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# Editor's notes...



Nik Allen, Editor

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of **VISION**Brentwood.

It's a special edition this month as it completes our second year of publishing **VISION**Brentwood.

It seems like only last week when I was tentatively ringing around potential advertisers telling them about a great new free monthly magazine for people in Brentwood.

I'm absolutely delighted the way the magazine has been received by readers and advertisers.

Going into any new venture is always a little nervy but I'm a big believer that hard work and doing the right thing always pays off.

I'd like to thank our readers for getting involved and sharing their news, views and opinions.

And of course, a massive thank you goes to our advertisers who made this magazine possible and whose ongoing support has helped **VISION**Brentwood thrive.

It's been an exciting and challenging 24 months and I've enjoyed it immensely. I look forward to the future with optimism and a lot of gratitude.

In local news, a new book is being released about the history of Brentwood, a headteacher is retiring after 15 years and tributes are paid to a father who died during a collision in the town.

I hope you enjoy reading this month's edition of **VISION**Brentwood.

*Nik*

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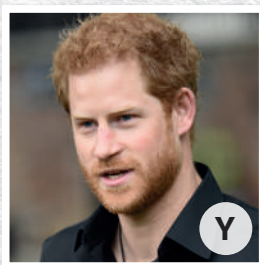
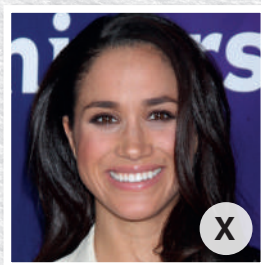
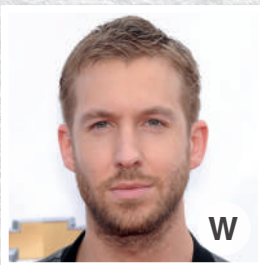
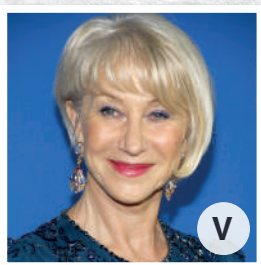
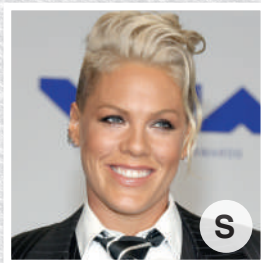
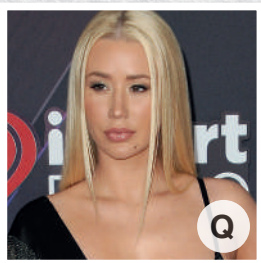
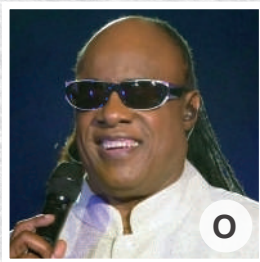
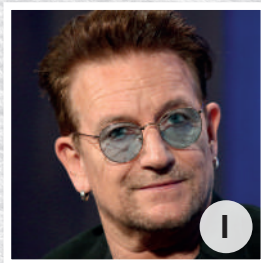
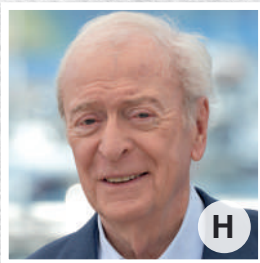
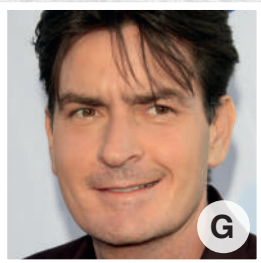
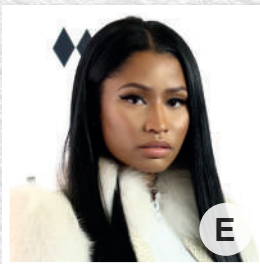
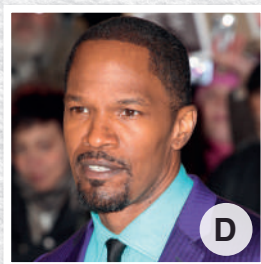
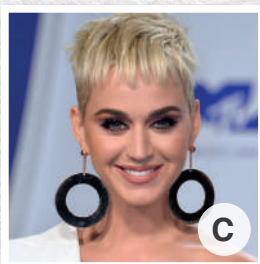
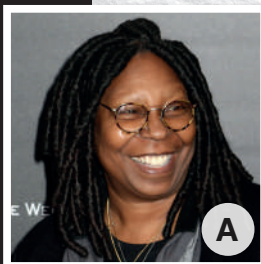
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DOWN  
1. ALPHA AN DOMEGA, 2. MUNCH, 4. RUSSIA, 5. DETERMINABLE, 6. CHAINED, 7. SELF-EVIDENTLY, 8. CHEERFULNESS,  
14. INFLAME, 16. POTATO, 18. REESE



That's not my name...



Guess the celebrity's real name...match the letters with the numbers.

1. \_\_\_\_ Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta
2. \_\_\_\_ Stevland Hardaway Judkins
3. \_\_\_\_ Reginald Kenneth Dwight
4. \_\_\_\_ Terry Jean Bollette
5. \_\_\_\_ Henry Charles Albert David
6. \_\_\_\_ Destiny Hope Cyrus
7. \_\_\_\_ Amethyst Amelia Kelly
8. \_\_\_\_ O'Shea Jackson Sr.
9. \_\_\_\_ Allan Stewart Konigsberg
10. \_\_\_\_ Paul David Hewson
11. \_\_\_\_ Krishna Pandit Bhanji
12. \_\_\_\_ Kathryn Hudson
13. \_\_\_\_ Adam Richard Wiles
14. \_\_\_\_ Alecia Beth Moore
15. \_\_\_\_ Peter Gene Hernandez
16. \_\_\_\_ Ilyena Lydia Mironoff
17. \_\_\_\_ Alicia Christian Foster
18. \_\_\_\_ Onika Tanya Maraj
19. \_\_\_\_ Patrick Chukwuemeka Okogwu Jr.
20. \_\_\_\_ Mark Sinclair Vincent
21. \_\_\_\_ Eric Marlon Bishop
22. \_\_\_\_ Caryn Elaine Johnson
23. \_\_\_\_ Carlos Irwin Estevez
24. \_\_\_\_ Rachel Meghan Markle
25. \_\_\_\_ Maurice Joseph Micklewhite

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



# Going Solo

The recent troubles experienced by Ant McPartlin have offered the world a scenario once thought impossible – the sight of Dec presenting alone. We look at some famous duos to see whether parting ways brought solo success or whether they should have stayed put.



Photo credit: en.wikipedia.org

## LAUREL AND HARDY

The biggest comedy duo in the era of classic Hollywood, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy made waves for two decades up to the Second World War with their iconic brand of slapstick humour. With decades of TV comedy under their belts, the pair couldn't garner any attention as solo artists, preferring instead to remain dual performers until Hardy's death in 1957.

**VERDICT:** *Better Together*



Photo credit: www.bristol247.com

## FRENCH AND SAUNDERS

These two much-loved comediennes paved the way for a generation of female entertainment when their show was given one of the biggest budgets in BBC history. Jennifer Saunders went on to win an Emmy Award, and star in *Absolutely Fabulous*. Dawn French, meanwhile, fronted *The Vicar of Dibley* series, and even became the voice of Terry's Chocolate Orange for a time.

**VERDICT:** *Solo Success*



Photo credit: yesterday.uktv.co.uk

## THE TWO RONNIES

Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett wrote themselves into the pantheon of British entertainment greats with their sketch show. Ronnie Barker embarked on successful solo projects in the form of *Open All Hours* and *Porridge*, to rich acclaim, but the consistency of The Two Ronnies remained until Barker's passing in 2005. Corbett followed him to the comedy convention in the sky two years ago.

**VERDICT:** *Better Together*



Photo credit: Feature Photo Agency/Shutterstock.com

## AMY POELHER AND TINA FEY

This pair of Transatlantic funny-women first found fame on *Saturday Night Live*, co-anchoring the now famous Weekly Update segment. Following that, they worked both separately and together, on films such as the Fey-penned 2004 cult hit *Mean Girls*, 2015's *Sisters*, and won a Golden Globe each for Fey's *30 Rock* and Poelher's *Parks and Recreation*.

**VERDICT:** *Solo Success*



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# 5 different ways to use... ...plastic bottles



We are constantly asked to recycle our plastic, especially plastic bottles. They are polluting our oceans and becoming an eyesore when littered. Here are five easy ways to reuse and recycle your plastic bottles, showing you just how adaptable and useful they can really be.

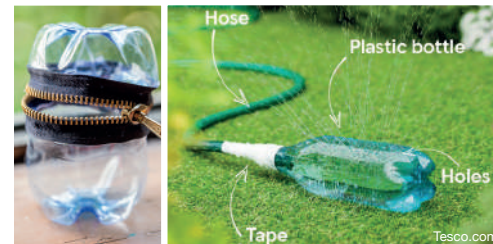
## 1. Planter

Make fun and creative planters from old plastic bottles. You can use them to plant flowers or grow your own cress or herbs. Simply cut the bottom third of a two-litre bottle, paint the bottle a colour of your choice, use the rest of the bottle to cut out ears and draw features on.



## 2. Bird feeder

Bird feeders are a great way to bring nature into your garden. Simply cut out a rectangle from each side of the bottom and fill the bottom of your bottle with seeds. It's best to use a five-litre bottle as most of the lids come with a handle for you to easily hang.



