

VISIONHertford | Edition 26



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Brett Shohet, Editor

Editor's notes...

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of VISIONHertford.

I'm happy to say that **VISION** is now going from strength to strength after the difficulties we've all had to face over the last couple of years.

The main thing I want to talk about this month is visibility, which is so important in business. If a potential customer doesn't know your number, how are they going to contact you? Do you think your phone will ring more or less often if you invest in advertising?

I was lucky enough to recently attend the Grand Prix, where I couldn't help but notice that the brands who splashed out on advertising at the

event included Rolex and Coca-Cola. Despite international fame, these brands still set part of their budget aside for advertising in print and on TV, radio and billboards.

These multi-million-pound companies know it doesn't pay to be complacent. Advertising gives you the opportunity to stand out from your competitors and to get yourselves seen, and if Coca-Cola says it's worth doing, who are we to say differently?

Finally, as the weather continues to heat up, make sure to check in with your neighbours to see if there is anything you can do to help. Let's not lose that sense of community that was forged in the fires of lockdown.



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Vision Magazine East Herts

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BOWEL

THE AMAZING IMPACT DAME DEBORAH JAMES DBE HAD ON OUR AWARENESS OF BOWEL CANCER, AND THE COURAGE TO FIGHT THIS DISEASE

t's a marker to the strength and resilience of Dame Deborah James DBE that, even in her final days fighting against cancer, she was still able to laughingly refer to herself by a nickname that had done more than just provide a natty piece of alliteration for headline writers

The self-confessed Bowel Babe, Dame Deborah James, had immersed herself in a wholly public battle with cancer after being diagnosed with the illness back in 2016. She was just 35 at the time. When she received the news that she had stage 4 bowel cancer, Deborah immediately threw herself into work as a patron for Bowel Cancer UK.

And rather than recoil at the shock of the news, Deborah, who at the time was working as a teacher at The Matthew Arnold School in Staines-upon-Thames, found incredible support across social media. Her outspoken voice was picked up by *The Sun*, for whom she began working as a journalist and columnist.

BBC 5Live stepped in shortly afterwards to take on her original, no-holds-barred podcast, entitled *You, Me and the Big C*, with its unapologetic, graphic and unrelenting portrayal of the many elements of cancer gaining admirers from all quarters.

'Find a life worth enjoying; take risks, love deeply, have no regrets, and always, always have rebellious hope. And finally, check your poo—it could just save your life'

In October 2018, her book, F*** You Cancer: How to Face the Big C, Live Your Life and Still Be Yourself, became a cult read. However, while she publicly continued to show strength and courage, the scourge of her disease sometimes made the easiest parts of everyday life difficult.

Two years on, she revealed that her body's tolerance to the drugs was waning. By May 2022, she posted on social media that she was receiving hospice-at-home care and was, ultimately, entering the final stages of the disease. Within 48 hours, more than £3million had been raised for her Bowel Babe campaign, and just two days after that she was awarded the title Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. Her damehood was conferred on her by Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, at her parental home.

Dame Deborah passed away on June 28, 2022, leaving behind a husband and two children. At the time of her death, she had raised a colossal £7million to fund clinical trials and research into personalised medicine for cancer patients, and to support campaigns raising awareness of bowel cancer.

This inspirational person used her platform to put perhaps the most candid slant on cancer treatment we have ever seen in the public space. As she said: "Find a life worth enjoying; take risks, love deeply, have no regrets, and always, always have rebellious hope. And finally, check your poo – it could just save your life."

For more information, please visit www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk



IT'S THE SOAP OPERA THAT PERMEATED BRITISH CULTURE - AND OUR POP CHARTS - LIKE NO OTHER, BUT THE RAMSAY STREET ERA IS APPROACHING AN END

ome of us are old enough to remember the early episodes of Neighbours in the UK, when a sparky mechanic named Charlene (AKA future global superstar Kylie Minogue) was caught apparently breaking and entering the home of Madge Bishop by her son, Scott (Jason Donovan, no less).

As the storylines unfolded, so the characters became part of our teatime routines, as Aussie life seemed a sun-drenched fantasy world that became all the more accessible as its stars swapped Erinsborough for record contracts and stars - including Margot Robbie, Holly Valance, model photoshoots in London.

When the Reg Watson-produced series was first picked up by the BBC in 1986, the UK was some 18 months behind episodes being created Down Under, yet such was the efficiency of the team in Melbourne that it would take three years for UK viewers to catch up.

The success was extraordinary, however. At its on July 29 for a special reunion show. peak, 16 million UK viewers watched

the daily lives of these cool kids and their parents - that's more than the population of Australia.

Yet the advent of the internet brought a new era of TV consumption, where viewers no longer wanted to be tied by time. In 2008, the BBC gave up the rights to Neighbours, and only Channel 5's interest kept production alive in Australia.

When Channel 5 stated its aim to end the commitment, the death knell finally sounded in Ramsay Street.

Across almost 9,000 episodes, hundreds of Guy Pearce, Liam Hemsworth, Natalie Imbruglia and more - have gone on to impressive careers in entertainment, and with an instantly recognisable theme tune, Neighbours has occupied a special place in our hearts.

And there was no better way to go out than to see Kylie, Jason and a host of other alumni return

Fair dinkum!

The original cast





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"...THAT'S WHEN GOOD NEIGHBOURS BECOME GOOD FRIENDS

The 2020 cast

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Why is pineapple good for your skin? > It contains antioxidants that protect

against free radicals

> It contains bromelain, which has antiinflammatory and antibacterial effects

> It can gently exfoliate the skin and remove dead skin cells

> It has a high water content so can hydrate the skin

> It can clear up acne and prevent future breakouts

> It can be used to stimulate collagen production.

DIV pineapple face masks Mask for oily skin

You will need: 1 tbsp pineapple purée 2 tsp raw honey 2 tsp oatmeal powder

How to make and apply: Mix the ingredients in a bowl to make a smooth paste Apply to a clean face and leave for 10-15 minutes Rinse and apply a lightweight face moisturiser.

