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Editor's notes...

Nik Allen, Editor

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of VISIONMaldonBurnham Happy New Year 2022. That still sounds strange to me. Sometimes I forget what year we are in as the past two seem to have rolled into one long year.

Most of you, I hope, are reading this after having a well-deserved rest over Christmas (which I certainly needed). Every year, I make New Year's goals - I don't call them resolutions as it sounds wishy-washy to me. But goals/targets sound more assertive as they are made to be achieved.

My goals personally are all about making more time to relax and have some me time. With two young kids - a three year old and an 18 month old

- there isn't too much time to relax after work. Since my three year old has never been

a believer in a good night's sleep, 4am wake-up calls have been the norm in our house for years now, and it's catching up with me.

Business-wise, we are on a recruitment drive this year and I am looking at adding a couple more people to our team. So if you are keen to take on a new challenge, we are looking for a client relationship manager as well as more distributors to help deliver our magazines every month in your local area. Please feel free to send me an email or call for a chat if you are interested. I wish you all the very best for 2022.

Mik Allen

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Vision Magazine Essex

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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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British Sign Language boysic phroises BASIC BSL SIGNS: How are you?

round nine million people in the UK are deaf or hard of hearing, with deafness being the third most common disability in the world.

Currently, there are more than 151,000 British Sign Language users in the UK, not including translators and interpreters.

Whether you know someone who is deaf or hearing impaired or not, why not make 2022 the year you learn this useful new skill?

WHAT IS BSL?

BSL stands for British Sign Language, and it is the language of the deaf community in Great Britain. BSL involves a combination of hand shapes and movements, lip patterns, facial expressions, and shoulder movements. It also has its own grammar that is structured completely differently from spoken English.

WHY LEARN BSL?

Language is key to relationships and, for those who are deaf or hearing impaired, relying on lip reading and guessing games can act as a communication barrier. By learning sign language, you will be able to interact better with the deaf community. Plus, learning a new skill can be lots of fun.

UNDERSTANDING THE BSL ALPHABET

Fingerspelling is the method used to spell out names and places using hand signals and finger adjustments. While fingerspelling on its own isn't sign language, it can help you to communicate with someone who is deaf. It is often used to spell words that do not have a sign and for instances when the other person is not familiar with a particular sign.

British Sign Language uses two-handed gestures to spell words – see BSL alphabet below:

RIGHT HANDED

- > With your hands flat, run your fingertips up your chest
- > Then move your hands forward with a thumbs-up
- > When signing this phrase, use a questioning expression.

'What is your name?' (signed as 'name what') To sign 'name'

- > Make the tips of your index and middle fingers (N shape) to touch your forehead
- > Then twist your hand forwards at the wrist until your fingers are in front of your face.

YOUR



To sign 'what'

- > Point your wrist out in front of you with your palm facing forward
- > Then put your pointer finger up and wiggle it from side to side
- > When signing this phrase, use a questioning expression.

'Please'

- > Place the fingertips of your dominant hand on your lips
- > Then move the hand way from your face, keeping hands in the same
- > Mouth 'please' at the same time.

'Thank you'

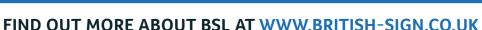
- > Use the same sign as 'please'
- > Mouth 'thank you'.

'Sorry'

- > Make your hand into a fist
- > Rub your fist against the centre of your chest in a circular motion.







HELD I

If you were in a dangerous situation, would you know how to discreetly ask for help?

Cases of domestic violence surged during the pandemic. Fortunately, there are several new services to help victims get the help they need without putting themselves in more danger.

1. SIGNAL FOR HELP GESTURE

Launched early in the pandemic to combat the rise in domestic abuse, this gesture can be silently displayed during video calls to alert family, friends or colleagues that someone needs help.

To make the gesture, put your palm up, tuck your thumb in and close your fingers.

2. PHARMACY ANI

A codeword scheme created by pharmacies to offer a lifeline to domestic abuse victims, if someone asks for an ANI (action needed immediately), a trained member of staff will take them discreetly aside to offer help or call the police. This scheme has been rolled out across Boots stores and many private pharmacies.

3. IPHONE EMERGENCY SOS

Apple's iPhones now come with a feature that allows you to discreetly make an emergency call and simultaneously share your location. From iPhone 8 handsets onwards, simply press and hold the side button and one of the volume buttons until the emergency SOS slider appears. Drag the slider to call the emergency services. To use this service on an iPhone 7 or earlier, rapidly press the side or top button five times until the slider appears.

4 ASK FOR ANGELA

Designed to prevent sexual violence in hospitality venues, all you need to do is approach a member of staff and ask for Angela if you feel unsafe or threatened and they will help you out of the situation.

5 SILENT 999

If you can't speak or you are scared you may be overhead, you can cough or tap your phone handset when ringing 999. and trained call handlers will recognise this as a distress signal. Alternatively, dial 55 once connected.

6. WHAT3WORDS

What3Words is a free smartphone app that gives every three by three square metre of the globe a unique three-word code. If you are lost, all you need to do is give the emergency services your code and they will be able to pinpoint your location almost immediately.