## 3. Sprinkler

Kids love running through the garden while the sprinkler is going, but these can be very expensive. Simply poke holes in a two-litre bottle and screw it on to your hose pipe.

## 4. Painting

Create a masterpiece with just a plastic bottle and some paint. Simply paint the plastic bottle to make it look like whatever animal you like – we love the owl.



## 5. Money pot

You will need two plastic bottles of the same size, a zip and a needle and thread for this activity. Simply cut around the bottles about a quarter of the way up from the bottom. Then, sew the zip around the edge of the cut bottles. You can then make a slit in the top bottle, or just use the zip to put your money in and out.





# THE BEDROOM BRIGADE

## FIVE HOT DÉCOR TRENDS THAT WILL MAKE YOU STAY IN THE BOUDOIR

### SENSUAL LIGHTING

Let's be honest, glaring bright lighting has never set the mood for bedroom time, sleep or otherwise, but this latest trend moves beyond your standard lamps and dimmer switches as we combine texture with light. Think feathered pendants which omit a soft glow, side table lamps with velvet shades, and strategically placed candles in Moroccan lanterns.

### RICH AND BROODING TONES

Forget your pastels and primroses, the bedroom colour palette has gone seriously luxe. Emerald greens, rich violets and sumptuous midnight blues add a warmth and richness which is always alluring, but never sombre.

### WICKER FURNITURE

For those who can recall all too well the shabby woven home furnishings of the 1970s, which always included an impractical and clunky willow bucket chair, the news that wicker is back may cause offence. But natural textures and rattan pieces are proving to be a huge hit once more.

From lightweight and discreet rattan desks, to a bold handwoven bed frame, the new wicker is sleek, sturdy and very stylish.

### FABULOUS FLAWS

Want the picture-perfect bedroom? Then stop seeking perfection. Think crumpled French bed linens, piles of mismatched pillows and shelves stacked with an assortment of books, keepsakes and picture frames. After all, your bedroom is your own personal retreat, not a museum.

### SACRED SPACE

As we become ever more aware that tech is taking over our lives and the dangerous health implications of that, more and more people are seeking to make their bedroom a gadget-free zone so that they can get in touch with their more contemplative side. This can include just banning electricals such as phones and TVs, or going as far as creating a corner of the room specifically designed for reflection and meditation. Either way, it's time to reclaim your bedroom for you.

## Loving the room.

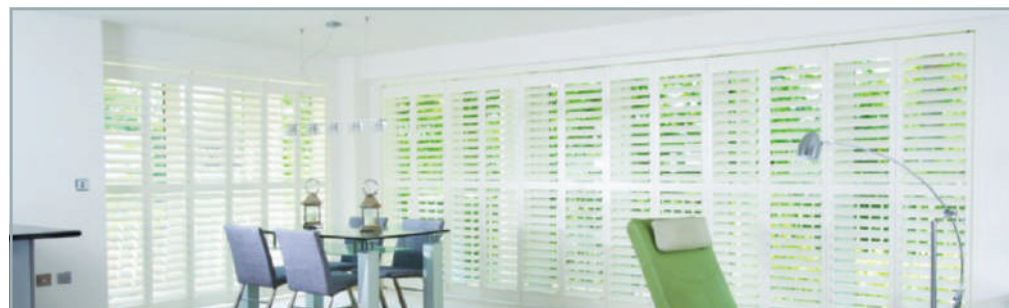
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HOME & DIY

# La vie VELVET

velvet is THE fabric of the season, but like all interior trends, it's important you get the perfect balance for your home.

Velvet is officially in... which is great news. Soft and sensual, it adds a warmth and luxuriousness to your home, and is cheaper as an upholstery than leather. However, there is a fine line between opulence and gaudiness. After all, one's home ought to feel comfortable and stylish, but go overboard and your humble abode can start to feel more like a nightclub, or even worse, a brothel.

So how do you keep the trend on the right side of chic? Colour is very important. Too much scarlet or purple velvet and you might feel trapped in some eternal cabaret; but lilac, midnight blue, forest green and mustard add sophistication and warmth. You also need to be practical about your choice, so people with kids and pets ought to stick to the darker end of the spectrum.

Those who have been dying to get a little luxury in their life can go all out with this trend. Always wanted a velvet sofa? Go for it. In fact, why stop there? Velvet bed frames and banquettes are available in some very modern styles, and add a real touch of class to the bedroom (again, when in the right shade). But you can also play around with flashes of the fabric here and there, either with curtains or lampshades, or even just a very subtle velvet trim.

You could also combine the look with the current texture trend. Think leather sofas with velvet cushions, wooden beds with linen sheets and velvet throws, or a stone mantelpiece adorned with quilted photo frames. In the end, it's really down to personal preference, and how far you want to go.



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# LOCAL NEWS

*from your neighbourhood*

LOCAL NEWS



## Head of drug smuggling crime group sought by national agency

National Crime Agency (NCA) investigators are appealing for information to trace the head of an organised crime group which disappeared before standing trial for drugs offences.

Richard Wakeling, 51, from Brentwood, was sentenced in his absence to 11 years in prison for orchestrating the attempted importation of liquid amphetamine with a street value of around £8million in April 2016.

Three other men also stood trial at Chelmsford Crown Court, including Lesley Muffett, 59, who drove the lorry carrying the drugs, and gang members Stuart Davidson, 65, and Darren Keane, 34.

All four men were found guilty of conspiring to import drugs on April 6 following a 12-week trial.

NCA officers began their investigation after plastic drums carrying the liquefied drugs were discovered by Border Force on Muffett's truck as he attempted to board a train through the Channel Tunnel on April 9, 2016.

On April 9, Wakeling was given an 11-year sentence, Keane nine years, Davidson eight years and Muffett

six years in prison.

NCA senior investigating officer Paul Green said: "These men were involved in a serious conspiracy to import a large quantity of dangerous drugs. We know they had links to other organised crime gangs in Europe and it is almost certain that this wasn't the first time they had done it."

Of the search for Wakeling, Paul Green added: "We strongly suspect that Wakeling fled abroad, possibly to Thailand where he has strong family links."

"But it is likely there are people here in the UK who hold clues about his movements after he arrived in Belfast on January 6, and I'd appeal for anyone with information to come forward."

"He has a prosthetic leg and needs regular medical treatment."

"The NCA has an international reach and he should know distance isn't a barrier to us finding him. We are determined he will be returned to the UK to serve his sentence."

"Until we find him, he'll spend every day looking over his shoulder."



# School travels to Ypres for Great War rededication

Brentwood School staff, governors and students past and present travelled to the famous Belgian town of Ypres on the last day of term to rededicate their plaque in St George's English Church to those who fell in the Great War 100 years ago.

The last time the school visited in such numbers was in 2009 to unveil the plaque originally.

In a moving service led by the school chaplain, Revd Dr Adrian McConaughie, the names of 59 Old Brentwoods who gave their lives were read out by current pupils in the third year, who were visiting the region on an annual battlefields history trip.

Navy officer, Commodore Jonathan Fry, himself an Old Brentwood, gave an address during the service, paying tribute to the 59, and relating their experiences before call-up to those of current students present in the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) and choir.

The headteacher Ian Davies read the exhortation and a wreath was laid at the school's memorial plaque.

Mr Peter West, aged 89, who fought in the Korean War, rededicated the plaque to victims of the Great War and subsequent conflicts.

Later that evening, the school laid three wreaths at the Menin Gate memorial, joined by members of the CCF, led by Contingent Commander Lt. Col. John Seaman. Commodore Fry read the exhortation as the most senior ranking forces officer that evening.

Reflecting on the weekend's events, Mr Davies tweeted: "A moving and memorable service to remember those who died; to celebrate the end of the First World War and to welcome the continuity of community that exists between Old Brentwoods and current students. We have all drunk from the fountain and swim in the same river."

## Councils agree to share more services

Brentwood Council will soon be entering into a shared agreement with Basildon Council to manage the delivery of housing stock repairs and maintenance services.

The decision follows the successful shared revenues and benefits service agreement which has been in place since December 2014. The latest shared service agreement will provide an opportunity for both local authorities to exchange skills and expertise.

Councillor Gavin Callaghan, chairman of Basildon Council's policy and resources committee, said: "Brentwood Council shares our vision to collaboratively

deliver quality front and back office services, and as pressure on local government resources increases it is even more crucial that we develop efficient and innovative approaches.

"Brentwood Council has been looking for a managed housing service to offer support and meet its gaps in expertise, and working with us - instead of outsourcing the service - will reduce costs and drive continuous improvement.

"Any income generated, as a result of the shared service agreement, will be paid back into the wider public purse for the benefit of residents."

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Photo credit: East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust



# Man thanks people who saved his life

A man thanked the men and women from the East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST), Essex and Herts Air Ambulance and the Essex County Fire and rescue service who saved his life after falling into cardiac arrest recently.

Brian Abbott was on his way to Thriftwood Scout Camp in Brentwood with his two friends Steve and Ray on the day of the incident.

Brian informed his friends that he felt sick and should no longer drive. A few moments later, Brian's condition began to deteriorate.

His friends made the life-saving decision to turn off and head to Orsett Fire Station. When they arrived Brian had no pulse, and he was not breathing.

With all fire crew out on risk visits, Ros Heapy, station cleaner for 20 years, answered the door and informed them that there was a team of paramedics out.

Martin Cross and his Hazardous Area Response Team (HART) colleagues had all been training at the station and were just about to leave.

