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LIVE LONG & PROSPER this Star Trek Day

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The actor's rise to the big screen as he turns 50

VISIONChelmsfordBeaulieu | Edition 26



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AFTER





BEFORE





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AFTER

AFTE



Editor's notes...



N

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of VISION Chelmsford Beaulieu. As they say, time really does fly. Often in our publishing world, it feels like the months just whizz by, largely owing to the fact we are always planning months ahead when it comes to content, advertisers' campaigns and editorial. My son is going into pre-school in September and my daughter is going into the big kid part of the nursery - this blows my mind. My wife and I are always in awe of how quickly the kids develop, how they communicate with one another and, of course, their ever-improving tantrums. I remember

those wise words: "Enjoy the younger years; they won't last forever." And they really don't. It's all about savouring those little moments as they do go guicker than I ever could have imagined.

The moral of the story is to enjoy the present, be present and enjoy the sleepless nights. It's hard sometimes, but just remember that you will miss these days one day.

I heard a quote recently that summed it up perfectly when they are this age: "The days are long, but the uears are short." This really hit home for me.

Until next month, take care of yourselves and each other.

Nik Allen

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At the time of print all content in VISION was relevant and up to date according to COVID-19 government guidelines



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BTAR QUALITY

ne of the most enduring television programmes in broadcast history has certainly lived up to its famous quote – "Live long and prosper".

And if the legacy of the iconic sci-fi series wasn't reason enough to don the Starfleet uniform, the so-called Star Trek Day – September 8 to you and me – surely is.

Legendary actor Leonard Nimoy committed almost 50 years of his life to playing the Vulcan character Spock, dating right the way back to the first *Star Trek* pilot episode in 1964. And until his death in 2015, the actor presided over a franchise that never lost its edge or appeal.

In fact, it's because the series is as admired today as it was on its original run back in 1966 that director J.J. Abrams has been tempted back for a third reimagination, expected to air sometime in 2023.

Before then, Trekkies have a special date in the calendar upon which they can hang their USS Enterprise hat. That's thanks to the growing popularity of September 8 on the sci-fi calendar, a date affectionately known as Star Trek Day.

The date mirrors when Trekkies got their first glimpse of the crew in 1966 – the result of Gene Roddenberry's vision of a drama inspired by *Forbidden Planet*, *Horatio Hornblower*, and *Gulliver's Travels*.

To say that *Star Trek* has blown apart pop culture over the course of its existence is something of an understatement – with revenue approaching £10billion, it's certainly one of the highest-grossing media productions on record.

The 2009 *Star Trek* reboot movie by Abrams saw a new alternate timeline so as to continue with the original characters, albeit portrayed by a new cast. Indeed, the franchise has so far managed to swerve some of the prequel/sequel criticism levelled at its distant sci-fi relation, *Star Wars*.

Perhaps the reason for that is because *Star Trek* has always succeeded in showing a strong regard for humanity because it's the universe – our own shared universe – they're all fighting for. Maybe that's why it has stood the test of time for seven decades. It's certainly what fans the world over will embrace on September 8, with thousands of meet-ups celebrating characters, friendships, memories and just a bit of old-fashioned sci-fi sorcery.

Strangely, it's possible Roddenberry, the show's creator, had the Second World War to thank for his vision of space warfare; he was a brave bomber pilot for the US Army Air Force during the conflict, and was awarded the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross, before becoming a police officer in Los Angeles.

He got his big television break soon afterwards, and so too did the likes of James T. Kirk, Dr Leonard McCoy, Montgomery Scott and others.

STAR TREK



IT'S 26 YEARS SINCE THE RELEASE OF THE SPICE GIRLS' DEBUT SINGLE, WANNABE, BUT **MEL C IS STILL GOING STRONG**

elanie Chisholm has stuck close to her roots - following the phenomenal success of her stint as Sporty Spice with the Spice Girls, her solo career has sparked eight albums and produced three number-one singles, and will sees embarking on a UK-wide book tour.

For those of us old enough to remember it, the summer of 1996 was a golden one. Britpop had given the country a unique swagger, the Euros were here, the sun was out and beer was cheap. And riding on the coat-tails was a new thing called 'girl power', pushed by a spectacular PR machine and fronted by the Spice Girls.

The legacy of the band that followed, both musically and in inspiring a generation of girls to stand tall and be heard, is well known; though perhaps the greatest accolade you can give to Simon Fuller's creation was that each member went on to achieve great things - and Mel C is no scenes of her showbiz lifestyle, as well as revealing exception.

Visually, she's a world away from the tracksuitclad kung-fu kicking star who pirouetted around stages and Top of the Pops studios – these days the singer, at 48, is stylish and motherly; yet can still mix romantic anthems with dancefloor anthems.

"For me, music has always been about evolving with the things around you," she says. "You need to follow trends, while still keeping your own sense of originality and creativity over the music you make." Away from the bright lights, Mel C has encountered her own fair share of challenges. She's battled depression, eating disorders, and admits that up until the birth of her only child, Scarlett, in 2009, she never fully had a sense of responsibility to herself.

2022 is an exciting year for the singer, as not only has she got a number of upcoming performances, but she is also publishing her firstever autobiography, which promises to tell all about her time with the Spice Girls as well as the years that followed. It will take readers behind the the darker side of fame, and finally gives Mel C the chance to tell her story in her own words.

Who I Am: My Story is available to purchase from September 15.