Mask for acne-prone skin

You will need: 1 tbsp of pineapple purée 3 tsp rose water 2 tsp oatmeal powder

How to make and apply: Mix the purée and rose water together in a bowl | Gradually add the oatmeal powder until you have a smooth paste Wash your face and apply while skin is still slightly damp | Leave on for 10 minutes | Wash off with warm water and a gentle cleanser.

Mask for dry/dehydrated skin

You will need: 1 tbsp pineapple purée 2 tsp cucumber purée 1 tsp rosehip seed oil

How to make and apply: Mix the pineapple and cucumber purée together in a bowl Add the rosehip oil and mix again Wash your face with a gentle cleanser and apply the mask | Leave on for 15 minutes and, during that time, regularly apply more of the mixture Wash off the mask and apply a face cream.

FASHION

COLOWY

ot heard of colour blocking? You're in for a treat. Offering a fun and vibrant way to express your style personality, read on to discover everything you need to know about how to wear this trend.

What is colour blocking?

Colour blocking involves the use of block colour in your outfit to create bold and eye-catching looks. It can be rocked by people of all ages, skin tones and body types.

ee ways to use colour blocking

1. Monochromatic: To get the monochromatic look, you need to pick one colour and then layer different shades and tones of it. This is a great choice for people who have a favourite colour or those who know that one specific shade suits them best. It is also ideal for fashionistas who prefer a

more understated look.

2. From the same colour family: If you want to be a bit bolder in your look, then you can choose different colours from the same colour family. For example, purple, green and blue shades come from one colour family and yellow, orange and red are from another. When colour blocking this way, choose one side of the rainbow and stick with it.

3. Contrasting tones: The brightest and boldest of the three colour blocking techniques, contrasting colours are the way to go if you want to create a 'look at me' vibe. This involves choosing colours from opposite ends of the colour wheel, such as blue and orange, or yellow and purple. Be warned: this can be tricky to get right, but if in doubt, choose a saturated colour and block it with a softer shade rather than two opposing vivid colours.

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How's it

ave you ever tried exercising upside down? Also referred to as an inversion. there are many physical and mental health benefits to upside-down exercises. Discover them below.

1. ENHANCED MENTAL FOCUS

When you hang upside down, oxygen-rich blood flows directly to your brain. Although it may feel weird at first, as you adjust, you should start to experience better brain function and enhanced mental focus.

2. TO TREAT BACK AND JOINT ISSUES

Inversions are the ideal exercise for back and load-bearing joint issues as they help to reverse the harmful effects of gravity. Focus on straight alignment exercises such as headstands and handstands and you should notice a significant improvement.

3. REDUCED STRESS LEVELS

If you suffer with unhealthy levels of stress, then upside-down exercises can help you to unwind and relax. Enabling you to let go of any negative thoughts and feelings, even 10 minutes a day of inversion exercises can make you feel less stressed.

4. STRENGTHENED CORE MUSCLES

Upside-down exercises can help to push your body out of its comfort zone as many different muscle groups are needed to hold these types of positions. As well as strengthening your core, inversions can help to improve your balance, flexibility and posture.

5. POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON ALL FOUR BODY SYSTEMS

When you carry out inverted exercises, you can enjoy a positive effect on all the four main systems within the body. These are the cardiovascular system, the lymphatic system, the nervous system and the endocrine system.

BEST UPSIDE-DOWN EXERCISES TO TRY:

- > Headstand this requires you to activate your core and builds upper body
- > Forearm stand this pose builds strength and needs a lot of mental focus
- > Handstand this requires concentration, technique, strength and flexibility. It can be done against a wall to give you more stability
- > Plough pose this can relieve tension in the neck, shoulders and back
- > Inverted V plank this tones your core and improves stability and flexibility.

YOU SHOULD NOT DO INVERSIONS IF YOU HAVE:

High blood pressure | A heart condition | Glaucoma | A back or leg facture | Osteoporosis | A hernia | You are pregnant, obese or overweight.



MAKING FRIENDS

hile it can be easy to make friends at school, it can become increasingly difficult to reach out and meet new people as you get older. Here are five ways to begin making new friends.

1. TAKE UP A NEW HOBBY

If you often feel bored as well as lonely, then why not kill two birds with one stone and take up a new hobby? Whether you fancy trying a local painting class, would enjoy a book club, or want something more physically challenging, partaking in a new hobby offers many opportunities to make new friends.

2. PUT YOURSELF OUT THERE

New friends are not going to knock on your door and introduce themselves, so you need to take the initiative to actively seek out new friendships. This could be by sparking up a conversation with someone new or by inviting an acquaintance on an outing. If you have mobility issues, Age UK offers transport services for the elderly and disabled. Call the charity's free, confidential advice helpline on 0800 678 1602 to find out about local services.

3. JOIN A VOLUNTEER GROUP

For those who need a little bit more time to get to know people, a volunteer group or community project allows you to gradually build up a rapport over time. This can also help you to build deeper friendships. Try reaching out to your local community centre to find out how you can get involved.

4. GO ONLINE

There are so many ways that you can meet people and make new friends online, from social media sites to online forums to blogging. If you are not overly confident in your technical abilities, many libraries offer courses for people wanting to explore the world wide web.

5. REACH OUT TO LOST FRIENDS

Have you lost touch with friends over the years? Instead of trying to build new friendships from scratch, you may find it easier to try to reconnect with faces from your past.

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SEE YA / LATER tretch marks!

Tretch marks typically occur when your skin quickly changes shape owing to growth or weight gain. Although not usually a sign of ill health, stretch marks can make you feel self-conscious and can affect your overall self-esteem. Discover how to banish them below.

> ITAMIN A SKINCARE: Vitamin A, also known as retinol, is a key ingredient in many anti-ageing skincare products owing to its ability to make the skin appear smoother and more youthful. Studies have also shown it to be promising in helping stretch marks appear smaller and less severe.

-YALURONIC ACID: Hyaluronic acid is known for having moisturising and healing properties, which makes it an ideal skincare ingredient for reducing the appearance of stretch marks. It can also help to improve the elasticity of your skin.

AICRODERMABRASION: Microdermabrasion involves exfoliating the skin using a handheld wand and an abrasive substance. Touted as one of the most effective treatments for getting rid of stretch marks, microdermabrasion is carried out by a dermatologist.

