and usage. Summer is also a practical time for installations because households rely less on central

heating. This means any temporary disruption during fitting is usually far easier to manage compared to colder months.

Many homeowners are now also exploring smart heating controls alongside boiler replacements. Smart thermostats and zoned heating systems can help improve comfort while giving people greater control over energy use.

While replacing a boiler may not be the most exciting home improvement, planning ahead during summer can help avoid unexpected breakdowns, improve efficiency and provide peace of mind before winter arrives again.



## Grow Your Own Courgettes in July

### How to Successfully Grow at Home

Courgettes are one of the easiest and most rewarding vegetables to grow during the summer months, making them perfect for both beginner and experienced gardeners alike. July is when plants really begin to thrive, with warm temperatures helping them grow rapidly and produce regular crops.

One of the great advantages of courgettes is that they can be grown almost anywhere. While they do well in vegetable patches and allotments, they are also ideal for patios and smaller gardens because they grow successfully in large pots or containers. If growing in pots, choose a container that is at least 40cm wide and deep to allow enough room for the roots to spread. Good drainage is essential, so ensure pots have holes at the bottom and use quality multi-purpose compost mixed with a little organic matter.

Courgettes need plenty of sunlight to perform well, ideally around six to eight hours a day. They are thirsty plants, particularly during hot July weather, so regular watering is important. Water directly at the base of the plant rather than over the leaves to help prevent mildew and other fungal problems. In very warm conditions, plants may need watering every day.

Feeding courgettes weekly with a liquid tomato fertiliser can help encourage stronger growth and improve the number of vegetables produced. It's also important to keep the surrounding area free from weeds, which compete for nutrients and moisture.

As the plants become larger, their broad leaves can sometimes trap moisture, so removing any damaged or yellowing leaves will help improve airflow


and keep plants healthy. Regular harvesting also encourages continuous growth, meaning plants will keep producing throughout the season.


With a little care and attention each week, courgettes can become one of the most productive and reliable crops in any summer garden.




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## Don't Ignore The Signs Why Regular Roof Maintenance is vital



Your roof is one of the most important parts of your home, protecting everything underneath it from wind, rain and changing weather conditions throughout the year. However, many homeowners only notice roof problems once damage has already started to appear inside the property. Regular roof care and maintenance can help prevent costly repairs and extend the lifespan of your roof for years to come.

One of the most common issues homeowners face is slipped or damaged roof tiles, often caused by storms, strong winds or general wear and tear over time. Small problems like these may not seem urgent at first, but they can quickly lead to water

leaks, damp patches and structural damage if left untreated. Cracked flashing around chimneys, blocked gutters and moss build-up are also common issues that can affect drainage and lead to long-term problems.

Regular roof inspections are particularly important after periods of bad weather or during seasonal changes. Spotting issues early can often mean a simple repair rather than a full replacement later down the line. Homeowners should also keep an eye out for signs such as missing tiles, sagging gutters, water stains in loft spaces or visible daylight coming through the roof.

Professional roofing companies can provide a range of services

including roof repairs, tile replacement, chimney work, flat roofing, guttering repairs and full roof installations. Choosing an experienced and reputable local roofer is essential to ensure work is carried out safely and to a high standard.

If you think your roof may need attention, it's always best to seek advice sooner rather than later. A professional roofer can assess the condition of your roof and recommend the most suitable solution before minor issues become expensive problems.

For more information, inspections or repair work, contact your trusted local roofing specialist today and keep your home protected all year round.

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## Fable and Willow Bringing Timeless Style to Homes in Kidderminster



If you're looking for inspiration for your home, Fable and Willow in Kidderminster is well worth a visit. Based on Church Street, the interiors showroom has built a reputation for helping homeowners create spaces that feel stylish, welcoming and full of character.

The team at Fable and Willow are passionate about interiors and believe every home should reflect the people living in it. Rather than following fast trends, they focus on creating timeless spaces by combining traditional craftsmanship with modern fabrics, textures and finishing touches. The result is a relaxed, lived-in style that feels both elegant and practical.

Inside the showroom you'll find a carefully chosen collection of fabrics, wallpapers, paint, lighting, flooring and soft furnishings, alongside plenty of beautiful accessories to help complete a room. From bespoke curtains and handmade cushions to luxurious sofas and custom pieces, everything is selected with quality and attention to detail in mind.