Brian was immediately given CPR via a machine called LUCAS. In an attempt to get Brian's heart to beat normally he was given the emergency resuscitation drugs carried by road crews and shocked using a defibrillator on several occasions without success.

As a last resort to save Brian's life, the team applied two shocks at the same time. This was successfully performed, and Brian's heart started to beat again on its own. Still critically ill, he was transferred to the Basildon Cardio-Thoracic Unit where they diagnosed him with blocked arteries which were unblocked using three stents.

On March 26, Adam Eckley, chief fire officer for Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, hosted an event to formally recognise the skill and professionalism of all those involved in Brian's care, at Orsett Fire Station.

Brian's friend Ray said: "From the moment we arrived I witnessed all that is good with the NHS in action. I was amazed by the teamwork and organisation of the emergency service."

# Gender pay gap for council workers revealed

Brentwood Borough Council has announced that there is a 1.49 per cent gender pay gap in the top 25 per cent of salaries at the council.

Women employees at the council get on average 3.75 per cent higher hourly rate pay than men. This is due to the council having a high proportion of women in office and administration roles.

Brentwood Borough Council leader, cllr Louise McKinlay, said: "Brentwood is a shining light countrywide for establishing near parity of income for women and men and I am immensely proud of this achievement."

"We lead by example, yet there are places in Britain where women are still woefully underpaid compared

to men. The Office of National Statistics says women earn on average 9.1 per cent less than men and in some places this is as high as 49 per cent less for women than men.

"Brentwood is clearly way ahead of the equality game here, so I would encourage companies struggling with large gender pay gaps to come and look at our example."

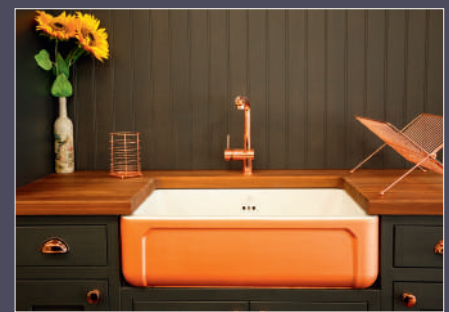
"Women working in Brentwood have assurance that their work is being rewarded within a hair's breadth of their male counterparts' rate. However, I look forward to the day when reward comes from goals achieved within the workplace regardless of gender, age, race or any other discrimination."



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LOCAL NEWS



## Delve into history of town with new book

A new book is set to be published this month delving into the long and interesting history of Brentwood.

*Secret Brentwood* by Michael Foley explores the less well-known episodes and characters in the history of the town through the centuries.

With tales of remarkable characters, unusual events and tucked away historical buildings, *Secret Brentwood* will appeal to all those with an interest in the history of Brentwood.

The earliest settlement was founded in a clearing in the dense forest that stretches from the edge of London through to Essex.

The town became famous for its numerous inns that catered for the travellers and it was also the site of the first disturbances of the Peasants' Revolt in 1381.

Further on in the town's history, despite being heavily bombed during the Second World War, much of the historical buildings survived, many of which have featured on TV programmes.

Michael Foley is an author from Romford who has had a number of articles published in magazines such as *Best of British*, *This England* and *The Great War*.

*Secret Brentwood*, the latest volume in Amberley's bestselling *Secret* series, is published on May 15.

A. Another of Brentwood's old public houses- the William IV and some of its old regulars. B. An early image of Kings Road looking towards the rural scene of Warley. C. An old welcome to Brentwood card showing various images of the area. D. A soldier deep in thought as he writes a letter maybe to a loved one from Brentwood. E. An old print of the Warley Heroes from a pamphlet published to make fun of the old Warley Camps.

## Headteacher to retire after 15 years

The headteacher of a local school has announced he will be retiring.

Ian Davies, head of Brentwood School, will retire in summer 2019 after 15 years.

Under his leadership the school has flourished both in the academic and co-curricular spheres.

Mr Davies said: "It has been a great privilege and

a pleasure to serve as headteacher of this great school for so long. I will miss our superb teachers and support staff, our wonderful students, supportive and encouraging parents and Old Brentwoods, and an inspirational governing body.

"I leave in the sure knowledge that the school remains in the hands of an outstanding team of people."



## The Royal Logistic Corps celebrate 25 years



The Royal Logistic Corps celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

The Royal Logistic Corps (RLC) is the largest Corps within the British Army. It was formed on April 5, 1993.

The RLC maintains the army's operational capability by providing constant support and sustaining units by land, sea and air.

124 (Essex) Transport Squadron is Brentwood's local Army Reserve unit and is part of 151 Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps.

The Squadron, based at the Army Reserve Centre, in Warley, is highly trained, operationally tested and ready to protect the nation when called upon.

Always ready to serve and meeting every challenge, the Reservists train alongside their regular colleagues, both in peace time and on operations.

The Squadron is a diverse organisation with technically qualified soldiers that come from all walks of life. It offers opportunity, challenge and adventure with expert training providing skills for life.

Once passed basic training, soldiers go onto train as drivers, obtaining Heavy Goods licences and operate a wide range of modern military vehicles, across all kinds of terrain on and off road.

All Reservists are paid the same as their regular colleagues to which they have strong bonds and shared values. For more information visit Army Jobs online or call 01277 268960.

## Police appeal following burglary

Essex Police are appealing for information following a burglary in Brentwood.

They would like to speak to anyone who may have seen the incident take place at The Grove at 10.53am on Thursday, April 12. Two men were seen leaving a property armed with knives. A third man

was waiting in a Mercedes, and the three drove off in the direction of the M25.

A witness reported that one of the men was around 6ft tall and of a slim build. He was white, had dark hair and wore a beanie hat. He was also wearing a puffed jacket.

Officers searched the area but could not find them.

If you have any information, please call 101 and ask for Brentwood CID or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or visit [Crimestoppers-uk.org](http://Crimestoppers-uk.org)

## Organisations and individuals to be awarded

The Brentwood Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the launch of the 2018 Brentwood Business Awards, sponsored by overall awards partner Pinney Talfourd Solicitors.

The awards will recognise the best of local organisations and employees at a black tie dinner on November 9.

Sole traders, businesses, charities, social sector organisations and individual employees are encouraged to enter the following categories:

- > Apprentice of the Year – sponsored by Ardleigh Green Janitorial Services
- > Business Person of the Year – sponsored by Wortley Byers Law
- > Employer of the Year – sponsored by Havering College
- > Excellent Customer Service Award – sponsored by Bennetts Funeral Directors
- > Growing Business of the Year – sponsored by AeroBlue
- > Not-for-Profit Organisation of the Year – sponsored by Rainer Hughes
- > Sales and Marketing Award – sponsored by Spargo Hairdressing and Spargoland
- > Small to Medium Business Award – sponsored by ACL Essex.

Entries are open to organisations based in—or doing business in—the borough of Brentwood until June 30.

For more information and applications forms, visit [www.brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards](http://www.brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards)



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## BURGHART for BRENTWOOD



Alex Burghart MP for Brentwood and Ongar



LOCAL NEWS



A hundred years ago this month the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service merged to form the Royal Air Force. German attacks from the skies in the Great War led to aircraft bases being established in Essex, including at Rochford, Stow Maries and, in this constituency, North Weald. When Zeppelins or Gotha bombers were seen approaching the coast, calls were made to the Essex flight bases and various home defence biplanes were scrambled.

North Weald's airfield came back into service in the Second World War. Its Great War hangars and buildings were developed to house the 56 (R) Squadron and its aircraft - I have been delighted to hear that the squadron is going to be given the Freedom of Epping Forest District at a ceremony in June this year.

If we think, in 2018, that the prospect of driverless cars on our roads is almost unbelievable, it's hard to comprehend what North Weald's residents must have felt about spindly biplanes flying over their heads in 1918. It had taken just over a decade from Orville and Wilbur Wright's first hesitant flight in 1903 to single engine propeller planes rising to fight in the

skies over Essex. The planes, made of wood, canvas cloth and wire, were fragile and difficult to fly and so the average life-expectancy rate for a Great War pilot was about two weeks.

If you want to see what life was like for those first pilots and crew, visit the Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, just outside Maldon, which was returned to farmland after the Great War, leaving the various buildings built for the Royal Flying Corps intact. Essex County Council and Maldon District Council bought the land in 2009 and this wonderfully evocative piece of RAF history is now being sympathetically conserved and restored.

One of those who worked there in the First World War was William George Medley, who grew up in Shenfield. He worked at the Brentwood munitions factory before signing up with the Royal Flying Corps as a mechanic and driver in 1917. He survived the war and lived to a good age, dying in Brentwood in 1983 - but his memory, and that of his extraordinary generation, lives on among the buildings and biplanes of Stow Maries. Visit [www.stowmaries.org.uk](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk), [www.nwamuseum.co.uk](http://www.nwamuseum.co.uk) or [www.alexburghart.org.uk](http://www.alexburghart.org.uk)

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## Star-studded line-up at RiZE Festival

Miles Kane has announced that he will be joining the line-up for the first ever RiZE Festival in Chelmsford this August.

Performing on the Friday, Miles is known for his exhilarating live shows and is a welcome addition to what is already an excellent line-up.

The announcement comes alongside news that Miles is currently in the studio finishing his album which will be the first new music since his debut album release in 2013.

Liam Gallagher and Stereophonics have also been announced to headline the new RiZE Festival which will take place at the iconic Hylands Park in Chelmsford on Friday, August 17 and Saturday, August 18.

Celebrating its very first year, RiZE Festival brings together an exciting mix of the very best music from classic indie, pop, urban, dance and new upcoming talent across four stages.