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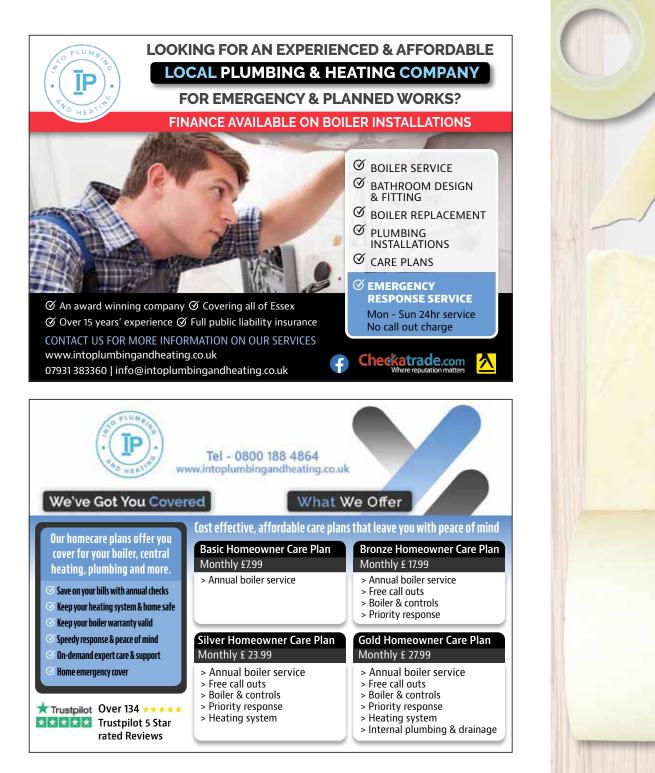


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Richard Gurley Drew



THE HISTORY OF TAPE - AN ESSENTIAL ITEM IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD

UNMASKED

Adhesive tape. Where would we be without it? It's hard to imagine not having it as part of our daily lives. From wrapping gifts to decorating and undertaking craft projects, tape is a must-have in every home. But have you ever given much thought to how tape was invented? Let us give you a short history lesson on the history of tape – more specifically, Scotch Tape.

RICHARD GURLEY DREW: THE BRAINS BEHIND SCOTCH TAPE

Scotch Tape is the invention of American Richard Gurley Drew (1899-1980). Drew was a student at the University of Minnesota who dropped out and went to work for 3M as a lab technician. While we might associate 3M with Post-its and office supplies, back in the 1920s it was a leading sandpaper manufacturer. The history of Scotch Tape, however, actually begins with masking tape.

On realising car manufacturers were having difficulty marking car parts without stripping the paint, Drew invented a tape made of cabinetmaker's glue and treated crêpe paper. It was a hit with carmakers and in 1925 was sold under the name Scotch Masking Tape.

In the 1930s, Drew developed the transparent tape that became known as Scotch cellophane tape. And the rest, as they say, is history, with Drew's invention paving the way for many more products to be developed over the years.

TAPE TODAY: A HOUSEHOLD STAPLE

Tape and masking tape are essential items for most decorating and craft projects. Masking tape is a decorator's staple, creating smooth lines in paintwork as well as helping to create patterns and shapes. Clear tape, meanwhile, is handy for crafting, DIY and repairing broken items.

Where would we be without these household essentials? It's safe to say that Drew thoroughly deserves his place in the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

elimination!

NATURAL REMEDIES FOR LIMESCALE THAT YOU CAN FIND IN YOUR KITCHEN CUPBOARD

> Over the past year, one in three Brits claims that hard water in their home has worsened, with limescale becoming an increasingly common problem in many UK households.

If you are looking to eliminate limescale without the use of harsh chemicals, the below home remedies are just what you need.

VINEGAR

Have you noticed a build-up of limescale on your taps and showerheads? If so then you need to act fast as this can cause dullness, chipping and peeling. One of the most effective methods for removing this is to fill a plastic bag with white vinegar and then attach it to the affected area. Leave for 15 minutes to soak, or overnight for stubborn limescale build-up.

BAKING SODA

Limescale on the glass of your shower can be tricky to shift, especially if it has been allowed to build up. To remedy this, create a cleaning spray using 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tbsp white vinegar and ½ cup warm water. Spray onto the glass, leave for 3-4 minutes and then wipe with a clean cloth. You do not need to rinse the glass.

LEMON JUICE

Lemon juice is one the most versatile natural cleaning remedies available, having the ability to dissolve dirt, remove grease, deodorise and tackle limescale. Simply pour pure lemon juice into a spray bottle, spritz on the affected area, leave for 30 minutes and then clean off with water and a soft cloth.

CITRIC ACID

V12

If you do not like the strong smell of vinegar, then citric acid is a good choice for descaling your kettle. Simply boil a half-full kettle, turn it off and unplug it. Next, add 2 tbsp of citric acid and leave for 20 minutes. Pour out the water and rinse twice before using.

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GET WITH WITH ALLPAPER

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO DECORATE WITH WALLPAPER

Allpaper is one of the easiest ways to decorate your home. It adds colour and style, helping to bring your spaces to life. But why should wallpaper stop at the wall? There are lots of home projects you can do with wallpaper to bring a unique twist to your interiors.

HOME

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Bring some colour to your next DIY project with these creative wallpaper ideas.

ADD PATTERN TO A CHEST OF DRAWERS

Wallpaper is an easy way to brighten up the plainest chest of drawers. It's an easy hack that is perfect for upcycling a dated piece of furniture. Why not invest in new decorative knobs or handles to complete the transformation?

BRING COLOUR TO YOUR WALL PANELLING

Wall panelling has been a huge trend in recent years, but if you want to do something different with yours, wallpaper could be just the trick. Cut wallpaper to size and place it inside the panels to create a striking feature wall.