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VERY PERI

Colour of the year 2022



s interior design enthusiasts everywhere waited with bated breath, Pantone announced its colour of the year – and it wasn't what anyone was expecting.

What is the Pantone colour of the year for 2022?

For the very first time, Pantone created a new shade that didn't already feature in its existing catalogue of colours. Described as "a dynamic periwinkle shade of blue hue with a vivifying violet red undertone", Very Peri marries the constancy of blue with the excitement and energy of red.

What does this colour symbolise?

According to Pantone, Very Peri is a symbol of the transitional times that we are going through as the world emerges from lockdowns and experiences unprecedented change. Its unique colour combination is meant to deliver dynamism, creativity, imagination and moving forward.

Furthermore, as our physical and digital worlds become more intertwined, Very Peri is a shade that looks just as at home in the natural world as it does on screen.

How to incorporate Very Peri into your home

Very Peri is an incredibly versatile shade that is suited to many different materials, textures and finishes within the home. If you are worried about using too much colour, Very Peri is a great shade for creating a feature wall, either with a splash of paint or some playful wallpaper. It also works just as well in transitional spaces, such as the hallway, as it does in the main rooms of your home.

Alternatively, you could invest in a few periwinkle home accessories or refresh some old wooden furniture with this warm and uplifting shade.



TIPS ON GIVING YOUR BEDROOM A WINTER MAKEOVER ON A BUDGET

s temperatures plummet and the dark nights set in, you won't be the only one contemplating hibernation this winter.

While you might not be able to spend the whole season in bed, you can at least make it a little cosier to help you get through the winter months.

Check out some budget-friendly ways of giving your bedroom a winter makeover.

CHANGE UP YOUR COLOUR SCHEME

One of the easiest ways to add a winter touch to your bedroom is to change up your colour scheme. Think grey tones or muted shades of pink and red. Cushions, curtains and ornaments can help you add some colour without going overboard with your spending.

EMBRACE WARMING TEXTILES

Bringing in some warming textiles can make your bedroom feel much cosier. Fluffy or bouclé throws, along with cushions, are perfect for this time of year, adding that hygge touch that will also keep you warm at night.

SOFTEN YOUR LIGHTING

Some softer lighting is just what you need to hide away from those dark winter evenings. If you don't have a dimmer switch, buy dimmable smart bulbs so you can lower your lights to create a warmer tone while also saving some energy. Adding candles or fairy lights can also create a winter-friendly ambience to help you settle in at night.

EMBRACE WINTER FRAGRANCE

Fill your room with winter fragrance to make your bedroom even more relaxing. Popular winter fragrances include warming vanilla, amber and tobacco, while spicy cinnamon and clove will help you capture the essence of winter.

Giving your bedroom a winter makeover is the perfect way to embrace nights in and rest up. With some simple changes, your bedroom will have that cosy Scandi vibe in no time.

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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.

KITCHEN MAKEOVERS

Classic and contemporary kitchen design doesn't have to involve the replacement of an entire kitchen. New kitchen doors and worktops are an affordable option that can transform the overall look and feel of your kitchen. Even if you want to swap styles completely to a monochrome or high-gloss finish, this can all be achieved on a budget with help from our expert design team. With us, you can achieve your dream kitchen for up to 50 per cent less than the cost of a full kitchen refit. Why not pop into our Chelmsford showroom to see what is on offer?

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LOCAL NEWS

from your neighbourhood



Council agrees to spend £150k to save popular attraction

At a meeting earlier this month, Maldon District during 2022/23 and would remain closed indefinitely.

Council (MDC) agreed to allow up to £150,000 to "The closure would be a significant loss to the be spent on saving a popular Maldon attraction, after numerous health and safety issues were identified.

Despite repairs being made in 2020/21, the surface of the splash park in Promenade Park has deteriorated, according to a report presented to MDC's Strategy and Resources Committee.

Councillor Chris Leslie, MDC's director of resources, said in a report: "Without the investment in a new surface, the splash park will be unable to operate

"The closure would be a significant loss to the district's tourism offer, as well as to local residents."

Recent inspections, according to cllr Leslie, "identified the health and safety risk of trip hazards as well as the risk of encouraging bacterial growth".

The report suggests that £10,000 be allocated to the cost of electrical repairs at the splash park and £140,000 for the cost of resurfacing work.

According to the report, the proposed works should begin in the spring.

Have your say on the future of area's transport

Transport East wants Maldon residents' views on its draft strategy, which will help guide transport investment in Essex over the next 30 years.

They have developed a draft regional Transport Strategy and are now inviting locals to have their say by completing their public consultation.

Covering Essex, the ambitious strategy sets out a series of priorities for better transport for all those living, working, and learning in the region up to 2050.

The strategy has been developed following analysis of technical evidence, as well as talks with the public and the company's partners.

The eight-week public consultation is open until Sunday, January 30.

To take part, please visit www.transporteast.org.uk/ public-consultation

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Appeal to landowners to clear their private drains

ssex County Council (ECC) is urging landowners and people with gardens next to roads in Maldon to do their part to help minimise flooding by clearing private drains and ditches.

In October alone, more than 9,000 roadside gullies and catchpits were cleared by the busy cleaning teams in Essex.