Hylands Park has a history of hosting world class events and this new local festival promises to bring an incredible weekend of live music plus a huge hub of

the best food and drink on the festival circuit.

Alongside headliners rock 'n' roll icon Liam Gallagher and one of Britain's best live bands Stereophonics, the new outdoor festival also features a host of highly acclaimed live artists.

These include Platinum debut record singer-songwriter James Bay, iconic national treasures Manic Street Preachers, indie pop idols Circa Waves, Grammy award-nominated rock group Bastille, British alt.rock veterans Maximo Park as well as Craig David's world famous TS5 show.

Also performing are major UK artists Years & Years, Plan B, Rag'n'Bone Man, Dave, Rita Ora, Example & DJ Wire, Tokio Myers, MNEK, Disciples, Sinéad Harnett and The Manor. Some of the hottest emerging talent joining the bill are Lewis Capaldi, Tom Grennan, Raye, Tom Walker, Nina Nesbitt plus Jacob Banks. Many more acts will be announced across four stages.

Tickets are priced from just £59.50 +booking fee and are on sale now. Please visit [www.rizefestival.co.uk](http://www.rizefestival.co.uk) for official outlets.

## Tributes paid to father who died following collision



Photo credit: Essex Police

Tributes have been paid to a father who died following a collision in Brentwood.

Emergency services were called to London Road around 9.10pm on March 16 with reports that a silver Mercedes had collided with a pedestrian. Sadly, despite the efforts of officers and paramedics, the pedestrian died at the scene.

Essex Police have identified the man as Terrance Oliver, 61, from Rotherham.

In a statement, his family paid tribute: "Terrance was a kind and generous man loved by his family.

"We trust that people will respect our privacy in this time of grief." Terrance is pictured with his sons and daughters.

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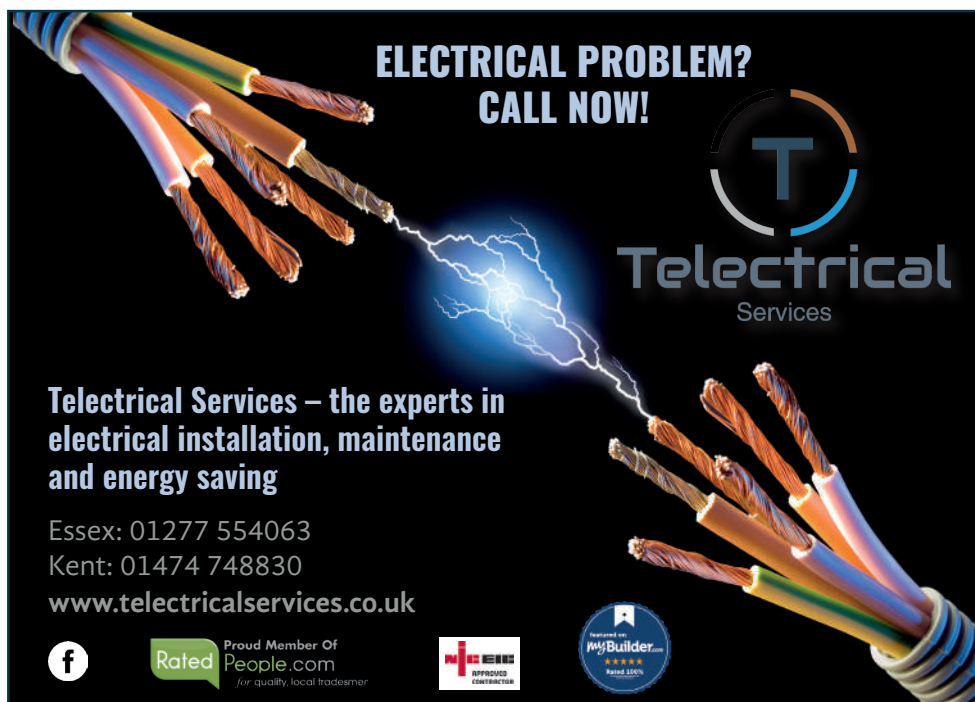
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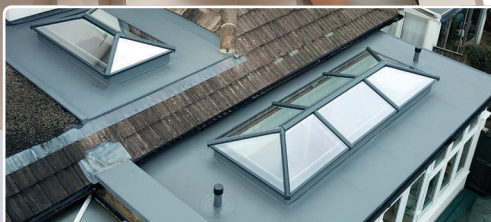


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**LOCAL NEWS**

Street Pastors continue to patrol the town centres of Brentwood and Billericay every Friday and Saturday night.

At the moment we are heavily into our training cycle. We train all our volunteers in a number of subjects to stay relevant to the issues that are impacting our communities. We also stay up to date with current affairs that affect us locally like the planned increase in housing, changes in licensing hours, any crime issues and stories of public unrest or confusion.

We fully support the work of the local Samaritans as they help us train for patrol on the rail lines and also support people with longer-term issues around health and wellbeing and will continue to listen and care after any suicidal thoughts have lessened.

We are very excited to be launching Schools Pastors later this year and hope to be able to use this mode into our secondary schools. Again, we

will train and equip our volunteers to be appropriate and support the local school in its ambitions and also to offer pastoral support which sometimes get squeezed when finances are tight. We are also part of the National Curriculum in that we are part of Religious Education modules to show how the local church cares for the community. I had the opportunity of sharing with eight Year 9 classes at Mayflower School this term about us and our values and it seemed to go down well.

We have also started our Rail Pastor patrols on the GA route between Shenfield and Colchester. We are hoping to build up relationships with anyone who uses the rail network and hope that we can help in any intervention work that may be able to save a life.

You can get in contact with us by emailing [Billericay@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:Billericay@streetpastors.org.uk) or following us on Facebook or Twitter.

## See Little Mix on tour this summer

The world's biggest girl band Little Mix are playing a run of UK summer shows throughout July 2018 as part of the group's *The Summer Hits Tour 2018*.

Kicking off in Hove on July 6, the run of 15 live shows ends in Inverness on July 29.

The shows will see Little Mix perform their greatest hits, including *Touch*, *Shout Out to My Ex*, *Black Magic* and *Wings*.

The show in Colchester has already sold out, however people from Brentwood can still catch the girls in Earlham Park, Norwich on July 21.

Little Mix have just released The Platinum Edition of

their smash hit album *Glory Days*.

The original version of the album spent five weeks at the top of the UK Albums Chart surpassing any other album released by a female group this millennium and becoming the longest reigning girl group No.1 album since Spice Girls' debut 20 years ago.

They have continued their sensational run of hit singles in 2017 with smashes such as *Touch*, *No More Sad Songs*, *Power* and *Reggaeton Lento (Remix)*.

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# Royal Weddings THE FLOWERS

Meghan Markle's wedding bouquet is certain to contain a sprig of myrtle, a tradition for royal brides dating back to 1840 when Queen Victoria married Prince Albert. The myrtle for royal brides is almost always cut from a bush at Osborne House, Queen Victoria's residence on the Isle of Wight.

Myrtle symbolises hope and love.

Meghan and Prince Harry have chosen to work with London-based florist Philippa Craddock. For arrangements in St George's Chapel and St George's Hall, she will be using branches of beech, birch and hornbeam, along with white garden roses, peonies and foxgloves.

There is speculation that Meghan will pay a tribute to her late mother-in-law Princess Diana with her bouquet as the Duchess of Cambridge did in 2011.

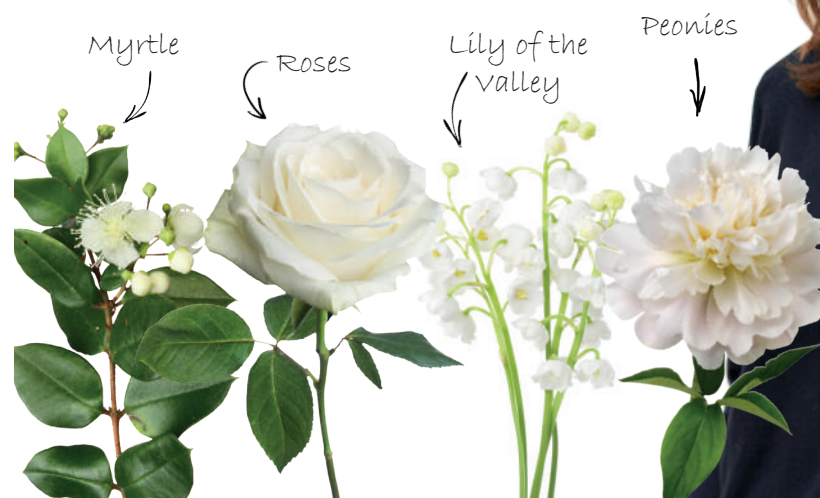
While Catherine's small, simple bouquet served as a stark contrast to Diana's enormous cascading collection of blooms, both featured lily of the valley. Other British royal brides who have incorporated the local flower in their bouquets are Princess Margaret in 1960, Princess Anne in 1973, and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, when she wed Prince Charles in 2005.

Meghan is also expected to carry peonies down the aisle. They are said to be her favourite flower as are roses. But royal bouquets tend to be white.

For her marriage to Prince Philip, the then Princess Elizabeth had chosen an all-white, free flowing wedding bouquet. It included three types of rather exotic looking orchids: cattleya, cyripedium and odontoglossum – all British-grown – and of course myrtle.

Following their weddings, it is also customary for royal brides to leave their bouquets on the grave of the unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey, a sombre tradition that was started by the Queen Mother in 1923, who left her flowers on the memorial in honour of her brother Fergus, who was killed in the First World War I in 1915.