FRESHEN UP KITCHEN CABINETS

Wallpaper can transform your basic kitchen cabinets and give them a new lease of life. Add a simple pattern to create some interest that could make a nice contrast against the items on display.

FRAME IT

Art can be expensive, so why not turn your wallpaper into a work of art instead? Framing pieces of wallpaper can help you create feature walls and add decorative touches to coffee tables, sideboards and more. You can do this affordable DIY using wallpaper samples from stores, making it a quick and affordable way to update your decor.

Getting creative with your wallpaper is a great way to embrace the trend, without committing to covering your walls. Try using different colours and textures to create an impression in your home.

Bethan Gray

SUBSTANCE TO THE SY

hrough a heritage that includes a maternal family descending from a nomadic Rajasthani clan that migrated across Arabia and Persia over centuries, a passion for global art and the experiences of travel have permeated Bethan Grav's appreciation for a design look that crosses from India to the Middle East. North Africa to South America.

How this translates itself back to the somewhat more structured surrounds of lounges, bedrooms and workspaces in the UK is the challenge that was taken on when Bethan Gray Design was established in 2008. The agency, based in London, is run by Bethan and CEO husband Massimo, and follows a decade she spent as Habitat's design director - a role that connected her with craftspeople all around the world.

expertise of master craftspeople - with styling partnerships that are based on mutual trust and respect - she has created contemporary design and home accessories. The result has been four ELLE Decoration British Design Awards for her statement pieces. From contemporary deco-like chests of drawers that echo Arabic shimmers and desert landscapes to elegant cabinets, bold coffee tables and velvet sofas, the translation of stories and heritage into stunning furniture is



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styling that can be replicated by anyone.

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very special."

While the price tags in stores such as Harrods and

Liberty's may push some away, Bethan focuses on

"My modus operandi is elegant lines, both in the

edging of furniture and the detail within it. Set against browns, greens, creams and statement

shades, it's possible to create a palette that

transports the mind to far-off places and a desire to

"For me, it's about the practicality of a room or a

piece of furniture, combined with the journey that

piece can take you on, and that combination feels





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Carl and Lora, owners of Dream Doors Chelmsford, will be on hand to help you create the perfect kitchen for your home. The Dream Doors showroom features kitchen cabinets, worktops and appliances, as well as designs and styles ranging from monochrome kitchen spaces to traditional country, so you can find the inspiration you need to make over your kitchen. Carl and Lora will be happy to talk through your ideas and help you design and build a practical but stylish kitchen that serves your everyday needs.

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kitchen is made to measure so you can design your own kitchen to suit your lifestyle. Cabinets, worktops, lighting, flooring and furnishings are all part of the service, and we supply and install appliances too.

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ARRANGE A VISIT FROM OUR KITCHEN PLANNER

Carl and Lora can visit your home to help you plan and design your new kitchen. Simply arrange an appointment so they can come and take your ideas on board and provide you with a free, no-obligation quote. To book your home, call 01245 358 990 or email cm@dreamdoors.co.uk.



Officers appealing for witnesses following stabbing

Police are investigating an incident in Chelmsford in which a man sustained a stab wound.

The incident was reported to have happened at around 10.15pm on Friday, August 26.

A man reported that, as he was walking, he jumped out of the way of a car he believed was driving towards him at the junction of Queensland Crescent and Albany Close. Shortly after, the car collided with a fence in nearby Hobart Close.

The occupants exited the car and the victim, a man in his 30s, was stabbed in the leg. He was taken to hospital for treatment where his injury is described as non-life-threatening.

Detective Chief Inspector Nathan Hutchinson, who is leading the investigation, said: "Officers responded quickly to reports of this incident and ensured the

victim received help.

"We've already carried out a number of enquiries and spoken to residents, but we'd like to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have information that can help our investigation.

"I appreciate that this would have disturbed residents at the time.

"We have not had reports from anyone of being shot. "We'd also like anyone who was driving in the area at around 10.15pm to check their dashcam footage."

Anyone with information should submit a report online at www.essex.police.uk

Please quote incident 1459 of August 26 when providing any information to make sure it gets to the right person as quickly as possible.



Hospital staff nominated for national award



Hospital staff in Chelmsford have been nominated for a national award for helping to improve the lives of patients.

The Living Well Cancer Programme at Broomfield Hospital, which offers rehabilitation to cancer patients and supports them through treatment, is up for a *Nursing Times* Award.

The dedicated team includes a cancer physiotherapist, occupational therapist, dietitian, psychologist, cancer support worker and cancer nurse specialist, all offering patients 'prehabiliation' to support them with exercise, nutrition and wellbeing and to help improve outcomes.

One patient said: "I arrived in a wheelchair and was really pleased with my progress. It's difficult to put into words how much it has helped.

"The exercises have helped with my long-term back pain and sleep."

Another said: "I think you are all doing a fantastic job supporting people like myself during this very uncertain time in our lives."

Emma Chaplin (pictured centre), lead cancer nurse for Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust, said: "It is, of course, wonderful to be shortlisted for such a prestigious award, but even better news is that funding has been secured to have the Living Well Cancer team help patients across all our sites, which means we'll be able to help even more people.

"This nomination is down to the work of a great team and the positive impact this programme has had."

The winners of the award will be announced at a ceremony in London this October.

Plans to convert restaurant into Italian food shop

An application to convert a Romanian restaurant in Chelmsford into a specialist Italian food shop has been prompted by the pandemic.

Documents submitted to Chelmsford City Council

detail a request for a change of use at Rustic's Restaurant in Moulsham Street.

A statement from Iulian Tanasa says the application has been put forward because of changes in people's "living and spending habits" owing to the pandemic and the rising cost of living.