Whether you're redecorating a single room or planning a full home makeover, the team offer a friendly and personal approach to design. They are happy to work with homeowners to bring ideas together and help create spaces that suit both the property and the people living in it.

Their busy workroom is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 5.30pm, with design consultations and home visits available by appointment. Evening and weekend appointments can also be arranged where possible, making it easier for customers to plan around busy schedules.

Fable and Willow's showroom can be found at 6 Church Street, Kidderminster. To book an appointment or arrange a consultation, email [handmade@fableandwillow.co.uk](mailto:handmade@fableandwillow.co.uk) or call 01384 438443.

For anyone wanting to add warmth, personality and timeless style to their home, Fable and Willow offers plenty of inspiration.

## Fresh Summer Foods That Can Naturally Support Better Gut Health and Digestion



Gut health has become one of the biggest wellness topics in recent years, and summer is actually one of the best times to support it naturally through fresh, seasonal foods. A healthy gut plays an important role in digestion, immunity and even mental wellbeing, with experts increasingly linking gut health to overall health throughout the body.

One of the easiest ways to improve gut health during summer is by eating more fibre-rich fruit and vegetables. Seasonal favourites such as strawberries, raspberries, cherries, tomatoes and leafy salads all help feed the healthy bacteria that live in the digestive system. Fibre supports digestion and can help keep the gut balanced and functioning

properly. Fermented foods are also becoming increasingly popular during the summer months. Yoghurt, kefir, kimchi and sauerkraut contain live cultures known as probiotics, which may help increase beneficial bacteria in the gut. Adding natural yoghurt to breakfast with fresh berries or serving fermented sides alongside salads and barbecue dishes can be a simple way to include them in everyday meals.

Summer is also a great time to swap heavier meals for lighter options that are easier on digestion. Grilled fish, lean meats, salads, wholegrains and fresh vegetables can all support gut health while helping people feel less

sluggish during warmer weather. Hydration also plays a major role in digestion. Drinking enough water throughout the day helps the digestive system work efficiently and supports the body's ability to process fibre properly.

The NHS generally recommends around 6 to 8 glasses of fluid daily, with extra needed during hot weather.

While there's no single "super-food" for gut health, small daily habits can make a real difference over time. Eating a varied diet rich in fresh produce, staying hydrated and reducing heavily processed foods are all simple steps that can help support a healthier gut this summer.

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Lisa 07906 989728

KIDDERMINSTER 5.30pm & 7pm  
Kidderminster Baptist church  
Franchise road  
Kidderminster  
Russ 07742 254410

### TUESDAY

KIDDERMINSTER 9.30am & 11am  
St Cecilia's Church  
Hoo Road  
Kidderminster  
Jane 07800889768  
KIDDERMINSTER  
3.30pm 5pm & 7pm  
St. George's Social Club Radford  
Avenue  
Kidderminster  
Net 07989598589

### WEDNESDAY

KIDDERMINSTER 5.30pm & 7pm  
Kidderminster Baptist church  
Franchise road  
Kidderminster  
Russ 07742 254410

KIDDERMINSTER  
9am & 10.30am, 5pm & 7pm  
St. George's Social Club Radford  
Avenue Kidderminster  
Net 07989598589

STOURPORT 9.30am  
Stourport Bowling Club  
Lickhill Road, Stourport  
Jane 07800889768

BEWDLEY 5.30pm & 7pm St.  
George's Hall  
Load Street  
Bewdley  
Russell 07742254410

### THURSDAY

KIDDERMINSTER  
9.30am & 11am  
Kidderminster Carolinas R.F.C  
Marlpool Lane Kidderminster

KIDDERMINSTER 6.00pm  
Foley Park Methodist Church  
Off Brinton Close  
Kidderminster  
Rachel 07907033347

STOURPORT  
5pm & 7pm  
The Severns Club  
Lickhill Road, Stourport Lisa  
07906 989728

### FRIDAY

STOURPORT 9.30am & 11am  
The Severns Club  
Lickhill Road, Stourport  
Lisa 07906 989728

KIDDERMINSTER  
9am & 10.30am  
Kidderminster Carolinas R.F.C  
Marlpool Lane

### SATURDAY

KIDDERMINSTER  
7.30am, 9am & 10.30am  
St Mary's Church  
Churchfields  
Kidderminster  
Kerry 07936495211

STOURPORT 8am & 9.30am  
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# Stay Safe in the Sun

## Why Protecting Your Skin Matters this Summer

As the summer months arrive, many of us look forward to spending more time outdoors, whether enjoying a family barbecue, relaxing in the garden, taking a holiday, or making the most of the warmer weather.