While Meghan and Harry will be married at St George's Chapel, not Westminster Abbey, she will likely still send her bouquet to the church, following in the footsteps of Sophie Rhys-Jones, who wed Prince Edward at the chapel back in 1999.



GARDENING

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# DIY FATHER'S DAY Flowerpot



KIDS

Are you fed up with buying the same generic Father's Day presents for your children to give to their daddy year in and year out? Why not try something different this year and help your child make their own DIY gift? This simple homemade flowerpot is the ideal gift for any green-fingered daddy or grandad and is guaranteed to take pride of place in your garden.

## You will need:

- ✿ 1 x Terracotta clay pot (big enough to fit your child's handprint on)
- ✿ Acrylic paint in various bold colours (green is a must)
- ✿ Paint brushes
- ✿ 1 x ice cube tray

## How to make:

- ✿ Lay down some newspaper or an old sheet to protect your floor.
- ✿ Fill your ice cube tray with your preferred colours (be sure to include green for the stem and leaves).
- ✿ Place your pot on the newspaper/sheet.
- ✿ Paint the rim of the pot in your chosen colour (younger ones may need some help with this).
- ✿ Leave to dry.
- ✿ Help your child paint their hand and tilt the pot slightly to allow them to press their handprint onto it.
- ✿ Repeat around the pot in as many different colours as you would like.
- ✿ Take a brush and paint on a green stem and two leaves below each of the handprints (as per the image above).
- ✿ And voila. You have your homemade handprint flowerpots.

## Optional:

You can also personalise your handprint flowerpot by writing 'Happy Father's Day, love from {insert your child's name here}' around the rim of the pot.

Or you could even go one step further and fill your pot with compost and their father's preferred plant or herbs.

The beauty of DIY gifts is that you can be as creative as you like, so let your children's imagination run wild.





# The Dame WHO DARES



*British icon Dame Helen Mirren reveals her thoughts on ageing, her inability to resist a juicy role and why you should never call her a movie star.*

.....

There's no stopping Dame Helen Mirren. Smart, sexy, and outspoken, the actress is still revelling in the career renaissance that began at age 46 when she began playing *Prime Suspect's* DCI Jane Tennison. Born in London to an English mother and Russian father, Mirren has long been a feminist trailblazer who occupies iconic status today among Hollywood's hopeful young starlets.

Her performances have inspired generations of women - distinguished by a palpable intelligence and steely determination whether playing a military commander (*Eye in the Sky*), royalty (*The Queen*), or a Mossad agent (*The Debt*). If ever there was an archetype of an actress suited to playing strong women, it would be her.

Currently, the formidable and iconic actress is appearing in *The Leisure Seeker*, directed by acclaimed Italian filmmaker Paolo Virzi, and co-starring Donald Sutherland. A compelling romance that depicts the interactions between a woman with terminal cancer and her husband, who's suffering from Alzheimer's. And while the elegant star undoubtedly looks fantastic for her 72 years, she is characteristically candid about the inevitable pitfalls of ageing. "If I have to be honest, there is nothing that pleasant about growing old. You learn to accept your age and all the faults that come with it and you console yourself by believing you are wiser," Mirren says sagely.

"When you're a teenager it seems impossible to think of becoming old. But then you learn to accept it and renounce many things that seemed so important before, like plunging necklines and miniskirts," she adds with a laugh.

Over the years, her sharp wit, cutting humour and boundless talent have earned her 'national treasure' status. Mirren is also incredibly humble, and despite her extensive back catalogue and slew of awards, she refutes the suggestion of being a 'movie star'. "No, I've never thought of myself as that, never considered myself anything close. I'm a working actress, who's been fortunate and lucky, and sometimes the stars align in a certain way," she says, firmly.

Her life off-camera is also admirably straightforward. Mirren has never had children, stating in the past that she has "no maternal instinct whatsoever", and has spent the past 32 years together with Hollywood director Taylor Hackford (*Ray, An Officer and a Gentleman*). They were married in 1997 and currently divide their time between homes in Los Angeles and the village of Tiggiano in Puglia, Italy.

Even she admits it would be easy at this point to while away the days soaking up the wonders of Italy, but unfortunately for Mirren, she has one terrible weakness. "I can never find the willpower to say 'no' to a very good part when one comes along," she confesses.

"I often tell my husband, 'I've done enough, I'm not going to keep pushing myself.' But he's so used to hearing me say that he doesn't even pay attention to me anymore when I make that kind of a declaration.

The terrible truth is that I simply cannot resist a good role."



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## Prevent Meningitis and Chickenpox: Tips to protect your family May 2018

Following European Immunisation Week (23-29 April), Essex Private Doctors GP Dr Alice Scott has created this helpful guide to make sure you understand how you can tackle Chickenpox, Shingles and Meningitis B and take steps to protect your family.

### Chickenpox

Chickenpox is a common childhood illness, caused by a virus called Varicella Zoster. It is very contagious and is spread by inhalation of the virus. It can also be caught from a person who has shingles.

The Chickenpox vaccination is available on the NHS to people who regularly encounter those with a weakened immune system (such as health care workers). The vaccination is also available as a private vaccination to people who do not fall into the group of people eligible for it on the NHS.

### Shingles

Once someone has had chickenpox, the virus hides in nerve cells and can then become reactivated later in life and cause shingles. It is estimated that one in five people who have had Chickenpox develop Shingles.

The Shingles vaccination is available on the NHS to people in their 70s but can be given as a private vaccination to people over the age of 50. If you are unlucky enough to have already had



Shingles, the vaccination can boost your immunity against further shingles attacks.

### Meningitis B

Meningitis B most commonly affects young children below the age of five, especially babies under the age of one, with a second peak in adolescents, but can affect people of any age.

The NHS childhood immunisation programme vaccinates children born after May 2015. Groups more vulnerable to infection are also eligible for vaccination on the NHS. The Meningitis vaccination is available as a private vaccination to people who do not fall into the group of people eligible for it on the NHS.

If you would like to discuss any health concerns raised by this article, or to book a private Chickenpox, Shingles or Meningitis B vaccination appointment please call the surgery on 01277 201001.

To read Dr Alice's full vaccination guide visit [www.essexprivatedoctors.com/news](http://www.essexprivatedoctors.com/news)

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Hay fever sufferers rejoice. We have some great tips for helping you survive the season; and yes, you can even go outside.

is a really effective way to wash out all the allergens clinging to your nostrils, so carry one with you. Showering (including hair) and changing your clothes when you get home on high pollen day also helps.

### Keep an eye on the pollen count

Warm and dry days generally have a higher pollen count, whereas thanks to the rain washing pollen out the air, wetter days have less. So, keep an eye on pollen forecasts and stay indoors as much as possible when it's really high. Certain times of day also bring about an increase in pollen, usually early morning (7am to 10am) and late afternoon (4pm to 7pm).

### Protect yourself when outside

You can't live like a hermit just because the sun is out, so apply barrier balm around your nostrils (Vaseline works too), and buy a peaked hat and some wraparound shades.

### Remove allergens daily

Hay fever sufferers know that feeling of being bombarded by pollen, and unfortunately there is no way of stopping it getting to you entirely. Saline spray

### Protect your home

Keeping windows closed on high pollen days is an obvious place to start, but pollen can also sneak in on pets that have been outside, and line-dried clothes. So, avoid snuggling up to poochie, and buy an indoor drying rack.

### Limit time in the city

Despite usually having a lower pollen count than the countryside, all the pollution in urban areas irritates your respiratory tract, making it harder to cope with other allergens.

### If all else fails, head to the seaside

Not that you need another excuse for that weekend in Southend, but you'll be pleased to know that the sea breeze blows pollen inland, making seaside resorts a veritable paradise for hay fever sufferers.







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### HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT PET FOR YOUR HOME

Pets are considered to be one of the family and can genuinely enrich our lives. However, when deciding on which animal to buy, it is vital to select the right breed for you based on finances, time and accommodation. For example, buying a Great Dane when you live in a small, third-floor flat and have very little free time to walk it is not going end well for either you or your beloved new friend.

For those living in small homes with little or no garden, it is wise to choose an animal which isn't going to take over. Budgies and parrots are a charming but low maintenance option, while cats make great companions and their desire for independence means they are happy to make a life of their own outside - though you will need to ensure your home is accessible, so they can come and go as they please, and be aware of any big roads directly near you.

Large and energetic dogs are likely to bring chaos to a modest abode,

so go for a small, calmer breed like a poodle or shih tzu. But remember that ALL dogs need regular walks.

Small, furry animals like hamsters and gerbils make a great first pet for kids, but they can also bring great joy to adults who seek company but have little time or space. Fish are another option for those looking for a more self-sufficient addition to their family - bear in mind that tropical fish can be considerably more expensive than the cold-water variety due to their need for a heated aquarium.

Finally, if you've got a sizeable house and garden consider anything from rabbits to a tortoise, to big, boisterous pooches. But don't forget that all animals need a great deal of love and attention, so when choosing, don't just consider the size of your home, but the size of your heart too.





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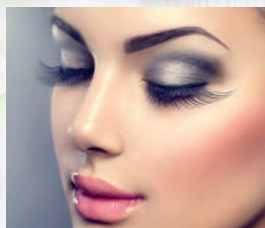
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# IN THE Glow

If you're done with spending hours trowelling on foundation only to find it dries out your skin and clogs up your pores (which incidentally leads to the need for even more of the stuff), then consider trying out a more natural look this spring.