However, residents in Maldon are responsible for private drainage and ditches and are being asked to ensure that they are clear and draining properly.

Gardeners can also play their part by clearing leaves, twigs and branches from front gardens, meaning less debris will be washed into drains and gullies.

Councillor Lee Scott, ECC cabinet member for highways maintenance and sustainable transport, said: "Flooding is an issue that has to be dealt with, not just in the county, but globally. While we work hard to try to reduce flooding where we can, it is important that we work together as partners to help alleviate the problem for the good of the community."

Strategy to tackle climate change approved

A strategy for how and when Maldon District Council (MDC) will aim to tackle climate change and engage with residents to help bring about positive change was approved following a council meeting last month.

The strategy, entitled Our Home, Our Future, sets out five climate action pledges that focus on action being taken to help everyone kick the car habit, create less waste, and show nature we care. The pledges also include a commitment from MDC to "be an authority that leads by example" and to "demonstrate a strong policy commitment to climate action".

Leader Designate of MDC, councillor Richard Siddall, said: "Since declaring a climate emergency back in February 2021, a great deal of work has gone into developing the strategy that will help us to focus

on areas where climate action can be made between now and 2030.

"Climate action is a broad subject that requires a huge amount of investment and innovation. This strategy enables the council to welcome Climate Action Friends to help us deliver local action and engagement with service providers and communities.

"We encourage everyone to get on board, support this work and sign up to become a Climate Action Friend. To register your interest, please email CAF@maldon.gov.uk"

MDC's lead youth Climate Action Friend, Hattie Phillips, said: "I am hopeful and optimistic that the work the council is doing will support people like me and lots of other Climate Action Friends in the community to have conversations."



LOCAL NEWS

from your neighbourhood



School pupils bury memories of the pandemic

Pupils from a Burnham school left a legacy at a new development in Burnham-on-Crouch last month, as they buried a COVID-19 time capsule onsite.

As the pandemic has been a difficult time for many, David Wilson Homes took the opportunity to invite 30 Year 6 children from St Mary's C of E Primary School to make their mark at the new Corinthian Place development on Maldon Road and bury their memories of the past 18 months.

With the help of Long Creations, David Wilson Homes distributed booklets for the pupils to complete ahead of the event, detailing information about themselves, how they have felt during the pandemic, and what they did to stay in touch with their community.

To be opened in 2071 - 50 years from now - the time capsule has given the children a chance to be part of the history of the area. They have also helped the homebuilder leave a legacy for the next generation at Corinthian Place.

Geraldine Denham-Hale, headteacher at St Mary's C of E Primary School, said: "The children were very excited to have the opportunity to send a message for local people 50 years in the future.

"They had lots of fun imagining what life might be like and what they would be doing in 2071."

Annette Hurst, sales director at David Wilson Homes Eastern Counties, said: "We've all been part of history over the past 18 months and, rather than dwelling on what has undoubtedly been a difficult period, we wanted to encourage local school pupils to stamp their place on the timeline of our Corinthian Place community.

"We'd like to thank the pupils at St Mary's C of E Primary School for helping us to leave a lasting legacy for our current and future residents at this growing community."





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Business owner announces cake competition winner



Λ business owner from Burnham recently ran a Acompetition to mark her cake company's third

Gemma Williams, the owner of Cakez, celebrated the special occasion by asking members of the community to nominate someone to win a cake worth more than £200.

After receiving many heart-warming nominations, Jessie (pictured left), a young paediatric nurse at Broomfield Hospital, was announced as the winner after she was nominated by her mum, Sue (pictured riaht).

Jessie shared her prize with her colleagues and the children in the hospital.

Gemma said: "I thought it was important, this year more than ever, to create a winning cake for someone who needed a boost, and to know that someone was thinking of them."

Marine police officer in the New Year Honours list

ABurnham marine officer has been recognised hin the Queen's New Year Honours list for her outstanding charity work.

Marine Unit Police Constable Dawn Wood received a British Empire Medal (BEM) last month. She is best known for completing a solo row of the Atlantic to highlight the problem of plastic pollution in our oceans.

PC Wood has built relationships between the police and the marine community along the Essex coast. She is also highly respected for her conservation work and incredible achievements as an endurance athlete.

She recorded the second-fastest time by a woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean in February 2019 when she completed the 3,000-mile journey from the Canary Islands to Barbados in 53 days, battling raging seas and howling winds to raise more than £20,000.

She was also named fundraiser of the year by the Marine Conservation Society.

PC Wood said: "I had to read the letter three or four times: I couldn't believe it. I thought (the medal) would just be for the solo row, but to be recognised for the work that I've done in maritime policing is just unbelievable. I'm not normally lost for words, but I was this time."

PC Wood has visited more than 50 schools and community groups to share her inspirational story and promote conservation and awareness of plastic pollution. In 2023, she plans to complete another incredible charity feat as part of a four-woman team rowing the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Hawaii.

Firefighters help to rescue trapped horse

Tirefighters rescued a horse after it became stuck in a ditch in Burnham last

Crews were called to Marsh Road, Burnham, on Wednesday, December 22, after a horse became trapped when its rider attempted to cross a dyke.