LASER THERAPY: As the name suggests, laser therapy uses lasers to deliver focused light to the skin, which can help to boost collagen production and fade stretch marks. Multiple sessions are usually needed before you start to see any effects.

CHEMICAL PEELS: Chemical peels provide a deep exfoliation of the skin and also help to stimulate collagen production, both of which can be beneficial in reducing the appearance of stretch marks. You can get both professional chemical peels that are carried out by a dermatologist and ones that you apply at home.

ALOE VERA: If you prefer to try a more natural remedy for stretch marks, aloe vera gel has healing properties which can help to fade redness and marks on the skin. Opt for pure aloe vera gel for optimum results.



idea. All you need is a julienne peeler or a spiralizer to cut your courgettes into courgetti.

2 medium courgettes 2 cloves garlic Zest of 1 lemon

150g crème fraiche Add your courgetti

to a hot pan with oil Add all the other ingredients Cook for 2-3 minutes Serve as you would spaghetti with ragu or a tomato sauce.

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Bakewell

ational Bakewell Tart Day falls on August 11 this year. But let's face it, any day is a great day to enjoy this delicious treat. Legend has it that these lovelies originated in Bakewell, Derbyshire, in the 1860s. A pub landlady asked a member of staff to make a jam tart, but instead of mixing the almonds and eggs into the pastry, the cook poured the mixture

on top. The result was a baking sensation. So much so that a local lady got hold of the recipe and made a handsome living off the back of it. It's a great story. However, the recipe had apparently already featured in a cookbook published 15 years previously.

Food historians also squabble over the tart's topping. Viewers of The Great British Bake Off took to social media to share their outrage when the bakers decorated their tarts with white icing and glacé cherries. Your traditional Bakewells are apparently topped with just a smattering of flaked almonds. Those other ones are Cherry Bakewells.

THE RECIPE

Ingredients for shortcrust pastry base:

- 175g plain flour
- 75g cold butter
- 55ml water

Ingredients for filling:

- 1 tbsp raspberry iam
- 125g butter
- 125g caster sugar
- 125g ground almonds
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ tsp almond extract
- 50g flaked almonds

Make the shortcrust pastry in the normal way and use it to line a 20cm flan tin. Chill for 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 200°C/180°C fan/ gas mark 6. Bake blind (using foil and baking beans) for 15 minutes. Remove beans and foil and bake for another 5 minutes. Spread the jam all over the base. Melt the butter. Then stir in the sugar, ground almonds, egg and almond extract. Pour the mixture into the tin over the pastry and sprinkle over the flaked almonds. Bake for 30-35 minutes (cover with foil if the almonds are browning too quickly). Chill and enjoy.

5 unspoken rules of BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH

ottomiess brunches seem to be popping up everywhere - at chain restaurants, luxury hotels, your local pub... the list goes on.

However, how do you navigate these events with dignity and decorum? Or at least without waking up the next morning with the dreaded 'beer fear'. Find out below.

1. DO NOT MAKE PLANS FOR AFTERWARDS

Think you are going on a bar crawl after a bottomless: brunch? Planning to take a leisurely walk around the shops? You are sadly mistaken. If you are attending a bottomless brunch, do not make any plans for afterwards as you'll most likely want to spend the rest of the day catching up with the same friends and family you went to brunch with.

2. ARRIVE ON TIME

Whether it's one, two or three hours, bottomless brunch hosts can be ruthless, and they will stop

serving you when your time slot is over. Therefore, if you want to get maximum bang for your buck, make sure everyone in your party arrives on time and that you order asap.

3. BE POLITE TO YOUR SERVER

Manners cost nothing, but they can help you to have a more enjoyable bottomless brunch experience. Even if you and your friends are getting a little rowdy, that doesn't mean that you can't be polite when ordering your drinks.

4. CHOOSE YOUR FOOD WISELY

Although brunch conjures up images of scrambled eggs, smoked salmon and avocado on toast, most bottomless brunch packages offer much more substantial food choices such as burgers, pizzas and even pancakes. To avoid all that fizz going to your head, make sure you stock up on plenty of stodae.

5. HAVE FUN

Rather than stressing about your empty glass or worrying about how much time you have left, just sit back, relax and have fun with your family and friends.













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s your glassware looking grubby? Your dishes a little dirty? If the answer is yes, this could be because your dishwasher is in dire need of a deep clean.

Dish the

HOW TO CLEAN YOUR DISHWASHER

Once a month, give your dishwasher a deep clean. Fill a bowl with one cup of lemon juice or one cup of white vinegar, place it on the top rack and then run your machine on an empty cycle. This will help to banish bad odours, counteract the effects of hard water and keep your dishes sparkling clean.

Dishwashers work by spraying out water from their spinning arms, so if these are not working properly or they are full of dirt and debris, then they will not be able to effectively clean your dishes. You can

remove any build-up with a toothpick or small pair of pliers.

Over time, the filters in your dishwasher can become clogged, which means your appliance is not able to clean as efficiently as it should. To remedy this, remove the filters, rinse with hot water and replace. Do this monthly

for best results.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR DISHWASHER PERFORMING **AT ITS BEST**

- > Use it regularly at least once a week to keep the motor seals working
- > Scrape food off your plates but do not pre-rinse
- > Clean the seals after each use
- > Keep your rinse aid reservoir full
- Do not overcrowd or overload your appliance
- > Use a high-quality dishwashing detergent.

Colour Code

Banjo Beale INTERIOR DESIGN WHIZZ AND HIS DRIVE FOR DESIGN

nyone who has seen the BBC's Interior Design Masters series will have been wowed by the verve, voracity and vision of some of the country's most impressive amateur interior designers.

The series was eventually won by sparky designer Banjo Beale, and the Australian revealed after the show that he employs an unconventional technique when it comes to styling the perfect space.

"I still feel like a fraud when it comes to colour," he said. "I always picked my colour last. I don't know if that's what interior designers do, but because I'm a collector and curator first, I like to take a step back and look at my pieces, then pick a colour that might tie it all together."

Beale's confession, that his priority in a room is always to provide a base of variety and personality that inspires and entertains the mind, may not be a first for interior design, but it's an original perspective as far as the expected norm of makeover shows goes. Previously, there has been an almost assumed start point that the colour of a room is the first thing, not the last, that's decided upon.