To begin your new regime, you need to make sure your skin is in tiptop condition. This doesn't mean it has to be blemish free, just that it's free of dead skin and feels plump. To maintain a pleasing complexion, buy a face wash that contains natural fruit acids, exfoliate once a week and invest in a decent moisturiser. It also helps but isn't essential to start drinking plenty of water to help your skin along. For those feeling pasty after a long winter, a little bit of self-tan goes a long way in giving you a natural boost.

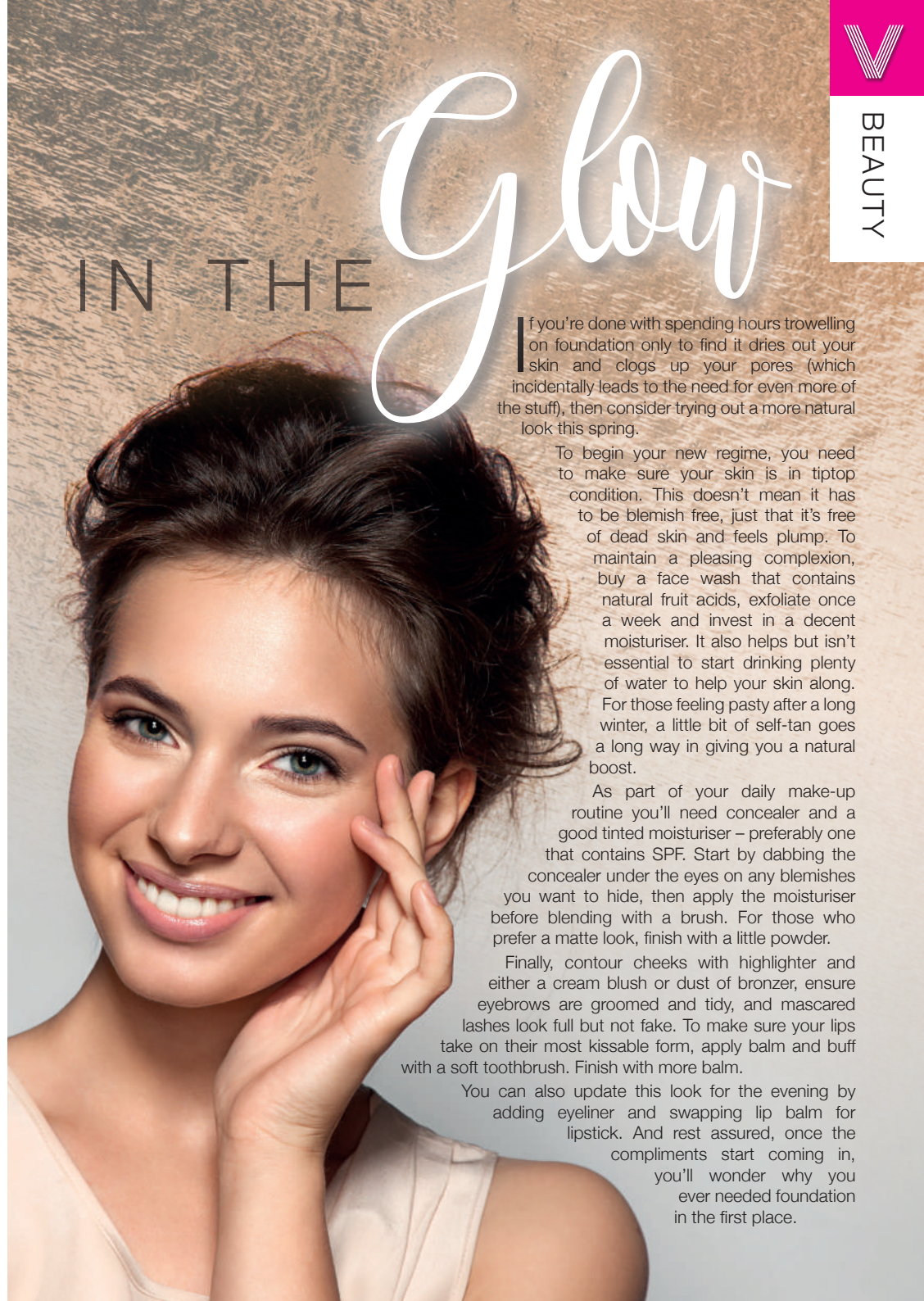
As part of your daily make-up routine you'll need concealer and a good tinted moisturiser – preferably one that contains SPF. Start by dabbing the concealer under the eyes on any blemishes you want to hide, then apply the moisturiser before blending with a brush. For those who prefer a matte look, finish with a little powder.

Finally, contour cheeks with highlighter and either a cream blush or dust of bronzer, ensure eyebrows are groomed and tidy, and mascared lashes look full but not fake. To make sure your lips take on their most kissable form, apply balm and buff with a soft toothbrush. Finish with more balm.

You can also update this look for the evening by adding eyeliner and swapping lip balm for lipstick. And rest assured, once the compliments start coming in, you'll wonder why you ever needed foundation in the first place.



BEAUTY







# Cut ABOVE

It's a vital part of your daily routine, but what are the experts saying about the biggest hair trends for men this summer? We take a look at some of the latest examples of cutting-edge follicular fashion.

## JOIN THE CREW

For maximum impact with minimum fuss, make this the year you finally follow the likes of Ryan Reynolds and go bold with the hair clippers. Grade one back and sides, with a grade six on top, ideally getting your barber to scissor-cut the top to that length so you can get a little more texture into it, rather than leaving it too rounded, gives you a simple style for the 9-5. Just remember to book back in with your barber every week to 10 days, or risk losing those sharp lines.

## BLONDE AMBITION

Looser, chopped fringes dyed bleach blonde have been popularised by everyone from footballers to popstars – with the chameleonicly coiffured Zayn Malik offering a masterclass in dyed hair almost every other day. It's a bold and stylish look, but also one worth forking out a bit for. Home dye jobs are the grooming equivalent of playing with fire (and you'll certainly feel the burn if you get it wrong), but if you're brave enough, give it a try, and remember to use a deep conditioner once a week whilst investing in some purple shampoo to stop that bright white mellowing to a yellow.

## PLAYING IT LONG

Longer-haired lads may be looking to ditch the man-bun and opt for something a little sleeker and refined. We've come a long way from the glam-rock hairdos of the 1970s, while stars like Brad Pitt and Jared Leto have popularised the shoulder-length slicked-back look. It's just a case of ditching layering in order to maximise length and chic sleekness.



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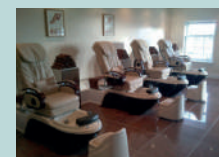
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## Royal Weddings THE DRESSES



FASHION

*S*tunning Meghan Markle has already looked fabulous in a wedding dress. She certainly had the whoa factor as her character in the US TV series *Suits*, Rachel Zane, dressed up in a gown for her wedding to Mike Ross.

She wore a traditional white wedding dress with lace detailing and sparkles, so will she deviate from this incredible look?

No one knows at the moment, as it has not been revealed who is the designer.

But of course the divorcee has walked down the aisle once before in her 2011 wedding to film producer Trevor Engelson.

She then opted for a white bohemian-style, strapless, floor-length gown with a notch neckline. The plain dress was complete with pleats at the front and an embellished belt, which added a touch of sparkle. There was no intricate lace detailing, no plunging showstopper back and no long train or veil.

It is understood that her friend, stylist Jessica Mulroney, was flown over from Toronto, Canada, in January and spent four days with Meghan - helping her choose the perfect dress.

Norman Hartnell designed the Queen's wedding dress and she had to buy the material for the dress using ration coupons. It was made with soft Damascus Prokar, featuring a high neckline, tailored bodice and a short train.

Her sister Princess Margaret also had a wedding dress designed by Norman Hartnell, made from silk organza. He designed it so that the crystal embellishments and beading were kept to a minimum, to suit Margaret's petite frame.

Princess Anne wore a Tudor-style dress designed by Maureen Baker when she married Mark Phillips.

Probably the most famous royal wedding dress is that of Princess Diana designed by David and Elizabeth Emmanuel. It spawned a decade of meringues and featured a 25ft train and 10,000 hand-sewn pearls and sequins.

The Duchess of York opted to design her own bridal gown - it featured a 17ft train and an embroidered letter 'A'.

Camilla shunned the traditional white gown in favour of a cream silk chiffon dress hemmed with vertical rows of Swiss-made appliqued woven disks, and a matching oyster silk basket weave coat. Robinson

Valentine designed the outfit, and she wore accessories by L.K.Bennett and Philip Treacy.

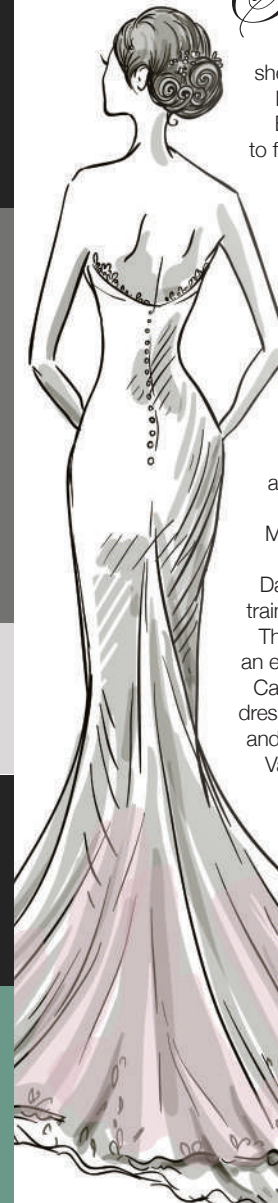


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FASHION

# He's the Man

Seals of delight rang out in fashion circles when it was announced that Kim Jones would be taking the reins of Dior Homme, so what can we expect from this ground-breaking designer?