The statement adds that people are cooking and socialising more at home, and this has resulted in the restaurant industry "suffering a prolonged and noticeable downturn in revenue".

If the application is approved, it would see the property selling "a range of authentic Italian food items and drinks", as well as providing the "opportunity for customers to purchase fresh pasta dishes that can be enjoyed off site".

The statement continues: "The new shop will add to the retail opportunities of Moulsham Street, something that will attract new visitors as well as offering a new shopping experience for existing residents."

CCTV appeal following assault at bar

Police are appealing for the public's help to identify the two men pictured below in connection with an ongoing investigation into an assault in Chelmsford.

Officers were called to Walkabout in Chelmsford in the early hours of June 2 following reports of an assault. The victim was at the bar at around 12.30am when he was verbally assaulted by two men. The victim was also physically assaulted by one of the men, resulting in him suffering a broken nose. The two men then left the bar.

The suspects are described as two white men, both in their late twenties or early thirties. One of the men had dark facial hair and was wearing a dark top with DIOR written across it in yellow. The other man was wearing dark clothing and a baseball cap.

Officers are appealing for the public's help in identifying the two men in the CCTV image, as they may be able to assist with enquiries.

If you know who they are, or have any further information, please contact the police by submitting a report online at www.essex.police.uk or by calling 101 quoting incident 42/141531/22.





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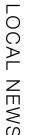
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VICKY FORD MP

Member of Parliament for Chelmsford

At the end of the summer Parliamentary Aterm, I was joined by five young work experience students from Chelmsford. They enjoyed an extensive tour of Parliament, and heard how legislation is debated and agreed as well as how the Commons works in conjunction with the Lords. After Prime

Minister's Questions, the work experience team joined me as I went to cast my final vote in the leadership ballot. It was a momentous time to be in Westminster.

Back in Chelmsford, the work experience students had a tour and talks at Essex County Council to learn more about local government. They studied examples of case work, which is a hugely important part of any MP's work, and joined me delivering leaflets and chatting to residents. If you know a sixth former in the constituency or a university undergraduate who would like to take part next summer, please ask them to drop me an email at vicky.ford.mp@parliament.uk

Last month, I gave an update on Generals Lane Bridge, which will carry traffic across the rail line and dual carriageway onto the Boreham Interchange and is a key piece of the enabling work for the new



Beaulieu Park Station. The bridge lift is now due to take place in the next few weeks.

I know many Chelmsford residents are concerned by the rising energy bills caused by Putin's invasion of Ukraine and his withholding of gas supplies to Europe. The government has already announced a £400 energy bill discount for all households. Further plans will be a priority when Parliament returns to Westminster.

Sisters-in-law take on trek



V24

Two sisters-in-law from Chelmsford who will go trekking in Vietnam later this year have already succeeded in raising more than £5,000 for a charity close to their hearts.

This November, Susie Boreham (pictured right) and Sandra Smith (pictured left), both 64, will walk the remote and beautiful hills of Pù Luông Nature Reserve in Northern Vietnam to raise money for children's hospice Little Havens.

Since 2016, the hospice – which relies heavily on donations to provide its care services – has been a lifeline for Susie's granddaughter Evie, 12 (pictured centre), who has CDKL5, an extremely rare genetic condition which affects her neurological development.

Susie told **VISION**ChelmsfordBeaulieu that taking on the challenge was a chance to give something back to Little Havens and to have an adventure. She said: "I just had to find a partner to take with me, so I asked Sandra, who has always been amazingly supportive."

Of the walking challenge, Susie said: "We know how hard it will be – it's going to be totally out of our comfort zone. It will be emotional but so rewarding. We know the money we raise will make such a difference to other families like ours." To donate, visit www.justgiving.com/susieandsandravietnamtrek

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LOCAL Z

SN takeaway, not a throwaway." Councillor Rose Moore, cabinet member for greener and safer Chelmsford, told VISIONChelmsfordBeaulieu that she is "passionate" about tackling the "blight" of litter, and added: "It's heart-breaking to see some parts of our city and roadside verges strewn with litter. "As local authorities, we can and will take action against people who choose to litter. But we also

encourage people to take pride in our landscape and public places, to take care of the spaces we share." Members of the public can report litter problems at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/environment-and-public-

Chelmsford City Council and 10 other local

Roadside litter can have a devastating effect on the environment and poses a risk to

public health. Cigarette butts, for example, contain dangerous chemicals such as arsenic and formaldehyde which can be

Local business partners will also be

supporting the campaign, with KFC and

McDonald's drive-throughs in Essex putting

up banners displaying the message: "It's a

absorbed into soil and water courses.

authorities in the county.

Resident sends in beautiful picture of sculpture

health/report-a-street-problem/report-litter

▲ Chelmsford resident has sent in this lovely picture A of the Crowned Stag sculpture at the entrance of the Beaulieu housing development.

The picture was taken by Jo Byrne on the evening of August 25.

With a golden summer evening as its backdrop, the sculpture, which was designed by Matthew Lane Sanderson, forms a shadowy figure in front of the orange sunset.

The sculpture was created specifically to mark the Beaulieu development, which opened in September 2017.



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Deputy Mayor opens art gallery at hospice



helmsford's Deputy Mayor councillor Sue Dobson Upictured third from right) has officially opened a new gallery at a hospice, featuring artwork by bereaved young people.

The images are all based on the theme of identity and were made as part of Farleigh Hospice's youth bereavement group, the Yo-Yo Project.

Children and young people aged four to 18 created the artwork at the start of summer using sprav paint. with the gallery also featuring testimonials from children who have accessed the group's support.