While sunshine can boost mood and help our bodies produce vitamin D, too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation can have serious consequences for skin health.

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK, with cases continuing to rise. Excessive sun exposure and sunburn significantly increase the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. The good news is that many cases are preventable through simple changes in behaviour.

Ultraviolet rays can damage the DNA within skin cells. Although the body repairs some of this damage, repeated exposure increases the likelihood of permanent changes that may lead to skin cancer. UV rays are present even on cloudy days and can reflect off water, sand, and concrete. There are three main types of skin cancer: basal

cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and melanoma. Melanoma is the most serious because it can spread to other parts of the body if not detected early.

Anyone can develop skin cancer, but the risk is higher for people with fair skin, those who burn easily, individuals with many moles, and people with a family history of the disease. Outdoor workers and those who spend long periods in the sun are also at greater risk. Children are particularly vulnerable, as severe sunburn during childhood can increase the risk of melanoma later in life.

Health experts recommend using a combination of protective measures. A broad-spectrum sunscreen of at least SPF 30 should be applied generously and reapplied regularly, especially after swimming or sweating. Seeking shade between 11am and 3pm, when UV levels are strongest, can also reduce exposure. Wearing lightweight long-sleeved clothing, a wide-brimmed hat, and UV-protective sunglasses provides additional



protection, while staying hydrated helps the body cope with hot weather.

Early detection can save lives. It is important to check your skin every few months for new moles or changes to existing ones. Watch for changes in size, shape, colour, or texture. The ABCDE guide can help identify warning signs: Asymmetry, Border irregularity, Colour variation, Diameter larger than 6mm, and an Evolving appearance. If you notice anything unusual, seek advice from your GP.

Sunshine is one of the pleasures of summer, but sensible precautions can help protect your skin for years to come. By understanding the risks, using effective sun protection, and checking your skin regularly, you can enjoy the season while reducing your risk of long-term damage. A little care today could make a significant difference to your future health.



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## Staying Hydrated During Hot Weather

As temperatures rise during the summer months, staying properly hydrated becomes increasingly important for overall health and wellbeing. While many people only think about drinking water when they feel thirsty, experts say thirst can often be an early sign that the body is already becoming dehydrated.

The NHS generally recommends drinking around 6 to 8 glasses of fluid a day, which is roughly 1.5 to 2 litres. During hot weather, exercise or busy days outdoors, the body often needs even more to replace fluids lost through sweating.

feeling tired, dizzy, developing headaches or struggling to concentrate if they are not drinking enough. Staying hydrated helps the body regulate temperature, supports digestion and can improve energy levels throughout the day.

Water is always one of the best choices, but foods with high water content such as strawberries, watermelon, cucumber and oranges can also help boost hydration. Carrying a reusable water bottle and drinking little and often throughout the day can make it easier to stay on top of fluid intake.

can be particularly vulnerable during warmer weather, as they may not recognise the signs of dehydration quickly. Checking in on elderly relatives, encouraging children to take regular drinks breaks, and avoiding long periods in direct sunlight during the hottest parts of the day can all help people stay safe and healthy during summer.



Hot conditions can leave people

Older adults and young children

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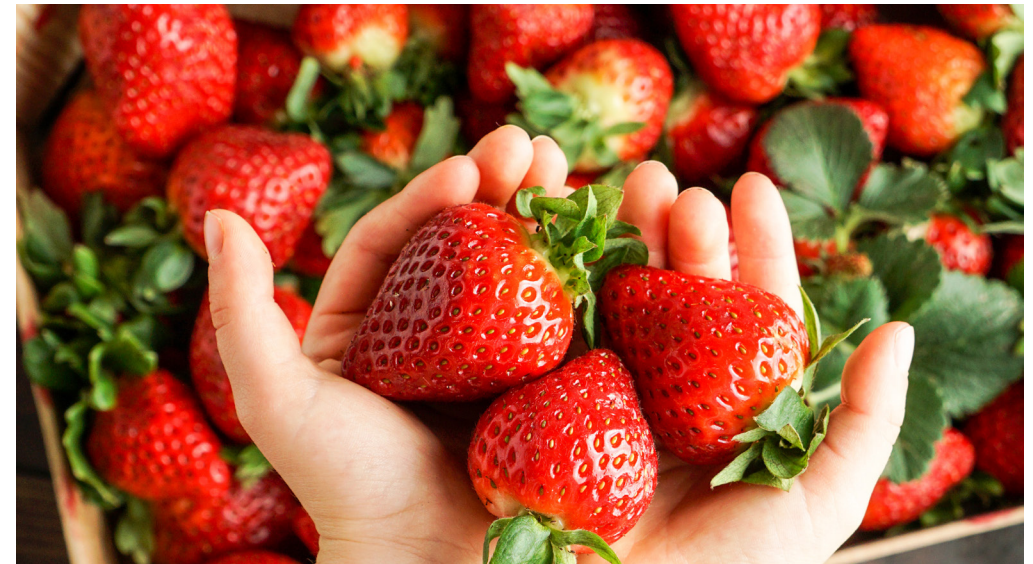