Kim Jones is the kind of understated creative you probably wouldn't recognise in the street, but you definitely know his work. Within the fashion industry, he is referred to as 'Louis Vuitton's secret weapon' thanks to his part in transforming the brand known primarily for its overpriced luggage, into a formidable player in men's streetwear. In short, during his 11 years as Men's Artistic Director he brought the famous LV monogram back to life.

What sets the dynamic Londoner apart is his ability to combine classic tailoring with modern urban sensibilities. After graduating from Central Saint Martins, Jones immediately began shaping his unique vision, and soon after starting his eponymous label (which became instantly popular in Japan) he found himself collaborating with the likes of Topshop and Alexander McQueen along with art direction for magazines such as Dazed & Confused and Arena Homme +.

To Louis Vuitton he brought serious streetstyle kudos, in the form of tracksuits, trainers and graphic tees that, thanks to his background in tailoring, were slim cut and stylish to keep them on the right side of fashion. Last year marked possibly his finest moment with the French Fashion house: a blockbuster collaboration with Supreme – a brand referred to as 'the Louis Vuitton of streetwear'.

So, what can we expect from his move to Dior Homme, a house well known for skinny suits and fashion sneakers? Most likely he will simply build on the legacy of his predecessor Kris Van Assche, infusing even more street influences, reaching out to collaborators and enlisting other young talents to realise his impeccable vision. Having recently appointed Yoon, an experimental Tokyo designer, as the brand's head of jewellery, you can bet his first collection in June won't be anything but extraordinary.



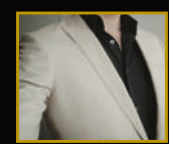
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# Royal Weddings THE CAKES



FOOD & DRINK

## A LOOK AT THE CAKES OF ROYAL WEDDINGS PAST

Prince Harry and his bride to be Meghan Markle have decided they don't want to get fruity on their wedding day and have bucked tradition of not having a traditional fruitcake.

Instead they have gone for a much more modern style - an organic lemon elderflower wedding cake.

The couple have turned to pastry chef and food writer Claire Ptak, below, owner of Violet Bakery in east London, to make the cake, which will be covered with buttercream and decorated with fresh flowers.

His brother Prince William and wife Catherine chose a multi-tiered fruit cake made by baker Fiona Cairns, and while the decorations were pretty traditional - it featured edible flowers including an English rose, Scottish thistle, Welsh daffodil and Irish shamrock - they also had a chocolate biscuit cake by McVitie's.

Prince Charles has had two bites of the wedding cake. When he married Camilla in 2005, bakers

Sophisticake from Lincolnshire had just four weeks' notice to bake one.

The finished cake weighed in at 17 stone, took around 130 hours to coat and decorate and was made with 20 bottles of brandy. The firm also had to make 2,500 additional slices to fill special commemorative tins.

For his wedding to Diana in 1981 the official wedding cake was a fruitcake with cream cheese frosting. It was five-foot high, weighed 18 stone and was made by David Avery, the head baker of the Naval Armed Forces.

McVitie and Price Ltd, using ingredients given as a wedding gift by the Australian Girl Guides Association, made the official wedding cake at the Queen's wedding.

It was an enormous, ornate affair and stood nine foot tall and was covered in intricately carved cathedral-like designs. It is said to have been cut using Prince Philip's sword. It even had its own nickname - the 10,000-mile wedding cake.



Prince Charles and  
Princess Diana's cake

The Queen and  
Prince Phillip's cake

Prince William and  
Kate Middleton's cake

Claire Ptak  
of Violet Bakery



# Asparagusto

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## Spring carbonara

While the traditional carbonara, with its rich, creamy sauce and fat cubes of pancetta, is delicious, you may want something a little lighter for spring. Made using the same classic cheese sauce (egg yolk, double cream, parmesan), you simply switch out the meat for lightly boiled peas and asparagus tips that have been fried with some crushed garlic. Magnifico.

## Ribboned asparagus salad

Trim and wash your asparagus thoroughly before shaving with a potato peeler to create thin ribbons. Add cucumber, tomatoes, avocado and grated parmesan, before dressing with olive and lemon juice. Quite simply, spring in a bowl.

## Asparagus and goat's cheese frittata

A hearty brunch or a light supper, a frittata is a great way to get a couple of your five-a-day while still feeling satisfied. Simply sauté 200g of sliced asparagus spears, before setting aside. Then, in a medium pan, fry three large eggs beaten with grated parmesan, and scatter your sliced spears and spoonfuls of soft goat's cheese on top. Cook through before serving with a green salad and an optional glass of white wine.

## Asparagus and prosciutto parcels

These salty, creamy and flavoursome parcels make a great sidedish or starter for when you're feeling fancy. Start by blanching asparagus for two minutes before running under cold water. Layer four spears with slices of mozzarella and wrap with prosciutto before frying gently in a pan. Prosciutto should be crispy, mozzarella should be melty, and guests ought to be impressed.

## Asparagus soldiers

It is said that enzymes in asparagus help break down alcohol, making this an ideal snack either before or after a heavy session. Step one: soft boil two eggs and some asparagus spears. Step two: dip asparagus into egg. Step three: devour.



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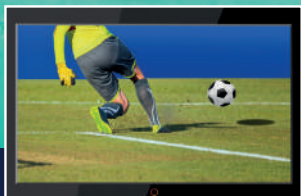
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# THE POWER

## *of peace*



Relations between Russia and the West are at such a low that we are now on the brink of a new cold war.

The poisoning of former Soviet spy Sergei Skripal, 66, and his 33-year-old daughter in Salisbury from the nerve agent Novichok has led to mass expulsions round the world of Russian diplomats.

Despite denials of the attack on March 4, Russia is firmly in the dock. Russia Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has made the ludicrous suggestion that it was Britain itself that carried out the attack on the double agent because the UK Government has found itself in a difficult situation, unable to fulfil promises it made about Brexit.

There is a clear comparison of present-day tensions to the bitter ideological and military rivalry that existed between the Soviet Union and the West from the 1950s to the end of the 1980s.

One man who has vivid memories of those days

in the Sixties is Gary Powers Junior, 50, whose dad, also named Gary, was a pilot who worked for the CIA and who had been captured when his U2 spy plane had been shot down in 1960.

It was the catalyst for a nerve shredding two years when the world was brought to the brink of nuclear war.

The story was a central point in the film *Bridge of Spies* starring Tom Hanks as attorney James Donovan, the man who masterminded the spy swap which saw Gary return to the US.

The New York lawyer was the man who worked tirelessly behind the scenes as the fingers of US President John Kennedy and Russia's Nikita Khrushchev hovered over nuclear buttons during the Cuban crisis of 1962. It was the closest the two super-powers have ever come to war.

It was Donovan's negotiations which led to a dramatic peace deal.

He walked across a frost-covered bridge in Cold War Berlin. By his side was British-born KGB spy Rudolf Abel - a man ironically the lawyer had saved from the death penalty at his trial.

On the other side of the Glienicke Bridge in Berlin - the so-called Bridge of Spies, as other spy swaps would take place in later years, was Gary Powers.

Years after his father was shot down and captured there lingered the suspicion that he might have been a traitor who had deliberately crashed his plane. Gary Jnr was technical consultant on the film.

He says he was thrilled by the film.

"So much has been written and said about my father that has not been fair to him but this film does set the record straight," he said.

"The film shows that he was a hero to our country. Steven Spielberg has done a fantastic job and the family are thrilled with *Bridge of Spies*.

"Not only have they recaptured the Cold War

era perfectly, but he has been able to convey the tension and uncertainty that surrounded all those events."

Based on his father's diaries and talks they had before his death about the U2 incident, he was able to give the director and his team an accurate account of what took place.

On May 1, 1960 Powers took off from Peshawar in Pakistan for what he thought was a routine nine-hour mission codenamed Grand Slam.

"Four hours into the flight a missile exploded near to the tail of the U2 as he flew over Sverdlovsk," said Gary.

In the split seconds Powers had to bail out he was unable to reach a self-destruct button that would have blown up the U2.

Almost two months after his capture he was convicted of spying and sentenced to 10 years in jail, including seven years' hard labour.





# DIRECT *only*

Qantas made history recently after they launched the first 17-hour non-stop flight from Perth to London Heathrow.

The 14,498km service is now the fastest way to get to Australia – eliminating stops in the Middle East to re-fuel or change planes which can add hours to a journey.

The first flight, carrying more than 200 passengers and 16 members of crew, pushed back just before 7pm on Saturday, March 24 and landed in London at 5am the following day.

The flight reduces total travel time by removing stopovers and taking advantage of the winds when choosing a flight path.

Technology has come a long way, especially aviation. In 1947, it took four days and seven stops to travel from Australia to the UK with the original 'kangaroo route'. It also cost around £525 when the average wage was a mere £7.

Nowadays, the journey is both quicker and more

affordable with the average Australian weekly wage at \$1,600 and a return fare from Perth to London costing less than \$1,300.

Athletes competing at the Commonwealth Games would have had to set off days before they were due to compete just to complete the gruelling journey. But nowadays, they can hop on a plane and be at their destination within 24 hours.

In 1962, Prince Philip travelled to Perth to open the British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Travelling by boat, he set off several weeks before he was due to open the event.

The land down under is now easier to access than ever before. With the new development, tourist numbers are sure to increase with people from Britain taking advantage of the journey.