Joined by her consort, Keith Dobson (pictured second from right), the Deputy Mayor opened the Yo-Yo Gallery at a special ceremony at the hospice on Thursday, August 11.

Deputy Mayor Dobson said: "I have very much enjoyed visiting the gallery and I am impressed with the Yo-Yo Project.

"Coping with bereavement is difficult - particularly for children - so it is great that they have this outlet that helps them come to terms with their loss."

Mark Cobbin, head of bereavement at Farleigh Hospice (pictured third from left), said: "It was a pleasure to host the Deputy Mayor and her husband as they joined us, along with families supported by the Yo-Yo Project, for the opening of the gallery space.

"After taking a tour of the gallery and the wonderful pictures, they joined the team for tea and cake."

The hospice has expressed thanks to the Deputy Mayor for choosing it as one of her charities of the year, and also to the Asda Foundation, which provided a grant for it to purchase art materials.

Campaign warns about dangers of littering

Motorists in Chelmsford who throw litter from their vehicles are reminded that they risk having to pay a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £150.

Drivers are the focus of the 2022 Love Essex anti-littering campaign, which has the backing of

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Looking to change or buy a new kitchen but not sure where to start?

Kitchens used to be hidden away workspaces, but today they are rooms in which we spend huge amounts of time. Not only do they need to offer the preparation and cooking facilities that suit all the home's occupants, but they must also be a stylish space we want to enjoy being in.

Here are the five crucial factors to consider when looking to change or buy a new kitchen.

1. Make a list of the things you like and dislike about your old kitchen: Consider how you like to work in the kitchen and how it is used.

2. Create a mood board: look on the internet or magazines for ideas you like – colours, seating arrangements ,flooring, kitchen styles, etc.

3. Consider appliances: Look at what's new on the market – steam ovens, boiling water taps, Wi-Fi connected appliances.



4. Set a kitchen budget: Investing in the best quality kitchen you can afford will add value to your home, and quality materials may look better and last longer. Worktops can be a major cost especially if you are thinking of stone or resin based worktops. Here is a guide to understanding engineered and natural stone surfaces: www.worktopfabricators.org







5. Planning: Talk to the experts for advice as this can prevent costly mistakes further down the road. Most kitchen designers will produce three-dimensional computer-aided designs to show your kitchen design before you buy. Don't be afraid to say if there is anything that you are not sure about or don't like, at this stage things can be easily changed or re-designed; As far as the kitchen design is concerned, you want it to be visually appealing and highly functional and practical at the same time.

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IDRIS ELBA

WHEN YOU'RE A DJ SUPERSTAR, A FASHION DESIGNER, MOVIE DIRECTOR, HOLLYWOOD A-LISTER, AND ALL-ROUND LOVEABLE MOGUL, ATTENTION TO DETAIL IS EVERYTHING – JUST ASK IDRIS ELBA OBE

'm probably a perfectionist," admits Idris Elba OBE, who turns 50 this month. "With what I do, I need to be, whether it comes from film, music, whatever. You're putting a piece of art out there, and you need to be confident with it because once it's out there, it's out."

For a perfectionist, however, Elba is chilled and agreeable in conversation. He offers cool, considered responses with ease.

The man radiates so much energy and intensity that you can't escape it, and that permeates through an increasingly diverse slew of roles, embodying the likes of DCI John Luther, Heimdall in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, *The Wire's* Stringer Bell and Charlie Jaffey in *Molly's Game*.

And yet those iconic characters only represent half of what the Londoner is all about.

His style, swagger, gruff exterior and devastating charm mean he is a man who can flit between so many different worlds; and yet he pulls off the look with respect and humility.

"I think a lot of that comes from the fact I had to struggle to get to this point," he says. "For many years, I was a nobody who couldn't catch a break and just blended into the crowd.

"There were very few directors who wanted to take a chance on me, and as time went on, so too did I begin thinking that I should just focus on my music, or my art, or perhaps just get a real job."

The relief is that Elba didn't. In 2022, he has George Miller's epic fantasy adventure *Three Thousand Years of Longing* opposite Tilda Swinton, and *Thor: Love and Thunder*, plus the film version of *Luther*, which will screen on Netflix.

"Luther returning as a film is a really big new thing, and I think for it to work it needed to be different.

"You are elongating what you have to play with, yet at the same time shortening the whole story into two hours, so the very fabric is altered.

"I think for that reason you can regard it as original and very exciting."

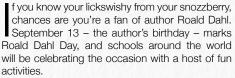
Asked whether he actually affords himself the ability to stop and take stock, the fatherof-two notes: "I don't have much time to rest, and I don't really like long sleeps. They don't put me in a place of urgency and that's where I want to be, certainly in terms of work and productivity and happiness. That's not to say I don't try to get as many hours of good sleep as I can – I'm just not very good at it," he laughs.

"It's a real balancing act and it's safe to say I'm not there yet."

Elba's laid-back approach is a factor that will win him a bounty of script offers moving forward. He is someone who, in these troubled times of panic, indecision and hysteria, emits an effortless sense of cool. "I think it's easy to confuse being laid-back with being laissez-faire about things," he says. "I think you can be calm and charged at the same time.

"Your actions don't always reflect your emotions – hey, I'm an actor, after all." And one of our finest...





Dahl was born in Wales in 1916 to Norwegian parents. He was just four years old when his father died. His mother decided against moving the family back to Norway, as she knew her husband wanted their children to have a British education, which he regarded as the best in the world.

Dahl's schooldays inspired many of his children's books. For instance, at his boarding school, children were asked to taste test Cadbury's chocolate bars, which inspired Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. But there were more sinister influences too, such as scary adults. In his books at least, the children always got their revenge.