After spending more than two hours stuck in the ditch with water up to its stomach, firefighters managed to free the horse.

Station manager Syd Barrett said: "Three of the horse's legs were trapped and the water was up to its stomach.

"When the Animal Rescue Unit arrived, two firefighters got into the water and set up the lifting eauipment.

"Working with a vet, who sedated the horse, crews lifted it out of the ditch. Despite being in the water for two hours, it was not too distressed and was able to walk away.

"I'd like to praise our firefighters, including supporting crews who worked well with the Animal Rescue Unit. They all displayed excellent skills and were professional throughout."





INJECT

HOW SCIENCE HAS PRODUCED A VACCINATION THAT REQUIRES NEITHER NEEDLES, INHALERS OR PILLS

In yet another example of modern science pushing the extremes of how we understand the human body, scientists at the University of Waterloo in Ontario have developed a tool that could eliminate the need for needles altogether.

It uses a high-pressure jet of serum that passes through an opening in the skin that is no wider than the width of a human hair.

Named Cobi and created by Cobionix, the robot first scans the entire human body to find an optimal site where the injection can be done.

While Al-based software remains in its infancy, the speed of the technology means rapid advancements are likely. What it means for the industry is an approach that, in years to come, can lean much less on the manual, fiddly and sometimes unsuccessful manner in which injections are carried out. That also means protecting healthcare workers, lowering the cost of injections, improving patient outcomes, and lessening wastage.

In addition, where the infrastructure of

something like a vaccine rollout means taking over great swathes of space in and around buildings, as we have seen across the UK where COVID-19 is concerned, a Cobi-driven operation would require a much smaller set-up. This could have profound life-saving implications for developing countries, though it's expected to be two years before Cobi is ready for commercial use.

This is not the first time an Al-led automated device has been talked about as a solution to the coronavirus outbreak. In Egypt, in a hospital just outside Cairo, a robot nurse called Cira-03, is busy conducting COVID-19 tests and passing on public information messages to patients.

Tim Lasswell, co-founder and CEO of Cobionix, said: "Cobi is a versatile robotics platform that can be rapidly deployed to complete tasks with 100 per cent autonomy."

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FRANKIE D

 Δ book, a film and a few more hundred rides – Frankie Dettori's love affair with racing continues.

As sporting icons go, Frankie Dettori betters most, in spite of his diminutive 5ft 4in frame. Having turned 51 in December, the Milan-born jockey continues to push his place in the sport.

There's a new book, Leap of Faith – an autobiography detailing the passion, positivity and perseverance of someone still going strong.

There's the documentary movie, *Dettori* – a stunning showcase of a life as the rock star of racing.

Mostly, though, there is a competitive reality that many lose under the radar. So used are we to seeing Dettori on our screens, across entertainment shows and as a genuinely likeable celebrity face, it's easy to forget this is someone still powering around racecourses on a weekly basis.

In 2021, Dettori has had more than 200 rides, and more than one-fifth of those saw the charismatic Italian come home to the sound of victory cheers.

Dettori has succeeded off the back of something very simple – he is a fierce competitor, a charmer and an entertainer. From the early days of stardom in 1990, when in one season he became the first teenager since Lester Piggott to ride a hundred winners, to his legendary seven victories achieved at Ascot in September 1996, to finally breaking his Epsom Derby jinx at the 15th time of asking, the rider has always embraced what it is to live in the spotlight that shines so brilliantly over the sport of kings.

"I know how lucky I am to be living this life," says Dettori, who was sent by his father to the UK in 1984, aged just 14, to work for Luca Cumani, the Italian thoroughbred horse trainer and breeder. The premise was simple – become the world's best jockey.

"It is good days and some bad days, like everyone else, but I am grateful every day at what the sport has given me, and as much as I can pay back, I will."

A fixture on the racing card for more than three decades, and someone who has prolonged his freelance riding career since parting company with Godolphin Racing in 2012 in the wake of a six-month drugs ban – something he has described since as "a moment of weakness that I will always feel shame for" – Dettori can claim to have lived through multiple generations and incarnations of the sport.

"There is always an interesting balance between the jockey, the horse and the trainer," says Dettori. "Everything is configured around that axis and if at any point one of those three things begins to deteriorate, you simply won't win races."

Dettori, who lives near the Newmarket course with his wife, Catherine, and their five children, knows that retirement may be nearing. When that day comes, the jockey may console himself in the knowledge that his career in the media will continue to flourish. He is already a regular on Racing TV, and away from the track has spent many years exploring entrepreneurial pursuits, not least his chain of restaurants.

"I've always been someone who wants to have a lot of fun," he says – how else would you describe his stint in the *Celebrity Big Brother* house in 2013? "I have a passion for life and a thirst to reach out and take the next project, and I'm sure I'll always carry that on."

There is always an interesting balance between the jockey, the horse and the trainer





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DO YOU LOVE HERBAL TEA BUT CAN'T FIND THE RIGHT BLEND FOR YOUR TASTES AND HEALTH NEEDS? IF YES. THE BELOW DIY TEAS ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED

If you are looking for a tea blend that can help you unwind in the evening, then this is the perfect choice for you. All the herbs used in this tea contain both calming and soothing properties.

