

VISIONMaldonBurnham | Edition 20

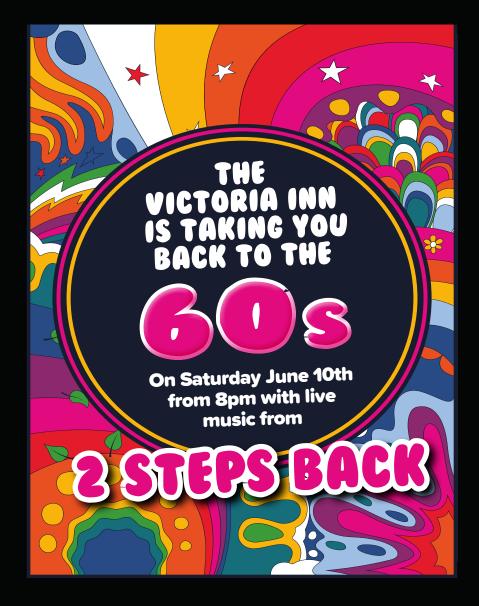


GREAT BRITISH PUB FOOD TRADITIONAL PUB EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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The Victoria Inn, Burnham on Crouch, CMO 8AJ





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Editor's notes...

MAY 202

Nik Allen, Editor

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

This month, we witnessed a unique event in most of our lives: the royal ceremony in which a monarch is crowned.

The coronation of King Charles III, which took place on Saturday, May 6, was a momentous occasion that was celebrated with great pride and enthusiasm by all of us. It marked the first coronation since that of the late Queen in 1953, which was the first time the royal occasion had been televised. Millions of people tuned in to watch the ceremony, and the same was true this year. It was a time to come together as a nation and rejoice

in the rich culture and history that make our country unique.

I had a significant event in my life take place at the end of April. I was lucky enough to be invited to 10 Downing Street to a Local Media Champions Reception with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, RT Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP.

I felt honoured to attend and connect with other local media peers throughout the UK. With regional editors across the country invited to the event, it was good to see how far our publications have come to be in such esteemed company.

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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he death of Paul O'Grady MBE at the end of March brought a premature end to the life of one of our most respected modernday entertainers – someone whose own reinvention helped the gradual process of changing attitudes in British society.

Growing up on the sometimes rough, often competitive back streets of Liverpool in the Swinging Sixties required more than a little spark and swagger, so it's probably little surprise that one of its finest exports, Paul O'Grady, created a career built on the foundation of his larger-than-life personality.

"As the saying goes, if you can't beat them, join them – and if you can't join them, become a drag act," laughed Paul O'Grady in one of this final interviews.

He departed from us at 67, seemingly with another decade or two of wit, charm and pzazz still ready to be unleashed, and the tributes have been extensive and heartfelt.

O'Grady had a number of jobs growing up, including working as a clerk, a waiter and a barman. It was only when he moved to London that he managed to create a career out of his passion for entertainment and performance.

The star's main outlet was the dynamic and daring Lily Savage, a drag queen act who became hugely popular on the underground scene, and eventually gained mainstream appeal when Channel 4 took up the option to give him a stint on *The Big Breakfast* after Paula Yates' resignation. The likes of *The Lily Savage Show*, *Blankety Blank* (which the character fronted for five years) and *Lily Live!* followed, showcasing the full mainstream evolution of a character. It was a long way from O'Grady's first TV appearance on *The Bill* back in 1988 as a transvestite prostitute informant named Roxanne (credited to Paul Savage).

While Lily Savage was eventually retired, the legacy of such a dynamic figure lived on. The character had opened doors for a brand of leftfield entertainment, and helped carve a path for LGBTQ+ rights and promotion across mainstream entertainment.

"I had been in that world since the seventies when I began performing in pubs and clubs around London, so it was all very natural for me, and had been for decades," he said.

"That I lived in a country that embraced me and loved me for who I was, I found wonderful, and it compelled me to go on to do other things."