Subverting that expectation not only meant the visionary won first prize, but it has also set him on the path to potentially a full-time career

in the design world from his sleepy home on the Isle of Mull in Scotland.

He added: "I always say interior design is 99 per cent logistics and one per cent design, and through the contest hopefully I've given others the chance to look at projects from a different angle too. It's been a brilliant ride."











ecorating a bathroom can be tricky, as you need to create a space that is restorative, practical and stylish. When it comes to colour schemes, there are certain colours that you should avoid at all costs.

The colour peach can make a bathroom feel both outdated and unappealing. It may also make you want to spend less time in the room owing to its ability to decrease energy and make a space feel uninviting.

You don't see many red bathrooms, and there is a good reason for this. While this vibrant shade scan bring about feelings of empowerment, it is not very good for creating a relaxing atmosphere, which is paramount in a bathroom.

OLIVE GREEN

Although green bathrooms are becoming increasingly popular, you need to make sure -you select the right shade of green. While dark greens such as forest green and bottle green can create a great contrast with white bathroom furniture, olive greens can make the space look drab and dull.

Goldish yellow and beige colours are a big commitment for a bathroom as it can be hard to find tiles and finishings that go with these tones. These shades also date quickly, so you may find yourself having to redecorate sooner than you would like.

BROWN

As you might expect, brown is not a great choice of colour for a bathroom. Not only can't it create dark corners which can make it more difficult to clean, but it is also not very visually appealing.

BEST COLOURS FOR BATHROOM

- > Rich greens these are bold and provide a fresh and vibrant feel.
- Black this can add contrast and depth when paired with a lighter colour.
- > Blue-grey this is airy and tranquil without being overpowering.





DIY CITRUS SPRAY

Ideal for all types of surfaces, this homemade citrus spray will eliminate dust and make your home smell wonderful.

You will need:

1 cup water | ¼ cup white vinegar | 2 tsp olive oil | 10-15 drops orange essential oil

Pour all the above ingredients into a spray bottle and shake vigorously.

DIY VINEGAR SPRAY

The simplest DIY dusting spray available, vinegar is a versatile all-purpose cleaner which cuts through grime and acts as a disinfectant. Ideal for use in the kitchen and bathroom.

You will need:

½ cup water ½ cup white vinegar

Add both to a spray bottle, shake, and spray where desired.

DIY ESSENTIAL OILS SPRAY

Similar to the citrus spray, this DIY recipe will

1 cup water | ½ cup of witch hazel or vinegar | 1 tbsp olive or sunflower oil | 1 tbsp unscented liquid soap | 15 drops of lemon essential oil | 1 drop tea tree oil

Add all ingredients to a spray bottle and shake vigorously.

DIY WOOD DUSTING SPRAY

This DIY dusting spray is specially designed for use on wooden surfaces and will effectively remove both dust and dirt.

You will need:

1 cup water | ½ cup vinegar | 2 tbsp olive, sunflower or grapeseed oil | 10 drops lemon essential oil | 5 drops cedarwood essential oil

Mix the ingredients together in a spray bottle and spray directly onto any wooden item or surface.

Once sprayed, all of the above DIY dusting sprays should be wiped with a clean cloth, preferably a microfibre one.





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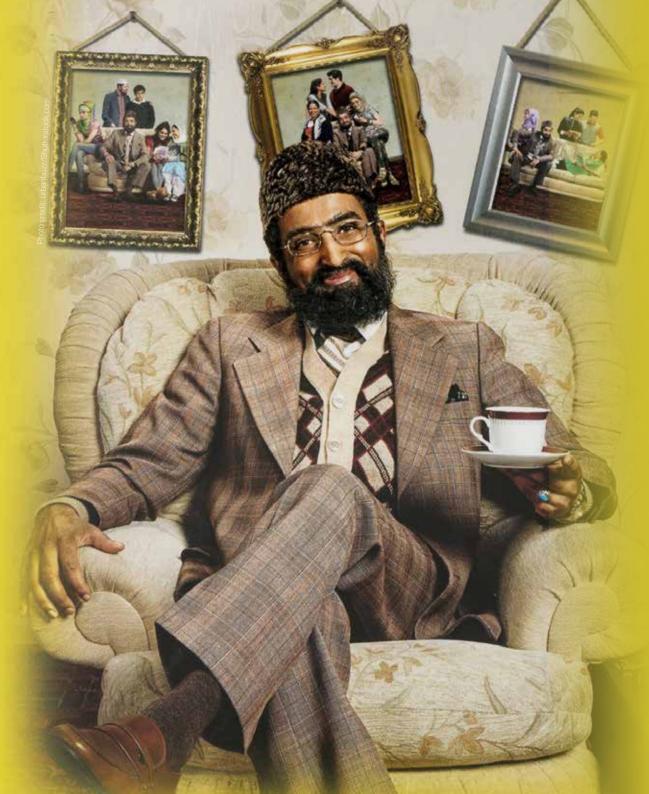
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ADIL RAY OBE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

e're in an era where some claim the path for ethnic minorities is blocked by prejudice, bias, racism and more. Adil Ray OBE, the DJ, presenter, scriptwriter and unashamed cricket fanatic, is one man who roundly disputes that assumption. In fairness, the 48 year old need only look at the success of his own career to see how a constant battle to innovate, inform and enthuse an audience will not only create great TV or radio, it will also keep an ambitious career moving forward.

"I'm not blind enough to suggest there aren't challenges for a lot of people in our society, pretty much all across the board," begins Adil, "and that applies to indigenous members of the population too.

"Yet my own experiences are that if you are original, open, confident and malleable to the norm while also looking to push beyond it, you really can get on, and when that happens, life gets exciting."

Adil kicked off an impressive voyage through the entertainment world in pirate radio during his degree at the University of Huddersfield. Before graduating with a 2:1 in marketing in 1997, the son of a Pakistani father and Kenyan mother had already landed a gig with Choice FM, and he was swiftly to move on to Galaxy 105, Century Radio in Manchester, and Ministry of Sound.