After leaving school, Dahl worked in East Africa and was a spy and an ace fighter pilot during the Second World War.

In 1953, Dahl married American actress Patricia Neal and together they had five children. The couple divorced after 30 years and Dahl later married film producer Felicity Crosland.

From 1953 until his death in 1990, Dahl lived in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, in a house with a specially built writing hut in the garden. This was where he wrote all 20 of his famous children's books, from James and the Giant Peach in 1961 to The Minpins, published after his death.

In 2012, the interior of the hut was carefully removed and installed in its new home, the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, also in Great Missenden.

He is buried at St Peter's Church. Great Missenden, along with his snooker cues, some good burgundy, chocolates, HB pencils and a power saw.

For more information, visit roalddahl.com/createand-learn/join-in/roald-dahl-day



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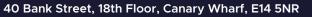
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TN A

WHY DOCTORS ARE ADVISING CAUTION WHERE HEARTBEAT-TRACKING DEVICES ARE CONCERNED

echnology has put us more in touch with our bodies than ever before. It all began with the advent of the internet, whereby we could quickly and effectively research ailments by typing symptoms into Google.

Of course, seeing as we've all wrongly self-diagnosed a worst-case scenario, it might be said that the technology lets us down, and that concept is at the core of why a growing number of doctors are expressing fear at the breadth of heartrate monitors that now follow our every move.

From the simple Fitbit to the Apple Watch, right through to medical-grade vests

measuring every throb and pulse, the data we accumulate can often be used in real-time to warn us of a possible problem, because when someone's heart skips a beat, tech companies want to let that person know about it.

Yet cardiologists say the information these devices produce isn't always useful. After all, notifications from the devices aren't definitive diagnoses, and in our pursuit of health we are now more likely to respond in a manner that leans on the healthcare system, when what we are receiving is often a false alarm.

"The technology has outpaced us," says Rod Passman, a cardiologist at Northwestern University who's assisting with a study examining the Apple Watch's ability to screen for heart rhythm conditions. "Industry came out with these things because they could. Now we're playing catchup and trying to figure out what to do with this information."

So while some products will call for help if the wearer has been in a car crash or had a bad fall, others are fully making patients the protagonists in maintaining their health, and that's dangerous.

Rod adds: "The fact is that these devices are lifestyle, not healthcare, devices, and the hundreds of millions of users need to enjoy their exercise without the anxiety of the unknown."



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OPEN HOUSE FESTIVAL LONDON - SEPTEMBER 8 TO 21

Are you itching to nose around London buildings usually closed to the public? If so, the Open House London Festival is a must. It's a two-week celebration of the city's architecture, homes and outside spaces that runs from September 8-21. And it's back this year, after a two-year break, to celebrate its 30th birthday.

There's something going on in every borough. This includes not just open buildings but also special events, guided tours, walks and family activities. The great news is that all visits and events are free – but book early to avoid disappointment. You'll need tickets for most visits and some get snapped up very quickly.

The organisers stress that the festival is not just about grand buildings; it's about celebrating every aspect of London's urban landscape in all its shapes and sizes. As well as award-winning modern offices and historical buildings, you could have the chance to step inside a suburban semi, a studio flat or even a houseboat.

In past years, around 800 buildings have flung their doors open for the event. They include 10 Downing Street, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Gherkin and several private clubs. There have also been windmills, train stations, tunnels and even cabbies' shelters. So there really is something to suit all tastes.

Each year, around 250,000 visitors attend an Open House event in London, making it the biggest festival of its kind in the world. The festival is organised by a charity called Open House, and the aim is to encourage people to learn more about their environment and each other, to help make their city a better place for everyone who lives or works there.

As we go to press, the full list of 2022 events isn't yet available, so please check the festival website at openhouselondon.org.uk/2022 for the latest information.

HOW TO HACK-PROOF YOUR PASSWORD

here is a hacker attack every 39 seconds, with 300,000 new malware created every day.

One of the easiest ways to protect your A good trick is to replace certain data is by using strong passwords.

1. USE EIGHT CHARACTERS MINIMUM

password makes it harder to crack. Your passwords should contain a minimum of eight characters and up to 20 if you can remember them.

2. AVOID WORDS IN THE DICTIONARY

dictionary is not a good idea as these are much easier to hack. This is particularly true if you use a word that is related to either your personal life or vour business.

3. DO NOT USE FAMILY NAMES

This may seem obvious, but you will be surprised at how many people use the names of their children, spouse or pets in their passwords. This information is easy to guess and can be readily found on your

social media profiles.

4. INCLUDE SPECIAL CHARACTERS

letters in your passwords with special characters. For example, rather than using the password 'Edward1', you Each character you add to your could use '3dw4rd!'. By replacing letters with characters that look similar, you are also less likely to forget your password.

5. USE PASSPHRASES, NOT PASSWORDS

A phrase such as the title of a book or a line in a film Using words that are correctly spelt from the is much more difficult to crack than just a word. Plus, once you start replacing some of the letters with special characters, you are even closer to creating an unhackable password.

6. TRY A PASSWORD GENERATOR

There are many free apps that you can download which will generate passwords for you. These passwords are designed to be completely random, which does make them harder to remember, but means they are nearly impossible to hack.





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here do you think the world's most exclusive address is? Beverley Hills? Mayfair? It turns out the answer isn't on dry land.

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What makes these apartments so special? Let's take a closer look.

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Somnio is set to become the largest superyacht in the world, measuring 33,500 gross register tonnage and almost 222 metres long. Replacing cabins with luxury apartments, it will bring a whole new meaning to the phrase 'travel in style'.