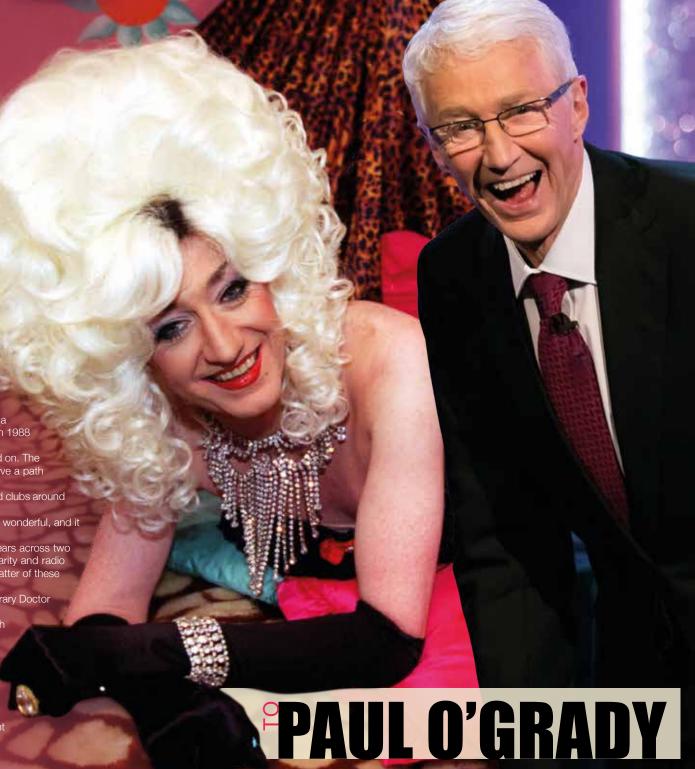
The successful *The Paul O'Grady Show* ran on weekday afternoons for eight years across two spells, and the entertainer also saw huge popularity across extensive theatre, charity and radio work, as well as the likes of *Blind Date* and *For the Love of Dogs* (2012-23). The latter of these popular TV programmes was filmed in late 2022 and is currently showing on ITV1.

In recognition of his contributions to TV, radio and theatre, he was made an honorary Doctor of Arts at De Montfort University Leicester in 2010.

"I always found you can talk about absolutely any subject if you approach it with interest, respect, humility and humour. That's the way I have tried to embrace all the challenges that have come my way," he said.

His funeral, which was held on April 20, featured a significant contribution from Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, who lined the streets with their four-legged residents in honour of the decade O'Grady spent presenting the ITV reality show at Battersea.

"I've always got on better with animals," he joked. "They are much more my type. As I've said before, I am not bothered about sex, money or fame. I just want a mongoose."



A GUIDE TO TH

ave you ever wondered why the moon appears to change shape each night? These are known as the moon's phases, and it isn't actually the shape of the moon that changes but

Find out more about the different phases and names of the moon below.

WHAT ARE THE PHASES OF THE MOON?

- 1. New moon: You cannot see the moon when it is a new moon.
- 2. Waxing crescent moon: In the Northern Hemisphere, you see the waxing crescent moon

 8. Waning crescent moon: In the Northern as a thin crescent of light on the right.
- 3. First quarter moon: The first quarter moon

- appears as a half moon.
- 4. Waxing gibbous moon: This phase is between a half moon and full moon. Waxing means it is getting bigger.
- **5. Full moon:** You can see the moon completely illuminated during full moons.
- **6. Waning gibbous moon:** This phase is between a half moon and full moon. Waning means it is getting smaller.
- 7. Last quarter moon: This appears as a half moon but with the opposite half illuminated to the first quarter moon.
- Hemisphere, you see the waning crescent moon as a thin crescent of light on the left.