Things really began to accelerate when he joined BBC Asian Network in 2002, with the station having just gone digital to a nationwide audience. His award-winning stint included hosting the *Breakfast Show* and led him to BBC 5 Live, where he quickly worked his way across to TV projects, with presenting duties on *The One Show*, as well as taking on a number of documentary commissions, notably about community, Asian integration and, of course, cricket.

Versatility had always been at the heart of what Adil preached, and back in 2012 he cowrote the comedy *Citizen Khan*, featuring central character Mr Khan and his long-suffering family. The sitcom was taken up by the BBC and went primetime, and to date has returned for five series and 34 episodes, clinching four Royal Television Society Awards along the way.

In recent times, Adil has switched allegiance to ITV, filling in for former host Piers Morgan on *Good Morning Britain* and, as if to push his versatility even further, has entered the space of quiz show host, as in 2021 he began fronting *Lingo*.

Fans of the cult word game Wordle, which has gone viral over the past year, will recognise the format, where contestants have to identify a word using correctly and incorrectly placed letters from past attempts.

"I've always loved words and wordplay, so this one has fitted into my portfolio nicely, to be honest," laughs Adil.

"Mostly, what interests me is moving forward with new ideas. I've still got a big box of them at home – most are rubbish, but you only need to get one right, and that could lead to a lucky break.

"TV execs these days are looking for something a bit different. Shock factor will work, for a while at least, but courage and charisma will always carry people forward the furthest."

LOCAL

LOCAL NEWS

from your neighbourhood





Nightclub receives high safety and security rating

Apopular Hertford venue has received a top rating by offering support for a police initiative aiming to improve the safety and security of nightclubs.

Popworld, in Bull Plain, has been awarded fivestar accreditation under the Licensing Security & Vulnerability Initiative (SAVI). Venues receive a star rating after filling out an online self-assessment about the police and council licensing requirements premises need to comply with.

The scheme focuses on addressing potential problems such as drink spiking and theft, while also aiming to introduce safeguarding for vulnerable customers and improving physical security through measures such as lighting and CCTV.

Alicia Brown, general manager at Popworld, said: "Everyone should feel safe and at ease when they enjoy the nightlife in Hertford. The Licensing SAVI five-star accreditation is a big stride forward for us in achieving great safety levels in our venue.

"The wellbeing of our team and quests is our utmost priority, which means everyone can enjoy a Popworld party. I would like to thank the Police Crime Prevention Initiatives organisation for recognising our efforts to keep our quests always feeling welcome and safe, as well as our fantastic guests who make managing this venue so worthwhile."

Town's last independent brewery marks anniversary



ertford's beloved McMullen's Brewery is celebrating its 195th anniversary this year.

The brewery has long been entwined into the fabric of the area. It all started with William McMullen, born in 1756 in County Down, Northern Ireland, William was first recorded in Hertford joining a fellowship society in the White Hart, a pub his descendants would buy 118 years later.

William had 11 children, one of whom, Peter, started brewing illicitly in the back of a house in Back Street/ Railway Street, Hertford, in 1827. The business became legitimate three years later and has continued

Nichols Brewery closed in 1965, leaving McMullen's as the last remaining independent brewer in Hertford.

Although 2020 and 2021 saw pubs forced to close due to the pandemic, McMullen's also saw growth with the opening of three new pubs: Horse and Guardsman, Cambridge Tap and Traitors Gate.

A spokesperson for McMullen's Brewery said: "Thank you to everyone in our community that has supported us through our 195 years. We want to raise a massive toast to all of our teams in our pubs and community over the years, and look forward to the iourney ahead of us."

Theatre enters next phase of redevelonment

onstruction is underway on the project to turn Hertford Theatre into a new community hub.

As reported in VISIONHertford April 2022 edition, the contract for the theatre development was previously granted to Hertfordshire-based contractor. GPF Lewis. The work carried out so far includes putting hoardings in place, carrying out archaeological assessments and removing technical equipment.

Local residents and businesses have been consulted about the construction, which will also include some demolition work.

On completion of the £24million project, the venue

will reopen with three cinema screens, a new dress circle in the main auditorium, a café, a bar, two community spaces for hire, a 150-seat studio, a new foyer and improved accessibility.

East Herts councillor Eric Buckmaster. who visited the site last month, said: "The contractors GPF Lewis have been proactive in their consultation with local residents and businesses to understand their concerns for the construction phase of this development. including mitigation measures to manage noise levels and access to the site for construction vehicles, and will continue to keep those lines of communication open as we move through the various stages."

Labour Party appoints new spokesperson

The Labour Party has appointed a new Parliamentary spokesperson for Hertford.

Josh Dean (pictured below) will represent Hertford and Stortford after a unanimous vote at a meeting on Wednesday, July 20.

Josh previously stood as the Labour candidate in the Hertford St Andrews Ward at the 2021 Hertfordshire County Council elections, where he came within 170 votes of winning the seat.

He has previously been involved in campaigns across the constituency and has also supported youth climate activists in the local area.

Josh said: "I'm proud to have been appointed by members to speak on behalf of the local Labour Party.

"I was born in Hertford and Stortford, I've grown up here and I've worked here. I'm passionate about tackling the issues that face people in our communities because I see those issues affecting my friends, family and neighbours every day.

"I genuinely believe that politics can be a force for good. I will hold our local MP to account for her record, but I will not engage in nasty personal attacks.

"Above all, I will be focused on communicating a positive Labour vision for the constituency."



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LOCAL

NEWS





Trail features book characters in town centre

Afamily-friendly trail has launched in Hertford town centre.

Hertford Town Council has worked alongside the Secret Society of Hertford Crafters (SSOHC) to run a free trail themed around characters from children's books, giving families the chance to get out and about in the local area between Saturday, August 13, and Saturday, August 27.

Members of SSOHC have created knitted characters inspired by children's books which will be hiding in shop windows of participating businesses around the town centre. To take part in the trail, visit Hertford Town & Tourist Information Centre to pick up a map from the leaflet holder or download the map from www.gohertford.co.uk

Once children have completed the trail, they can submit their forms through a letterbox at the Town & Tourist Information Centre to be in with the chance of winning gift cards worth £10, £20 or £30 to spend at a Hertford retailer.