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Co-founder and captain Erik Bredhe, who oversaw the €500million project, says: "Beauty may be found as much on the inside of Somnio as on the outside. As the only residential superyacht in the world, we are delighted to work with designers that complement our exacting standards. Our owners will experience only the best, as befits a yacht of this nature."

With prices starting at €15million, Somnio's actual route is a closely guarded secret, making the superyacht not only exclusive, but elusive too.



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WISE: Formerly known as TransferWise, Wise offers £200 worth of free cash withdrawals per month before you are charged. It also allows you to convert your cash into 40 different currencies and offers free international transfers, and you can use the app to find out real-time currency exchange information. MONESE: If you travel or work between the UK and Europe, Monese is a great choice. Specialising in multi-currency accounts, this digital bank does not carry out any credit checks and you don't even need proof of address. With the Simple Monese plan, you are allowed to withdraw £200 free, with a two per cent charge for any withdrawals beyond this.

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CHASE: Chase is one of the largest banks in the United States and has recently come over to the UK, offering both current and savings accounts. Not only can you withdraw up to £500 per day from cash machines when abroad with no fees, but you can also earn one per cent cashback when you book your flights and on your everyday spending abroad.



here's something magical about turning a humble hedgerow berry into something to tease the tastebuds, like sloe gin. And better still, it's really simple to make.

Sloes grow on blackthorn bushes, which are found all over the UK. The bushes blossom in early spring with clouds of pretty white flowers, and the deep purple berries start forming in August.

For sloe gin, people often recommend that you don't pick them until after the first frost. Apparently, this makes the berries sweeter and softer. The only problem is that birds love sloes, too, and they might get there before you do.

So the Woodland Trust recommends that you pick sloes from late September. After washing and drying them, just pop them in the freezer. This creates an artificial frost – and the berries will keep in the freezer for several months.

When you're out picking sloes, it's a good idea to wear gloves and a long-sleeved top as their branches are prickly and covered with thorns. And remember, sloes don't taste good raw. And while eating them in this state won't harm adults, never give them to children.

How to make sloe gin

Ingredients:

500g sloes (rinsed and dried) | 250g caster sugar | 1 litre gin

Method:

- Prick the sloes with a cocktail stick and tip into a 2-litre glass jar.
- Add the sugar and gin, seal the jar and shake well.
- Once a day for a week, give the jar a good shake.
- Store the jar in a cool, dark place and leave for 2-3 months.
- Line a plastic sieve with a square of muslin, strain the liquid into a bowl and decant it into clean, dry bottles.
- Your sloe gin is now ready to drink.
- Drink it neat or top it up with prosecco for a sparkling aperitif.



5 Five Steps to a Great Party

As the party season begins, here are a few key things to consider when you are organising a memorable get together.

Purpose – What do you intend to achieve? It could be team bonding, a family celebration of life, a 'thank you' event etc. Purpose determines everything else

- Ambience Location and setting affects mood and interaction between guests
- Range of food and drinks. Ensure you cater for different dietary needs. Vegetarian and gluten free options are essential
- **Think** about your guest list and how to 'reach' each person so they can fully enjoy the party

You, as the organiser, should delegate some key parts of the party to others. So you are free to enjoy and mingle with guests.



Austine – founder, Jerk Station

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Balance Awareness Week takes place from September 18-24 and aims to broaden the understanding of inner ear disorders and how they can affect someone's daily life.

Most people take balance for granted, yet without it, you can suffer a whole host of health problems.

Why is balance important?

Balance is needed to perform everyday activities, including walking, going up and down the stairs, and even just standing upright. It is particularly important in older adults, as good balance can help to prevent falls. Some of the main benefits of improving your balance include:

- > Preventing injuries
- > Improving posture
- > Strengthening muscles
- Improving coordination
- > Improving cognitive function

How to improve your balance

There are several exercises you can do at home to improve your balance, and you don't need a single piece of equipment to do them.

Single leg lift

Stand upright with your feet close together. Keep your head straight, take a deep breath and slowly lift your right leg off the floor. As you gain confidence, bring your leg higher so that your knee is as close to your chest as you can comfortably manage. Repeat with your left leg.

Balance

Single leg lift side version

It's a

Stand upright with your feet close together. Keep your head straight and your eyes forward, then slowly lift your right leg to the side. Make sure you keep your body upright as you do this. Do not lean to the side. Repeat with your left leg.



Find a straight line or place a piece of tape on the floor. Extend both arms to your side, keep your feet straight and place your right heel at the tip of your left toes. Next, place your left heel at the tip of your right toes. Continue placing one foot in front of the other without straying from the line.



BEAUTY

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN

EYELINER IS A MUST-HAVE MAKE-UP ITEM FOR MOST. BUT SHOP-BOUGHT VARIETIES CAN CAUSE A WHOLE HOST OF ISSUES, INCLUDING IRRITATED SKIN

HOW TO MAKE EYELINER USING ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

> Break a few capsules of activated charcoal into a small dish. > Dip your eyeliner brush directly into the charcoal and apply. > You do not need to add any other ingredients as the charcoal will naturally mix with the oil on your skin and stay in place once applied.

HOW TO MAKE EYELINER USING ALMONDS

- > Use a pair of tweezers to hold an almond while you burn it with a lighter. Make sure you wear heatproof gloves to protect your hands.
 - > Continue to burn the almond until half of it has turned to soot.
 - > Scrape the soot into a dish using a butter knife. > Try to avoid scaping any large chunks of unburned almond
 - into the dish. > Dip your eyeliner brush into the soot and apply it in your preferred style.
 - > If you prefer a more gel-like consistency, you can add a few drops of jojoba, almond or coconut oil.