4 days & 7 stops ↗ 17 hours



Qantas-Dreamliner-Emily-Kame-Kngwarreye. Photo Credit: www.qantasnewsroom.com.au

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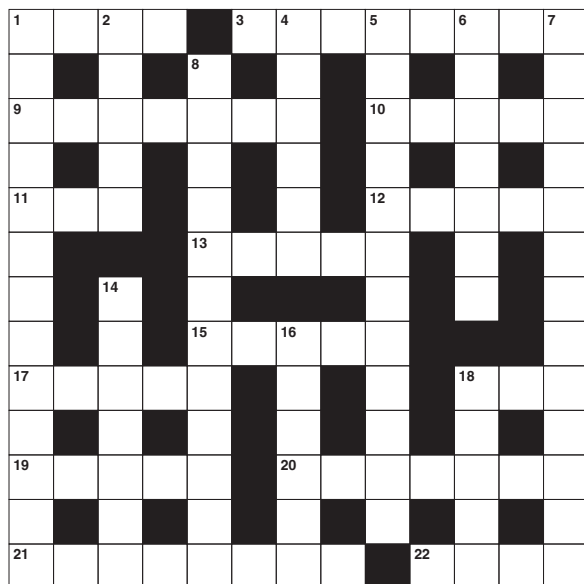
# PUZZLES & TRIVIA

## ACROSS

1. Military unit (4)
3. Manufactures (8)
9. Hits with the fist (7)
10. Fishing net (5)
11. Exclamation of surprise (3)
12. Wash with water (5)
13. Kingdom (5)
15. Unfasten (5)
17. Bits of meat of low value (5)
18. Cereal plant (3)
19. Fill with high spirits (5)
20. Illness (7)
21. Repugnance (8)
22. Wet with condensation (4)

## DOWN

1. The first and the last (5,3,5)
2. Eat steadily (5)
4. World's largest country (6)
5. Resolvable (12)
6. Linked together (7)
7. Obviously (4-9)
8. Optimism (12)
14. Catch fire (7)



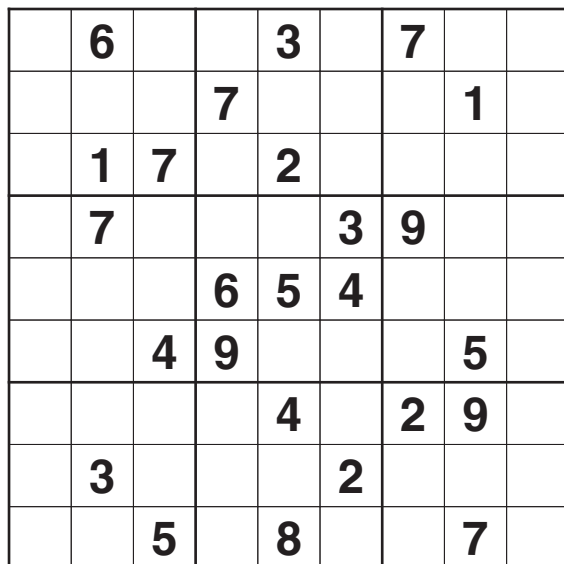
16. Edible tuber (6)

18. \_\_\_ Witherspoon: actress (5)

## DID YOU KNOW

- ▶ Each time you look at the moon you always see the same side.
- ▶ Earth is the only planet not named after a god.
- ▶ A full moon is nine times brighter than a half moon.
- ▶ Every year the sun loses around 360million tons.
- ▶ All the planets in the solar system could fit inside Jupiter.
- ▶ From space, one of the brightest man-made places is Las Vegas.
- ▶ If you could drive to the sun at a speed of 55mph, it would take around 193 years.
- ▶ The centre of the sun is approximately 15 million degrees centigrade.

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# WHAT'S ON *in your area*

## Organ Recital

**Brentwood Cathedral, Ingrave Road,  
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**May 16, 1pm – 1.40pm**

We have a lunchtime organ recital in the cathedral on Wednesday, May 16 at 1pm – 1.40pm to be given by Nicholas Mannoukas from the Royal College of Music London.

## An Evening with Graham Kendrick

**Trinity Church, 49 Coxtie Green Road, Pilgrims  
Hatch, Brentwood, CM14 5PS**

**May 19, 7.30pm – 10.30pm**



Come and join us for an evening of worship and song led by one of the UK's most well-known Christian songwriters. Graham Kendrick has been described as a “father of modern worship music” whose songs are “crammed full of poetic, divine, biblical truth” that have “sculpted a view of God that has impacted generations”.

For more than 30 years he has been at the forefront of Christian music in the UK having written and recorded hundreds of songs.

Tickets cost £12. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-graham-kendrick-tickets-44124976994?aff=es2](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-graham-kendrick-tickets-44124976994?aff=es2) for more information.

## National Garden Scheme: Barnards Farm

**Brentwood Road, West Horndon, Brentwood  
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**May 24, 11am - 4.30pm**

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and quirky enhance and delight.

Barnards Miniature Railway rides (BMR). Visit [www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/13670](http://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/13670) for more details.

## Old Brentwoods School Dinner 2018

**Edinburgh Dining Hall, Brentwood School,  
Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 8EE**  
**May 25, 6.30pm – 11pm**

The headteacher Ian Davies, who this year is president of the Society of Old Brentwoods, invites all Old Brentwoods and their partners to the annual School Dinner. This is a formal event for all age groups and the dinner is preceded by a drinks reception in the Edinburgh Dining Hall.

The Guest of Honour will be Sir Trevor Brooking CBE, former West Ham and England international footballer.

For any queries, please email the development office at [oldbrentwoods@brentwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:oldbrentwoods@brentwood.essex.sch.uk)

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# Royal Weddings THE WINDFALL



Prince Harry and his new wife Meghan Markle are expected to boost Britain's coffers by £500million on their wedding day.

Experts predict the cash will come rolling in as thousands of visitors are expected to flock to the UK for the ceremony at St George's Chapel, Windsor, on May 19, while millions more around the world will watch on TV.

Brands Finance says the increase in tourism, combined with sales of royal memorabilia and the knock-on effect of spending in Britain's shops, bars and restaurants will be huge.

Chief executive David Haigh said the biggest chunk will come from tourism.

He said: "We think approximately £200million will come from tourism, travel and hotels."

Mr Haigh also estimates that royal wedding parties will generate about £150million and souvenirs will, he believes, rake in about £50million. Another £100million at least will be generated in free advertising for UK PLC.

Major royal events are always big money spinners. In 2012, the Diamond Jubilee celebrations boosted tourism by £390million.

Harry and Meghan's wedding also means a windfall for local residents, who look set to cash in on the worldwide interest generated by the wedding.

Airbnb, which provides an online marketplace for people to let out their homes on a short-term basis, says Windsor residents will earn an average of

£353 by leasing their homes when the couple tie the knot.

Maidenhead homeowners could be in line to make an average of £162 while those in Slough could make £141 by offering up their homes to tourists from May 18 to May 20.

James McClure, general manager for Airbnb, said: "The royal wedding has provided a welcome tourism boost, putting the UK in the spotlight once again."

Listings on the Airbnb site include a three-bed Windsor townhouse in Helena Road with an asking price of £1,000 per night and a four-bedroom property in Clewer priced at £1,750 a night.

The company says guest arrivals for the May weekend have risen by 362 per cent in Maidenhead compared to the same period last year.

Arrivals in Windsor are also up by 194 per cent while neighbouring Slough has seen a staggering 1,438 per cent rise, the research revealed.

It does not stop there though with the British fashion and magazine industry raking it in because of the popularity of Meghan and her soon-to-be sister-in-law, The Duchess of Cambridge, for at least the next 10 years.







# Car Cleaning HACKS

Car cleaning hacks that will save you both time and money.

## INTERIOR

### DEAL WITH DUST

If dust in your dashboard is driving you crazy, buy a can of compressed air to blow away all the grit and grime that settles in the vents and crevices.

### BUY A TOOTHBRUSH

You can then deep clean those hard-to-reach spots with a cheap toothbrush and soap and water – this also works on the creases in your seat fabric.

### ERASE LIKE MAGIC

Marks on your plastics and leather upholstery can diminish the overall look of your car. Luckily, they are easily dealt with using a Magic Eraser.

### BEAT ANIMAL HAIR

Simply spray hairy seats with a mist of water and wipe down using a squeegee. Then consider investing in a backseat cover.

### SHINE ON

Get that 'new car' feel using a soft cloth and a tiny drop of olive oil to revive tired leather interiors. Zing.

### KEEP IT TIDY

Tired of your kids treating your car like a rubbish bin? Buy a plastic cereal container and line it with a plastic bag to stow in the centre footwell. Silicone

muffin cases in the bottom of your cup holders will also make cleaning a breeze.

## EXTERIOR

### STOP SMEARED WINDSCREEN

Try wiping down your windscreen wipers with alcohol for a top non-smear tippie.

### GET SPARKLING HEADLIGHTS

Toothpaste and a little water will make them shine like a dream.

### LOSE TIRED STICKERS

No longer want fellow motorists to 'honk if they're horny'? Gently use a razor blade at an angle to remove old car stickers (along with your dubious past).

### BANISH BUG SPLATS

There's no need to scrub off those sticky beasts, just use a cooking oil spray and a cloth.

### CLEAN UP WITH CLAY

If you've shined and buffed your motor but can't lose those last few marks on your paintwork, buy a clay bar and lubricant to lift away the problem areas and fully restore your dream machine.



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