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## Why British Strawberries Still Define the Taste of Summer

Nothing quite says British summer like fresh strawberries. From Wimbledon traditions to garden picnics and afternoon desserts, strawberries remain the fruit most closely associated with July and for good reason. Their season may only last a few months, but when British strawberries are at their best, there's very little that compares. Thanks to a warm and relatively dry spring, growers across counties including Worcestershire and Herefordshire are expecting another strong strawberry season this year. Picked locally and sold quickly, British strawberries are often

sweeter, juicier and far more flavourful than imported varieties that spend days travelling before reaching supermarket shelves.

Strawberries have become far more versatile in recent years too. While the classic strawberries and cream combination remains unbeatable, cafés and restaurants are increasingly using them in more creative ways throughout the summer months. From strawberry cheesecakes and Eton mess to homemade milkshakes, gelato and pastries, the fruit has become a staple ingredient across seasonal menus.

One growing food trend this summer is pairing strawberries with savoury flavours. Strawberry salads with feta, balsamic glaze and fresh basil are appearing on menus everywhere, while some restaurants are even serving strawberries alongside grilled meats and charcuterie boards to add sweetness and freshness. For those entertaining at home, strawberries are also proving popular in summer drinks. Strawberry mojitos, frozen daiquiris, lemonades and fruit spritzes are all becoming favourites during warm evenings and garden gatherings.

Pick-your-own farms continue to thrive during July, offering families a simple but memorable summer activity while supporting local growers at the same time. There's something nostalgic about filling punnets with freshly picked strawberries and enjoying them before even leaving the farm.

Of course, the beauty of strawberries is often in their simplicity. Served fresh, chilled from the fridge, layered onto pavlova or scattered over breakfast, they remain one of the true highlights of the British summer food calendar.

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## Eton mess with Summer fresh Strawberries



### Ingredients

2 large egg whites  
120g caster sugar  
500g strawberries  
450ml double cream  
1 tbs icing sugar

the bottom shelf of the oven for  
1hr - 1hr15 mins until the meringues are completely hard and come off the paper easily.  
Leave to cool.

### Method

**Step 1**  
Heat oven to 120C/100C fan/gas 1 and line a large baking tray with parchment paper. Whisk the egg whites in a clean bowl using an electric whisk or tabletop mixer until they reach stiff peaks, then add the sugar in 3 lots, re-whisking to stiff peaks every time.

Spoon dollops of the mixture onto the baking parchment, cook on



**Step 2**  
Blitz 1/3 of the strawberries to make a strawberry sauce. In a large bowl whisk the cream with the icing sugar until it just holds its shape. Roughly crush 3/4 of the meringues and tip them in with the chopped strawberries and stir, then swirl through the strawberry sauce.

Dollop into bowls then crush the remaining meringues, sprinkling the pieces over the top.



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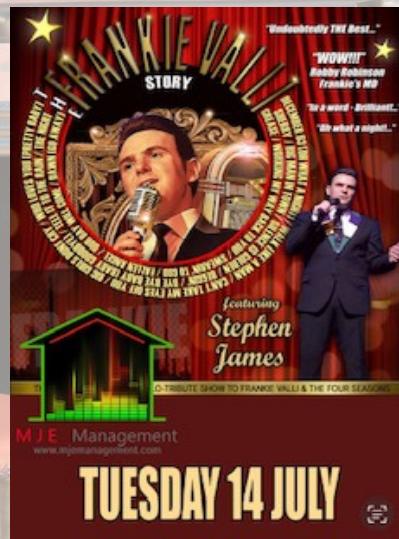
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## Goldilocks, The Three Bears and The Mayor of Porridgeton

Something magical is heading to Stourport this summer as TPB Productions brings a brand-new family pantomime adventure to the stage at The Civic. Packed with laughter, music, audience participation and plenty of porridge-fuelled fun, Goldilocks, The Three Bears and The Mayor of Porridgeton promises an unforgettable afternoon for all ages.