HOW TO MAKE DIFFERENT COLOURED EYELINER

1. Cocoa to make brown eveliner: Mix unsweetened cocoa powder with a few drops of water or jojoba oil and apply.

2. Spirulina to make green eyeliner: Pour spirulina powder into a dish and apply directly or mix with water or oil for a gel effect.

> 3. Beetroot to make red eyeliner: Add beetroot powder to either activated charcoal or cocoa powder to create a reddish hue.

4. Mica powder to make a rainbow

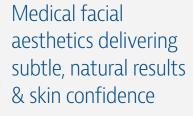
of colours: Mica powder can be bought online and comes in every colour of the rainbow. Use this powder the same way you'd use activated charcoal.

EYELINER HACKS YOU SHOULD KNOW

> Draw small dots on the top of your lash line with a pencil and then join with liquid liner

> Use a magnifying mirror

> Always start with the eye you find the most difficult.





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TOUR DE FORCE

Astreamlined dream straight out of the future, the Ford Sierra was first unveiled in 1982, and the world sat up to take note,

When Ford revealed its Sierra model at the British International Motor Show at the NEC in Birmingham near the end of September 1982, it knew the reaction would be huge.

The company was in the throes of investing more than \$1.2billion into the design, production and manufacture of this sleek, slick piece of automotive engineering, and the industry immediately knew it had something big on its hands.

For Ford, the reaction was just what the doctor ordered. The pressure had been on to find a successor to the Cortina, a stylish car that was, nonetheless, constructed around convenience and practicality.

Industry experts guessed that the manufacturer's next move would be to push those ideals further forward, but instead Ford went into overdrive with a design that rivalled the comfort of Audi, the sleekness of Citroën and Porsche (indeed, the inspiration for Sierra's quarter glass came from the Porsche 928), and as for dashboard technology, the manufacturer had taken the very best elements from the likes of Saab and BMW.

Sure enough, after a slow initial take-up (mostly because of a punchy purchase price and an excess of Cortinas still sat on forecourts, now with muchreduced process), drivers gradually fell in love with the Sierra.

The Sapphire and, of course, sporty Cosworth models nicely tweaked the Sierra proposition, and it wasn't until the Mondeo arrived in 1993 that sales began to fall.

Looking at the Ford Sierra now, some may label it cumbersome and clumsy by today's aerodynamic standards, but in the 1980s, it was the very height of motor chic, and its legacy lives on today.



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When talking to the Manager of Cloudy2Clear windows Chris Miller it became clear that these

values have been held dear for a number of years. Since starting the business some years ago Cloudv2Clear have remained true to their core values of supporting the local community by providing a service that saves the public money.

The Cloudy2Clear service only requires the glass to be replaced and not the whole window once the unit has failed. Chris commented "Cloudv2Clear were able to assist our community through the last financial crisis in 2008 due to the savings that can be made in using our service. Unfortunately we might be going through something similar again soon and the public can rest assured that we will be there to help once again".

For a free quotation please call 0800 61 21 118 or visit www. cloudy2clear.com.

All C2C employees operate a strict social distancing policy.



Have Your Windows Steamed Up?

Replace the pane, not the frame!





September is the perfect month for planting spring bulbs, and these can be placed directly into borders or in pots for patios and smaller gardens.

Discover our top picks for a blooming beautiful spring garden below.

Suburdicops: Snowdrops are the first bulbs to flower, usually in February, and are often hailed as the first sign of spring. With the ability to flower whatever the weather, even in snow, these delicate flowers thrive in moist, well-drained soil and in partial shade. Grow in borders or pots.

Vises: Iris reticulata is ideal for small pots, window boxes and raised beds. Bringing some muchneeded colour to your garden as early as February, irises like the sun and free-draining spots.

Crocuses: Crocuses provide a carpet of colour in the garden from late winter onwards and are very easy to grow. They are well suited to both borders and pots; place them in a sunny spot for best results.

Tulips: Tulips come in almost every colour, from pastels to rich shades. They are perfect for adding vibrancy to spring borders in April and May but can also be grown in pots. Tulips favour full or afternoon sun and the soil must be well drained.

Hyacintles: Highly fragrant and available in a wide range of colours, hyacinths look amazing in borders in the front garden or in pots for a splash of colour. Hyacinths thrive in most soils as long as they are not too wet. Plant in full sun or partial shade.

Daffodils: Daffodils are synonymous with spring and there are many different varieties for you to choose from. Ranging in height from 10cm to 45cm, daffodils can be yellow, white, cream or lemoncoloured. They grow very well in pots but also make a great addition to borders.



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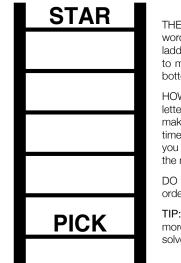
PUZZLE S see end of The VISION Listings

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DID YOU KNOW?

- Trees contain quite a lot of water. When lightning strikes, most of the water reaches boiling point, turning it to steam and increasing pressure. This can cause the tree to explode.
- The average blue whale has a heart approximately the size of a car.
- Around 90 per cent of humans live in the Northern Hemisphere.
- Blue whales are able to hear each other from around 500 miles away.
- ▶ Platypuses can produce their own venom which is injected through barbs on the male's back legs.
- When threatened, ostriches run, although their powerful kick is capable of killing a human or even a lion.

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THE AIM: Change the word at the top of the ladder one letter at a time to make the word at the bottom.

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HOW TO: Change one letter on each step to make a new word. By the time you reach the end, you should have created the new word.

DO NOT rearrange the order of the letters.

TIP: There is usually more than one way to solve this puzzle.



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