INGREDIENTS: 2 tbsp of dried chamomile 1/2 tsp of dried liquorice root 1 tsp dried ginger root.

For a more potent insomnia remedy, switch the ginger for valerian root. Serve hot.

If you favour a more zingy and uplifting tea blend, then hibiscus is a great herb to use. Enjoy either hot or cold in the morning or as an afternoon pick-me-up.

INGREDIENTS: 2 tbsp dried hibiscus 1 tsp mint leaves 1 tsp lemongrass.

Chai tea is incredibly popular owing to its health benefits, rich taste and filling nature. To make the below tea blend, crush the spices in a mortar and blend with black tea. Add milk to finish. Perfect with breakfast.

INGREDIENTS: 1 tsp dried ginger 1/2 tsp peppercorns 2 inches of cinnamon stick 1 tsp cardamon 1 tsp cloves 3-5 tbsp Assam black tea.

For those who crave something sweet, this herbal chocolate blend will not disappoint. Use boiling water to brew the tea and melt the chocolate. Enjoy at any

INGREDIENTS: 1 tsp chocolate drops 2 tbsp pure rooibos tea 1 inch vanilla pod 1/2 tsp

Add a pinch of dried mint leaves for an After Eight-tasting tea.

- Rose petals and black tea rich in antioxidants; may alleviate menstrual
- 2. Lemongrass and green tea has anti-inflammatory properties; may relieve anxiety.
- Lavender and white tea can help combat insomnia and improve mood disorders.
- Cinnamon and rooibos tea use to balance sugar levels and prevent premature ageing.
- Mint and green tea has antibacterial properties; can improve digestion.





All hail the BACON BUTTY!

he bacon butty has been named the UK's favourite sandwich, beating both cheese and pickle and ham and cheese to claim the number one spot.

With one in five picking this British classic, let's take a closer look at what makes a great bacon sandwich.

HISTORY OF SANDWICHES

The sandwich is named after John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich, who is said to have ordered his valet to bring him a piece of meat tucked between two pieces of bread. Today, the humble sandwich remains the UK's favourite lunch, with one in five Brits claiming to eat one every day.

HOW DOES THE NATION LIKE THEIR BACON BUTTLES?

More than a quarter of Brits choose sliced white as their bread of choice when making a bacon butty. Coming in second is the French baguette, with wholegrain bread in third place. Somewhat surprisingly, it's mayonnaise, not ketchup, that is the nation's sauce of choice when it comes to making a bacon sandwich, with 48 per cent of Brits favouring this creamy condiment.

HOW TO MAKE THE ULTIMATE BACON BUTTY

While everyone has their own personal preferences when it comes to making a bacon sandwich, below is our go-to recipe for creating the ultimate bacon butty.

You will need: A white or brown bloomer loaf or even a roll | 4 slices of smoked back bacon | Ketchup or brown sauce | Butter – ideally salted Lurpack.

How to cook the bacon: Always pan fry your rashers rather than bake them in the oven | Fry over a medium heat so that the fat renders down and the meat caramelises | Fry until the bacon is fairly crispy but do not let it shrink too much.

How to make: Gently toast one side of the bread/roll in the leftover bacon fat | Generously butter the other slice | Add the bacon | Top with either ketchup or brown sauce | Sit back, relax and enjoy.



We are Yessam Limited – pronounced 'yes sam' – your local sustainable convenience store, based at 8 High Street, Maldon. With more than 200 product lines (excluding our alcohol and tobacco selection) and a bakery offering fresh bread and sweet treats, we aim to provide quality goods while maintaining our commitment to eco-friendly living.



Our passion is to be more eco-friendly and socially responsible than most other convenience stores. This includes expanding our eco-friendly and Fairtrade range to more than 30 products, as well as providing sustainable products such as bamboo toothbrushes, shampoo bars and Divine chocolate. We endeavour to reduce unnecessary plastics, we aim to do good by both our people and our planet.

We also pride ourselves on value for money, with a sandwich lunch deal or breakfast combo deal for £3.80.

We are holding our celebratory open day on Saturday, January 22, so do pop by and check out our range of eco-friendly and Fairtrade essentials and treats.



AN ICON, AB-SOLUTEL

THE LIFE OF VIRGIL ABLOH AND THE LEGACY THAT LIVES ON IN HIS MEMORY

here are many musicians, artists, and even sportspeople who have had the benefit of a notable name carrying them forward at some point in their lives.

Virgil Abloh, the American fashion designer and entrepreneur, had, by his own admission, that very platform when he interned at Fendi back in 2009 and began producing t-shirts for Kayne West.

The rap star was bowled over by such an edgy, modern, confident person, whose range of talent and influence circumnavigated not just textiles and fashion, but also engineering and architecture, for which he earned a degree and a master's respectively.

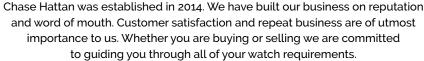
While Kayne's ability to open doors sent the Illinois-born creative into fashion houses and propelled the popularity of his first company, Pyrex Vision, it was with the highend streetwear brand, Off-White, that founder Abloh truly excelled.