Councillor Jane Sartin, chairman of Hertford Town Council's Development and Leisure Committee, said: "Hunting down the fantastic creations by SSOHC will be a great summer holiday activity. It will also encourage people of all ages to explore all that Hertford town centre has to offer.

"SSOHC is very happy to have provided 28 crafted characters for the trail. Characters include Harry Potter, the Gruffalo, Paddington Bear with the Queen, and Mr Bump from Mr Men."

Photographers encouraged to submit photos

ertford Town Council is appealing for keen photographers to submit photos for the new town calendar.

Photographs should capture the beauty of Hertford across the four seasons, paying close attention to the town's parks and gardens, rivers, historic landmarks, and local events and people.

Those interested should submit a maximum of three high-resolution pictures in landscape format by August 28. The competition is free to enter and the photos should be emailed to tic@hertford.gov.uk along with your name, address, telephone number, and where in Hertford they were taken.

If successful, applicants will be awarded a complimentary calendar containing the collection of photos alongside a certificate by the Mayor of Hertford.

The calendar will be available to buy from the Town & Tourist Information Centre.





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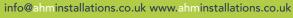




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NEWS **Ecogroup parades** in town to raise awareness

Members of Extinction Rebellion East and North Herts came together for a parade through Hertford last month in a bid to raise awareness of the climate emergency.

The group, which was made up of around 70 people, started at Hartham Common and then made its way through the town on July 24.

Dubbed the Carnival For Life, the parade featured a series of speeches and performances, as well as a minute's silence in acknowledgement of what has already been lost to the climate emergency.

Speaking after the parade, a spokesperson for XR East Herts said: "The XR Carnival for Life was an event that brought together local climate groups - Extinction Rebellion, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, the Green Party, HEART, Unity and more.

"Almost 100 climate concerned citizens from Hertford, and the surrounding towns and villages, came together to celebrate life and to express concern about the state of our local rivers and precious chalk

"After the march, we returned to Hartham Common to outreach local people, with talks, poetry, art, food and music. We hope that everyone who came to the march and who we talked to will come along on September 10 to the next Extinction Rebellion to stand together and let our new prime minister know that we demand urgent action."

Actor to perform one-woman show at festival

↑ Hertford actor and stand-up comedian still can't believe the stroke Aof luck that has led to her performing her own one-woman show at London's Camden Fringe festival.

Sara Louise Aston (pictured right) was picked at random from a list of candidates to have a Zoom audition with US casting directors earlier this year - an experience that gave her a much-needed confidence

She said: "I did a snippet of something I'd written, and I was shocked by how much they liked it. I literally skipped down to Sainsbury's afterwards. It was such a buzz!"

Sara developed the snippet into a complete show, called Jemima Smallbones, which she will perform at Camden Fringe venue the Museum of Comedy on August 25.

The dark comedy tells the tale of a middle-aged housewife who speaks openly about her frustrations of not being a lesbian.

Tickets for the show are available from camdenfringe.com and www.museumofcomedv.com/home-of-live-comedv



LOCAL



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FIVE THINGS YOUR DOG IS REALLY TRYING TO TELL YOU

hink that panting means they are thirsty? That rolling over means they want their belly scratched? Read on to discover five canine behaviours that owners often misinterpret.

1. TAIL WAGGING

that they are happy or excited. However, this can also be a sign that they are frustrated or overstimulated. If your dog holds their tail up high, this could be because they are feeling confident or aroused.

While teeth chattering in humans most often means they are cold, in dogs this indicates something completely different. In most cases, teeth chattering in dogs is a sign of a dental health problem such as an abscessed tooth or periodontitis. It can also be a sign of anxiety.

Although this could indicate that they are looking forward to a meal, licking their lips could mean that your dog feels sick or afraid. It can also be because they are nervous about something, with dogs licking their lips as a sign

Do you always assume your dog wants their belly rubbed when they lie on their back and expose their stomach? Although this may sometimes be the case, it can also indicate that they are feeling nervous or threatened, which may result in aggressive behaviour if you touch them.

While you may think that panting means that your dog is overheated, it can also be a sign of stress. If your dog is panting and they do not seem hot or tired, then try to identify any triggers that could be causing them stress or anxiety and look to avoid these.



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flowers ugust is the perfect month to collect seeds head or pod in your paper bag and snip it off the

from your garden plants so you can sow them next spring and enjoy them all over again. It's simple and quick to do - all you need is some secateurs or sharp scissors, a few paper bags and some envelopes. And it costs you absolutely nothing.

Some seeds are easier to collect and grow than others. Annual plants are ideal because they produce lots of seeds.

Here's a list of some of the best: Allium | Aquilegia Cleomes Dahlias Larkspur Marigolds Morning Glory | Nasturtiums | Petunias | Poppies Snapdragons

When you're planning to collect your seeds, choose a dry day. Seeds definitely don't like getting damp. And make sure it's not too breezy, or your seeds could blow away before you catch them.

plant. Before you do this, write the name of the plant on the bag. You might think you'll remember, but often this isn't so.

When you're done and back inside, tip the seed heads onto a piece of plain white paper or kitchen towel. Remove any bugs or debris and check the seeds are completely dry. Then tip them carefully into named envelopes and keep them somewhere cool and dry. For something a little special - a great idea if you're going to give them as gifts or swap them with friends or family - why not decorate the

Remember, it's usually better to choose heirloom, open-pollinated plants rather than hybrids. This is because the seeds of hybrids won't usually produce plants identical to their parents - not that it isn't fun to experiment.









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FANCY BUYING A

ccording to recent statistics, beach huts are now one of the most popular property purchases in the UK. However, are they really a good investment? Discover the pros and cons of buying a beach hut below.

PROS OF BUYING A BEACH HUT

✓ Access to prime coastal locations

If you love going to the beach when holidaving in the UK, then a beach hut can give you access to stunning beach spots without the need to lug your belongings back and forth each day.

✓ Income from summer rental

Renting out a beach hut to tourists during the summer months offers a great way to earn a little bit of extra cash. This is particularly true if you live near a popular holiday destination.

✓ Enjoy the outdoors

Beach huts are not just for summer: you can enjoy them all year round so you and your family can get out in the fresh air and away from screens.