Taking place on Sunday 2nd August 2026, this exciting new production reimagines the classic fairytale with a fresh twist and a whole new adventure waiting deep in the woods of Bearwood. In the cheerful town of Porridgeton, preparations are underway for the biggest event of the year – the famous Annual Porridge Picnic Day. With colourful celebrations planned

across the town and the wonderfully eccentric Mayor proudly leading the festivities, spirits are high and excitement is building. But when the curious Goldilocks ventures further into Bearwood than anyone has ever dared before, she soon discovers that things may not be quite as they seem.

What follows is a heartwarming and hilarious journey filled with surprises, catchy musical numbers, larger-than-life characters and plenty of magical pantomime chaos along the way. As the mystery unfolds, audiences will discover there is far more happening in Porridgeton than anyone first imagined.

Featuring everything families love about traditional pantomime from laugh-out-loud com-

edy and colourful costumes to interactive moments and feel-good songs this joyful production is designed to entertain children and adults alike.

Whether you are a lifelong pantomime fan or simply looking for a fun family day out during the summer holidays, this brand-new show is set to be a highlight of Stourport's 2026 theatre calendar.

So warm up your singing voices, get ready to shout "It's behind you!", and join Goldilocks and friends for a magical adventure full of laughter, surprises and just a little bit of porridge.

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26-27 PROGRAMME

21-26 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	<b>2:22 A Ghost Story</b> by Danny Robins
26-31 <sup>st</sup> October 2026	<b>Marjorie Prime</b> by Jordan Harrison
16-21 <sup>st</sup> November 2026	<b>Murder Inn</b> by Howard Volland & Keith McGregor
15-18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026	<b>Christmas Entertainment</b> presented by the Nonentities and Friends
25-30 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	<b>Funny Money</b> by Ray Cooney
22-27 <sup>th</sup> February 2027	<b>Edith in the Dark</b> by Philip Meeks
12-17 <sup>th</sup> April 2027	<b>The Last Quiz Night on Earth</b> by Alison Carr
17-22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2027	<b>Lilies on the Land</b> by the Lions Part
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Upcoming Events



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**SAT, SEP 26<sup>th</sup>**  
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**SAT, NOV 07<sup>th</sup>**  
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[The Church Venue](#) [The Church Venue.dy10](#)

Check out all our upcoming events here 



## Country Roads Brings a Big Night of Country Classics to Town

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of toe-tapping tunes and country music favourites as Country Roads - One Night of Country Classics comes to town on Saturday 25th July at 7:30pm. Celebrating some of the greatest country songs ever written, this feel-good live production promises an evening packed with nostalgia, sing-alongs and timeless hits.

Produced by the team behind the popular touring show Islands in the Stream, this brand-new production for 2025 shines a spotlight on the legendary Kings and Queens of country music. Audiences are invited to leave their "9 to 5" worries behind and enjoy a high-energy celebration of the songs that have defined generations.

The show features an incredible soundtrack of country classics, including favourites such as Jolene, Ring of Fire, The Gambler, Walk the Line, Crazy, Rhinestone Cowboy, King of the Road and Walkin' After Midnight. With stunning live vocals, talented musicians and an uplifting atmosphere throughout, Country Roads is designed to capture the spirit and storytelling magic that has made country music loved around the world.

Whether you are a lifelong country fan or simply enjoy a great night of live entertainment, audiences can expect plenty of dancing, singing along and memorable moments from start to finish. The production combines the charm of classic country with a modern stage

show, creating a fantastic night out for music lovers of all ages. Currently touring venues nationwide throughout 2025 and beyond, Country Roads is quickly becoming one of the must-see live music theatre events for fans of country classics.

So dust off your cowboy boots, gather your friends and get ready for one spectacular night celebrating the music of a generation.