Revealing his modus operandi - namely that any product need only represent a difference of three per cent from another - proved a nod to the devilish detail of fashion and the fact that, in many ways, there are no truly original designs anymore. To that end, in the final years of his life, he was one of the first to call an end to streetwear, insisting that vintage styles were the future in very much the same way as they were the past.

The success of Off-White led Abloh to become one of Louis Vuitton's artistic directors, and collaborations with others from Nike to the US Open to Ikea saw high-profile stars such as Serena Williams laud the talent of this beloved family man.

Sadly, Abloh was harbouring a secret that was to mean his all-too-brief flirtation with fashion would come to an end. In 2019, the designer was diagnosed with cardiac angiosarcoma, a type of cancer. He kept the diagnosis private and died on November 28, 2021, in Chicago, aged just 41. The showreel may be over for Abloh, but the catwalk music plays on.





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DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR HAIR CAN BE DAMAGED BY PRODUCT BUILD-UP ON STYLING TOOLS SUCH AS STRAIGHTENERS?

If you want to achieve the perfect look, you need to ensure you are cleaning your flat and curling irons frequently, as both hairspray and thermal sprays can quickly build up on your styling tools.

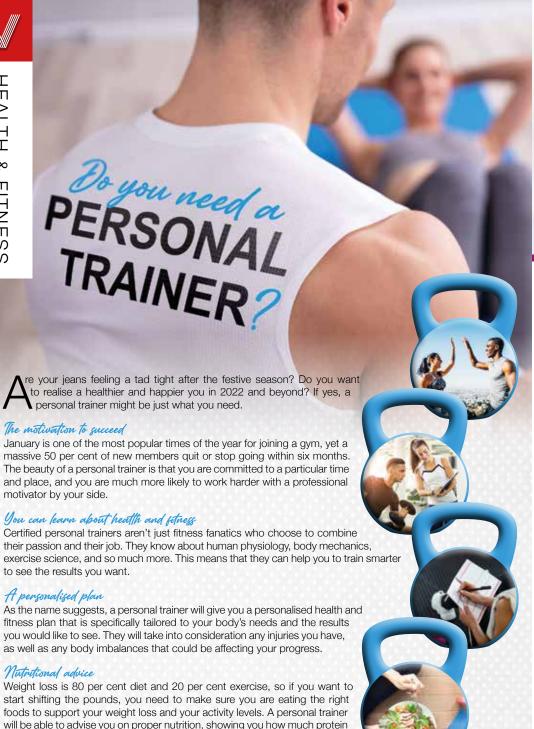
- Unplug your tool and allow to completely cool down.
- Wet a micro cloth with lukewarm water and squeeze out any excess liquid.
- Rub the damp cloth gently over the surface of the plates.
- For stubborn residue, pour a small amount of nail polish remover onto a cotton ball and wipe over the plates.
- Step 5: Allow your styling device to completely dry before using again.
- NB: Never use face or baby wipes to clean your hair straighteners or curling irons and never submerge them in water.

Ideally, you should clean your hair straighteners and curling irons after every third use to prevent build-up from becoming ingrained in the plates.

HOW TO CLEAN YOUR HAIRDRYER

Many people wrongly believe that you do not need to clean a hairdryer. In fact, the back vent can harbour a whole host of germs and bacteria.

- Remove or open the back vent.
- Use a toothpick or tweezers to remove any dirt or debris from the filter and then wipe clean with a damp cloth.
- Clean the nozzle and body with a damp cloth to remove any build-up of hair products.
- Allow the dryer to fully dry before using again.
- Repeat once a week for optimum results.



HOW TO PERFORM CPR ON PETS

If you own a pet, you should make it a priority to learn how to deliver CPR to them in the safest possible way.

While pets with underlying health conditions are unlikely to recover, if your healthy animal's heart has stopped, then CPR could save their life.

HOW TO CHECK IF YOUR PET NEEDS CPR

1. Check their airway:

Pull their tongue forward and check to see if there is anything lodged in their throat. If there is, remove it.

2. Check their breathing

Look and listen to see if they are breathing. Can you see their chest rising and falling? Can you feel breath from their nostrils? If not, check immediately for a heartbeat.

3. Check their circulation

Place your hand or ear over their chest where the elbow meets the ribcage. Can you feel or hear a heartbeat? If no heartbeat is found then start CPR.

HOW TO PERFORM CPR ON YOUR PET

- > Place your pet on their right side on a firm and flat surface
- > Dogs that have a barrel-shaped chest can be

placed on their backs

- > Compress the chest at two per second at the widest part of their chest
- > For large dogs, use both hands interlocked
- > For small dogs, use one hand
- > For cats, use one hand to compress the chest from both sides while they are lying on their side
- > Make sure that each compression depresses the chest by a half to two-thirds and allow the chest to return to normal after each compression
- > After 30 compressions, extend their neck, close the mouth and blow down their nose
- > Give two breaths, allowing one second for the chest to fall
- > Check for a heartbeat again
- > If no heartbeat, repeat the process, giving 30 compressions and two breaths until veterinary help arrives.

TOP TIP: Use the beat of the song Staying Alive to keep the right



you need and how to incorporate more fruit and veg into your diet.

P H



id you overindulge a little during the festive period? Are you more than ready to get on the wagon and give Dry January a try?