✓ A solid investment

Beach huts are in short supply in the UK, despite them being high in demand. This means that they tend to hold their value over the long term.

CONS OF BUYING A BEACH HUT

XHigh maintenance costs

As beach huts are located near the coast. they are more susceptible to damage from harsh weather conditions such as heavy rain and strong winds, as well as the close proximity to sea water. This can mean higher maintenance costs than other types of properties.

XLimited space and facilities

Beach huts are typically small, which means there is not a lot of space to store your belongings. Also, some do not have basic facilities such as water and electricity.

X Seasonal availability

Some local councils only permit the use of beach huts during the summer months, which means you get less use out of your investment.





TRAVEL

HERITAGE

OPEN DAYS THIS SEPTEMBER



re you keen to find out more about England's rich history and culture? Heritage Open Days brings together more than 2,000 local organisations, as well as tens of thousands of volunteers, to celebrate what makes our great country unique.

WHAT IS HERITAGE OPEN DAYS?

Heritage Open Days is England's largest grassroots festival which brings together people from all over the country to celebrate their heritage, community and history. Offering a chance to explore new places and try new experiences without needing to travel far from your home, in 2022 you can expect more than 5,500 local events across England.

WHERE DOES IT TAKE PLACE?

Each year, a huge variety of venues take part in Heritage Open Days, including country houses, collieres, museums, gardens, country parks and more. Events can showcase re-enactments, treasure hunts, film screenings, walks, street festivals, and food and drink tasting sessions. You can find your nearest event on the Heritage Open Days website at www.heritageopendays.org.uk by simply entering your postcode.

WHEN DOES IT TAKE PLACE?

This year, Heritage Open Days takes place between September 9 and 18. Coordinated by the National Trust and with support from the People's Postcode Lottery, all participating venues are completely free.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

If you would like to volunteer to be an organiser in your local area, you can register your interest at www.heritageopendays.org.uk. Some areas may already have a local coordinator who can help you with the registration process.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS TO VISIT:

- British Vintage Wireless and Television Museum September 10 and 11, Greater London
- Buckland Abbey, Garden and Estate September 10 and 17. Devon
- Heritage Day and Classic Car Rally September 11, Greater London
- Bobbit's Hole Nature Reserve September 11 and 18, Essex
- St Michael Tilehurst A Celebration of Church Bell Ringing – September 17, Berkshire
- Electra Boat Heritage Weekend Adult and Family Talks - September 17, Buckinghamshire.

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GARDEN GAMES

FOUR GARDEN GAMES YOU CAN MAKE FOR YOUR KIDS TO ENJOY THIS SUMMER

orried about how you are going to keep the kids entertained all summer long? Check out the below DIY garden games that you'll have fun making and children will love playing with.

JUMBO KERPLUNK

You will need:

A bucket | Cage mesh or tomato plant cages | 2 wooden planks | Wooden sticks | Soft play balls

How to make:

- > Roll the mesh into a cylinder and secure with black tape.
- > Place the two planks on top of the bucket and rest the mesh cylinder on them.
- > Push the wooden sticks through the holes in the mesh.
- > Fill with coloured balls.

GIANT LAWN DOMINOES

You will need:

28 ft of 2-inch x 6-inch wood board | Chalk paint | Saw | Hand sander | White paint

How to make:

- > Cut the wood into 28 individual dominoes and sand down to prevent splinters.
- > Paint using chalk paint.
- > Paint on the dots using the white paint.
- > Leave to dry.

V42

POOL NOODLE TENNIS

To make two rackets you will need:

2 foam pool noodles | Mesh vegetable or fruit bag | Duct tape | Lightweight sponge rubber ball

How to make:

- > Cut off 4 inches from one end of each noodle.
- > Make an angled cut on each end.
- > Fold the noodle so that the two angled cuts meet to make the head of the racket and secure with duct tape.
- > Use one of your 4-inch cut-offs to create a handle by securing to the base of the racket head with duct tape.
- > Insert the noodle racket into the mesh bag and secure with more duct tape.

BOTTLE RING TOSS

You will need:

10 glass bottles (wine, milk, etc) 6 wooden rings. or bangles | Bottle crate | If you would like to paint the bottles you will also need gloss paint and a paintbrush

How to make:

- > Remove all the labels from the recycled bottles.
- > If you wish, paint each bottle in a bright colour and leave to dry.
- > Place the bottles in the crate.



ave you always wanted to learn a new language? Whether you want to 'hablar español' or 'parler français', these apps are just what you need to learn a new language.

Busuu is a UK-based app which features courses in 12 different languages. This app is suitable for beginners through to upper-intermediate learners. You can download this app for free on iOS and Android, with the option to upgrade to the premium model for £5.83 per month.

Babbel offers self-based learning in the form of short, context-based lessons. The app is userfriendly and provides courses for beginners and more advanced learners. Babbel is available to download on iOS and Android, with prices starting at £5.99 per month for a 12-month subscription.

italki is a unique language learning app that involves

conversing with a tutor to learn a language. Not the best option for the timid, this app will push you out of your comfort zone and dramatically improve your vocabulary. Sessions cost around £10, but you can trial tutors at discounted rates. Available to download on iOS and Android.

Learn a language

Rosetta Stone

A well-known name in the world of learning languages. Rosetta Stone is one of the more expensive apps, but it does have an excellent reputation. The lessons are highly interactive, and you only learn in your target language, without English translations. Prices start at £11.99 per month with a three-month commitment.

Maria Duolingo

Duolingo is one of the top-rated language learning apps which forgoes teachers and books in favour of gamification. With a choice of 39 languages which vou can all learn for free. Duolingo is ideal for those taking their first steps in learning a new language. Free on Windows, iOS and Android devices.

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CHNOLOG

BRITAIN'S GREATEST SPORTING MOMENTS..

BEN STOKES OBE: 2019 WORLD CUP FINAL

ach month, we look at one of the most significant events in British sporting history. This month, we mark 10 years since Ben Stokes OBE's first call-up for the England cricket team, and reflect on that memorable 2019 World Cup Final.

Stokes was, in many ways, the perfect man to lead England to ODI World Cup glory on that momentous Sunday afternoon at Lord's on July 14, 2019.