Tickets available at - [www.boxoffice.kidderminster-townhall.org.uk](http://www.boxoffice.kidderminster-townhall.org.uk)



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## An Evening with Rob Barratt Live in Bewdley

Award-winning comic poet and performer Rob Barratt brings his wonderfully quirky mix of humour, music and satire to St George's Hall on Saturday 11th July for an evening guaranteed to leave audiences laughing long after the final song.

Born in Dudley and now based in Cornwall, Rob Barratt has built a reputation as one of the UK's most unique live performers, blending razor-sharp wordplay, comic verse, parody songs and audience participation into a show that is both hilarious and surprisingly thought-provoking. His performances cover an extraordinary range of subjects, from squid and potatoes to

Neanderthal politics, distressed furniture and the weather in Scotland all delivered with warmth, intelligence and impeccable comic timing.

While the evening is packed with laughter, there is often a deeper edge beneath the humour, with Rob cleverly highlighting the absurdities of modern life through satire and observation. Over recent years he has appeared at folk, literature and arts festivals across Britain and Australia, earning glowing praise from audiences and critics alike.

Broadcaster Mike Harding described Rob's work as "not only clever but very funny," while Bar-

rie Dimond of Beardy Folk Festival called him "a velvet tongued assassin" whose performances should be witnessed "at all costs."

Taking place at 7.30pm, tickets are priced at just £10, making it an affordable and entertaining night out in the heart of Bewdley. Fans of comedy, poetry and live music alike can expect an evening full of wit, laughter and wonderfully offbeat storytelling.

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## July Motoring Summer Road Trip Ready

With summer in full swing and the school holidays just around the corner, July is one of the busiest months on the roads. Whether you're planning a staycation, heading to the coast, or simply enjoying longer evenings out and about, now is the perfect time to make sure your car is ready for the warmer weather.

One of the most important checks during summer is your tyres. Hot roads and long journeys can increase tyre wear, so make sure your tread depth is legal and that pressures are correct before setting off. Underinflated tyres can affect fuel economy and handling, especially when the car is loaded with luggage or passengers.

Keeping your engine cool is equally important. Check coolant levels

regularly and keep an eye on dashboard warning lights during long drives. Summer traffic and motorway queues can put extra strain on vehicles, particularly older cars.

Air conditioning is another area many drivers overlook until the first really hot day arrives. If your system isn't blowing cold air, it may need regassing or servicing. A properly working air-con system also helps demist windows during sudden summer showers.

July is also a great reminder to keep your windscreen clean and washer fluid topped up. Dust, pollen, insects and glare from the sun can all reduce visibility, especially during early mornings and evenings.

For electric vehicle owners, summer can actually improve battery efficiency compared to colder months, making it an ideal season for longer journeys. However, popular charging points can become busy during holiday periods, so planning ahead is always worthwhile.

Finally, don't forget the basics before any trip, oil, lights, brakes and battery checks can all help avoid unnecessary breakdowns. A little preparation now can save a lot of stress later and help keep your summer journeys safe, comfortable and enjoyable.

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## Harriers Thank Fans for Incredible Support as Club Looks Ahead

With the 2025/26 season now complete, everyone at Kidderminster Harriers has taken the opportunity to thank supporters for the fantastic backing shown throughout another memorable campaign.

From the first game of the season to the promotion-clinching trip to South Shields, Harriers fans once again travelled in huge numbers and played a major part in the club's successful return to the National League. More than 1,000 supporters made the long journey north for the decisive fixture, creating an unforgettable atmosphere as the club secured promotion back to step one. Support at Aggborough also continued to grow, with home attendances increasing on the previous season. The club says it remains hugely proud of the

connection between players, staff and supporters, with fans continuing to back the side through every high and low across the campaign. Season ticket holders were also rewarded with additional benefits throughout the year. Alongside the usual package, supporters received priority access for match tickets and away travel for the promotion showdown, helping ensure as many fans as possible could be there in person. Exclusive access was also given to the sold-out screening event held at Aggborough.

Planning for the 2026/27 campaign is already well underway following promotion back to the National League. While updates regarding a new manager and the playing

squad are expected during the summer, the club says full details of the new season ticket package will be announced in the coming weeks.

Harriers have also highlighted their commitment to keeping football affordable for supporters, having largely maintained the same pricing structure for the past three years despite rising costs across the game. The aim, the club says, is to continue offering value for fans while building a competitive squad capable of establishing itself back in the National League.

Supporters are also being encouraged to share ideas and feedback ahead of the new season at Aggborough. COYR!

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