If yes, then these sober-friendly holiday destinations are just what you need to stay on the straight and narrow.

SANTORINI, GREECE

Beloved by honeymooners and those wanting a romantic getaway, while you can still buy booze in Santorini, this stunning beach destination is better known for relaxation, eating, and exploring the local villages.

If you want a holiday destination where it is too expensive to drink alcohol, then Malaysia is the country for you. With one of the world's highest alcohol taxes and alcohol highly restricted and even banned in some places, you won't have much choice but to find other ways to have fun.

PERU

For those who are seeking delicious alcohol-free alternatives, this South American country certainly delivers. Choose from nutrient-rich juices made from local fruits, or chicha morada, a Peruvian speciality made from dried purple corn.

THE MALDIVES

One of the most popular destinations for winter sun, it is forbidden for locals to drink alcohol in the Maldives, and they are instead used to drinking tea and coconut water. While you can still indulge in the island's resorts, why not enjoy a truly authentic experience and go booze-free?

MOROCCO

Unlike us Brits, alcohol is not really part of Moroccan culture, so you won't see many offerings in local bars, hotels and shops. Instead, focus on exploring its ancient cities and stunning architecture, as well as its many markets, which are perfect for grabbing a bargain or two.

TOKYO, JAPAN

Although alcohol is easy to get hold of in Japan, like Morocco, this country does not have a strong drinking culture, so you won't feel pressured to drink. Instead, check out the high-tech entertainment or visit a sumo stable and see the country's national sport live in action.



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starting with your own garden.
Creating an eco-friendly garden is the perfect way to support the environment from home – no matter the size of your space.
Make your garden more sustainable with the following tips.



USE RECYCLED MATERIALS

Using recycled materials is one of the major ways you can make your garden more eco-friendly. This could include wooden palettes, old plant pots, and plastic food containers. You could also consider upcycling dated or discoloured garden furniture.



SUPPORT NATURE'S POLLINATORS

Nature relies on bees and insects for pollination. The growing decline in their populations could have serious consequences for food production and much more in the future. Planting some bee-friendly flowers could help you play your part in boosting their numbers, while also bringing some colour to your garden. Popular bee-friendly flowers include lavender, honeysuckle, snapdragons, bluebells, and primroses.



CONSERVE WATER

Taking steps to conserve water will help the environment, as well as keep your bills low. Having some water butts will help you collect rainwater that you can use for watering flowers, topping up your pond, and other garden tasks. You should also avoid sprinklers and over-watering your garden to help reduce your water use.



MAKE YOUR GARDEN WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY

There are different things you can do to encourage wildlife visitors to your garden. This helps increase biodiversity and gives you your own chemical-free pest control. Build a pond, put up some bird boxes, and provide some food sources to encourage these welcome visitors to your garden.

You can prevent pests and weeds without having to resort to chemical methods. Some herbs, such as chives, rosemary and mint, make excellent pest deterrents, while you can manually remove weeds to keep them from taking control of your garden.



GET COMPOSTING

Instead of buying compost from the garden centre, why not make your own? Start collecting your vegetable peelings, lawn cuttings, teabags, egg boxes, shredded newspaper, and cardboard to cut down on waste and put it to good use.



ECO-FRIENDLY POTS

Want to make your green fingers even greener? You could try making your own plant pots

lant pots made from newspaper are an excellent way to recycle, and because they're biodegradable, you won't need to transfer your plants when they're ready to be planted outside.

Simple and quick, you can get the whole family involved in making DIY plant pots.

What you need:

Newspaper | A mould | A seed tray | Compost | Seeds

How to make:



1. Find a suitable mould: Find something that could work as a mould, like a tube or a tin. You may need a range of moulds if you're planting different types of seeds.



2. Cut newspaper strips to size: Cut strips of newspaper that are long enough to wrap around the mould multiple times. You could also fold newspaper into narrow strips to

boost the layers. You're aiming for four to six layers of newspaper.



3. Wrap your strips tightly around the mould: Wrap the paper around tightly, securing the sides to keep the structure rigid. You'll need to fold the paper over the bottom of the mould so that you can keep everything securely in place. Folding the ends down tightly means you won't need any other materials to secure your pot.



4. Remove the paper carefully from the mould: Slide the paper off the mould, taking care not to cause any tears.

5. Plant your seeds: Transfer your paper pot to a seed tray and plant your seeds. When they've outgrown the seed tray, you can transfer your paper pot to another pot and let the newspaper break down naturally.

Making your own paper plant pots helps you reuse materials and gives you a solid structure for planting seeds. Give it a try and do your bit to be greener.



BRUCEKING on getting and staying motivated

n his latest column, sales mentor and personal growth coach, Bruce King, discusses how to wake up and stay motivated.

Motivation is so often thought of as something you have done to you, or you do to yourself to get yourself moving, usually in the direction of achieving your goals.

If you struggle with motivation, there are thousands of personal development coaches out there who will happily take your money and do what they can to motivate you. But in most cases, the results will only be temporary.

The most important thing you need to understand is what motivation really is.

Motivation comes from the word 'motive' (reason). Your motivation comes from your motive, your 'why', your reason for wanting to achieve your

Doesn't that put a totally different light on it?