We are a country that loves a fallen hero who rises from the depths again, and as the Durham batsman constructed a run chase that looked capable of exceeding New Zealand's 50-over score of 241/8, there was a sense of inevitability about the match.

It was only two years before that a disgraced Stokes had found himself splashed across the front pages of the tabloids after a fight outside a nightclub in Bristol. The then 26 year old was dropped from international cricket and the Test side were forced to travel to Australia for the Ashes without their skilled all-rounder (and promptly lost the series 4-0).

That Stokes battled his way back both mentally and competitively reinforces why now, a decade on from his Three Lions debut, and despite recently having announced his retirement from one-day international cricket. he is as valuable as ever.

On that glorious afternoon, Stokes scored an unbeaten 84 to draw England level with the Kiwis, before returning with Jos Buttler to put on 15 runs in a sudden-death super over.

New Zealand had six balls to win the trophy, and were left needing two off the final ball. A single run would tie the scores, but England would win, having scored more boundaries.

Martin Guptill's sweep towards deep midwicket saw Jason Roy in position to arrow the ball back to wicketkeeper Buttler, who dislodged the bails less than a second before the New Zealand opener made it back for a second run, and gained England their first cricket World Cup by a winning margin of zero runs and nine boundaries. Pure magic.

ngland's women's team have done it! In an incredible night of drama, emotion and relief, the Lionesses overcame the mighty Germany to claim the European Championship title for the first time.

It was a final that lived up to the billing – the two best sides in Europe going head-to-head in a showpiece for the women's game – and proof if ever it was needed that the sport's surge in popularity is going to continue.

Mostly though, it cemented one thing: England's women are the Euro 2022 champions.

Not only was the win a first major trophy for this incredible group of ladies; it also went some way to arresting the pain of the 2009 final when the same two teams met. Germany hit England for six that day, and the 2-1 victory 13 years on was particularly sweet for Jill Scott MBE, the sole survivor from that Helsinki massacre.

On the day, goals from Ella Toone and Chloe Kelly

- the second coming just 10 minutes before the end of extra time - made history in front of more than 87,000 spectators at Wembley and 17.4 million people watching at home.

UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 202

SPOR

So much of the credit has to go to Three Lions' Dutch coach Sarina Wiegman. In August 2020, the English Football Association broke new ground with their appointment of the first non-British permanent manager of the women's national football team.

Wiegman was already a Euros champ with her home nation, and the 52 year old's impeccable record with both the Netherlands and England at the Euros – six match victories with each and the winners' trophy on both occasions – has taken us to the very top of a sport that's never been at a higher tide.

As for what comes next – iconic status for Toone, Kelly, the rest of the England team, and the small matter of a World Cup in three years' time.

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You may permit yourself to scoff very quietly when it comes to major car manufacturers rolling out terms such as sustainability, ecoconscience and global change. The motor industry is, after all, responsible for around 30 per cent of the Earth's carbon emissions, so any virtue-signalling pledges should be taken with a pinch of salt.

However, UK manufacturer McLaren is at least aligning strong portions of its competitive arm as it enters the Formula E championship in place of reigning champion Mercedes, who is quitting to focus on road car development.

The switch enables McLaren to take on the progress Mercedes has made so far. as well as claiming the fourth quarter of its competitive motoring proposition - it will now have vehicles racing in Formula E, Extreme E (the off-road spinoff), IndyCar and, of course, Formula 1.

What's more, the team announced a new strategic partnership with NEOM, a sustainable region in

known as NEOM McLaren Electric Racing.

While leading the charge, literally, in electric car competition may seem like the work of marketing and PR, the truth is that Woking-based McLaren wants to push its competitive research edge as far as possible in creating a car that's great on the track, while adapting an engine that can be used for everyday road vehicles.

Certainly, the efficiencies gained in both specialisms lend faith to the incredible advances that continue to evolve, from the simplicity of quicker charging times and better batteries to the reality that electric sports vehicles are no longer derided or disrespected by fervent racing fans.

In this sense, Mercedes' loss is most definitely McLaren's gain, with Formula E set to make further ground on motor racing's showpiece, F1, this



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12. ALONG, 13. ANGRIEST, 15. PLACATE, 19. HEARD, 20. AGOG, 22. DEN



PUZZLES & TRIVIA

ACROSS

- 1. Guinea pig (4)
- 3. E.g. resident of Cairo (8)
- 9. Cause to absorb water (7)
- 10. Wanderer (5)
- 11. Large Brazilian city (3,2,7)
- 14. Short sleep (3)
- 16. Explore or examine (5)
- 17. Our star (3)
- 18. Someone skilled in penmanship (12)
- 21. Pale orange tropical fruit (5)
- 22. State emphatically (7)
- 23. Estimating (8)
- 24. Change (4)

DOWN

- 1. Orderly and logical (8)
- 2. Record on tape (5)
- 4. Command to a horse (3)
- 5. Persistence (12)
- 6. Turns upside down (7)
- 7. Standard (4)

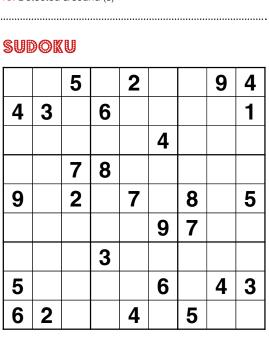
DID YOU KNOW?

- 8. Butterfly larvae (12)
- 12. With a forward motion (5)

- 13. Most annoved (8)
- **15.** Appease (7)
- 20. Highly excited (4)
- 22. Animal lair (3)
- 19. Detected a sound (5)

- Art competitions used to be part of the Olympic Games from 1912 to 1948. This included disciplines such as mixed painting, sculpture, literature and music.
- ▶The Olympics have been hosted by several countries that no longer exist, including Yugoslavia who hosted the Winter Olympics in 1984.
- ▶The netball final at the 2018 Commonwealth Games was the first time since 1998 that the final did not feature both Australia and New Zealand. Australia and England faced off in the final, with England taking the gold.
- Sergio Agüero holds the record for the highest number of goals scored in the English Premier League by a football player for one club. He scored a total of 184 goals for Manchester City between August 15, 2011, and May 23, 2021.

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