Without a why, no goal will be very inspiring or

Yet when you define your why - what it will really

mean for you, how amazing you'll feel, what you'll have and be able to do when you've achieved your goals - you will be massively more motivated, most if not all the time. And you probably won't need anyone's help to motivate you.

So, to define your why, here's an exercise I use with many of the people I coach.

Invest at least half an hour (it's going to be one of the most valuable half-hours ever), think about the following question and write down your answers. And don't stop until you cannot think of anything else to write, no matter how long it takes.

Ask yourself – why do I do what I do?

Keep that piece of paper with you and whenever you need motivating, read it.

That's all the motivation you should ever need.

More information:

Bruce King is recognised internationally as a leading sales, marketing and personal growth strategist, addressing audiences and coaching sales teams and managers in 23 countries. For more information, visit bruceking.co.uk

WE'RE ALL AWARE OF THE ECO MOTORING REVOLUTION, BUT DO WE REALLY KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ELECTRIC AND HYBRID CARS?

e are living in a brave new era as far as ahead if you do have a long journey. the vehicles we drive are concerned. These shimmering, humming specimens cruise around our streets almost imperiously, but for those of us keen to rid ourselves of a gas-

vehicle. It will never require a trip to the petrol pump, and that means the cost of running it is significantly reduced compared to its fuel-hungry cousins - in fact, the estimated running costs of an electric car are just 25 per cent of what it costs to run a petrol or diesel vehicle.

The downside of an electric car is the need to recharge the battery. This can typically take

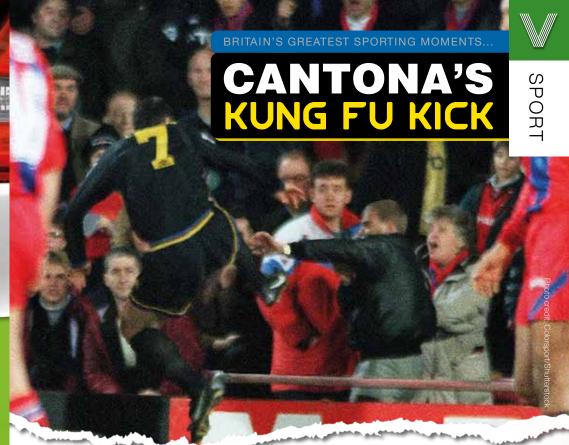
chargers seems capable of dramatically reducing this time, in some cases down to as little as half

avenue

Hybrid

A hybrid car runs on electricity, but also has a fuel

There are a range of hybrid variations – from mild, where the battery rarely drives the wheels on its own; to full hybrid, where the wheels are powered by the engine and the motor working together; to a plug-in hybrid, where a much bigger you get all the benefits of green motoring with a petrol back-up if needed (which it typically will be if



EACH MONTH, WE LOOK AT ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN BRITISH SPORTING HISTORY. THIS MONTH, IT'S ERIC CANTONA'S KUNG FU KICK AT SELHURST PARK

ric Cantona's kung fu kick at abusive Crystal - Palace supporter, Matthew Simmons, on the night of January 25, 1995, will go down as one of the Premier League's most remarkable moments.

The fiery Frenchman had just been dismissed after clashing with Palace's Richard Shaw, as United toiled in South London. As he walked along the touchline towards the changing rooms, the entrance for which is located at the corner flag, Simmons came down a flight of steps to verbally abuse the striker.

That, in itself, is nothing remarkable for footballers of any era, but Cantona's temperament, demeanour and lack of tolerance were already hot topics, and he lurched into the crowd, studs first, in pursuit of his abuser.

While Crystal Palace dished out a life ban to the supporter, somewhat harshly, Cantona had clearly crossed a line and was subsequently barred from

football for nine months by the Football Association.

It says a lot for United's backing of one of their leading stars that, during that period, they renewed the Frenchman's contract. In interviews since, he has largely dismissed the incident, although did at one point claim that he was fighting back against "the hooligan's BNP [British National Party] background", not that the footballer would have known that at the time of the incident.

Without Cantona, United lost the league title by a solitary point to Blackburn Rovers. His return came the following season in a home match with Liverpool when his late penalty rescued the hosts.

In a parallel universe, he may even have been playing for the Merseyside club - three decades ago, in 1991, and a year before he signed for United, Cantona was offered to then-Liverpool manager, Graeme Souness, He turned down the offer to sign the controversial player given his fiery reputation back in France.

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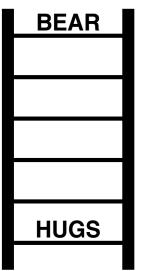
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DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶The smallest bone in the body is called the stapes and can be found in your ear
- The brain is the most complex organ of the body. It contains nearly 90 billion neurons
- ▶There are 26 bones in the human foot
- ►Women blink more than men
- ► As well as unique fingerprints, everyone has a unique tonque print
- A newborn baby has more bones than an adult. As they grow older, the bones fuse together
- Fingernails grow faster than toenails
- If you measure yourself in the morning, then again at night, you're taller in the mornina
- Your heart beats about 100,000 times in a day.

WORD LADDER



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

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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