FULL MOON NAMES

Each monthly full moon has a special name, many of which originated from Native American culture:

January: Wolf Moon February: Snow Moon March: Worm Moon **April:** Pink Moon May: Flower Moon June: Strawberry Moon July: Buck Moon August: Sturgeon Moon September: Full Corn Moon

October: Hunter's Moon

December: Cold Moon

November: Beaver Moon

WHAT IS A BLUE MOON?

A blue moon is an additional full moon that appears every once in a while. Typically, a year contains 12 full moons - three in each season - but sometimes a 13th full moon appears, known as a blue moon. Blue moons usually occur once every two to three years but can occur twice in one year. This is next due to happen in 2037.

WHAT IS A HARVEST MOON?

The harvest moon is the full, bright moon that occurs closest to the start of autumn. The term comes from the days before electricity when farmers relied on the moonlight to harvest their crops at night.



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Your guide to SPANGES

A GUIDE TO CHOOSING THE RIGHT SPONGES AND HOW TO KEEP THEM CLEAN

I hile you may not have given much thought to sponges, if you hate doing the dishes or cleaning kitchen worktops, the right sponge can help to make tiresome tasks a breeze.

WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF SPONGE?

NON-SCRATCH SPONGES

Sponges that are labelled as non-scratch are safe to use on non-stick pots and pans, as well as real wood surfaces. They also will not scratch the surfaces of ceramic bakeware. Non-scratch sponges are a good choice for cleaning glassware as they effectively remove dirt without causing any damage.

HEAVY-DUTY SPONGES

As the name suggests, heavy-duty sponges are highly abrasive so should be used to remove tough. stuck-on dirt and debris from kitchen items such as stainless steel pans.

Heavy-duty sponges are not suitable for non-stick cookware, as they are likely to scratch their Teflon coating, nor for ceramic cookware or copper pans.

CELLULOSE SPONGES

Cellulose sponges are made from recycled plant fibres, making them a good option for those who want to reduce their carbon footprint and become more sustainable. The main benefits of cellulose sponges are that they are low-cost and very absorbent. However. they are also prone to collecting bits of food over time, so you need to make sure that you sanitise your sponge weekly and throw it away when it shows signs of wear. Ideal for cleaning kitchens, windows, countertops and bathrooms.

HOW DO I CLEAN REUSABLE SPONGES?

The best way to kill bacteria harbouring in reusable sponges is to clean them in your microwave or dishwasher. If you choose the former, wet the sponge thoroughly and heat on high for one minute. Alternatively, place on the top rack of your dishwasher with the drying cycle on. Do this once a week for best results.



GREAT BRITISH INTERIOR DESIGNER:

HELEN GREEN

DESIGN STUDIO

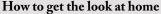
Tho doesn't appreciate a taste of luxury, especially when it comes to home design? One of the most famous names in British luxury interiors is Helen Green Design. Originally founded by the late Helen Green in

2002, the design house describes itself as "a comprehensive luxury interior design studio synonymous with the creation of beautifully crafted, multi-layered, elegant interiors". And we agree.

Learn more about what makes Helen Green Design one of the best in the business and how you can recreate the look at home.

From stand-out homes in Belgravia to yachts that travel the world, Helen Green Design is behind a wide variety of exquisite home interiors.

Blending both modern and traditional elements, you can expect neutral shades paired with luxury textures to create wonderful designs that are always sure to impress.



While Helen Green Design is a design house that oozes sophistication and luxury, it is possible to get the Helen Green look at home. Here are some easy tips to help you make high-end more affordable:

■ Work with the details of your home. From panelling to Lintricate ceiling patterns, you can keep some of the original features of your home to contrast the modern touches you bring into it.

→ Keep spaces clean and clutter-free to let **L**your statement furniture do the talking. issimon to retentel anton.

→ Use textures to add detail. From textured nd walls eat in k and feel asive.

DI inspiration for any nome looking for a highclass upgrade. However, you don't need luxury budget in order to achieve this look in your own home.









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HOME

ADD A

fiddle-leaf fig

PLANT TO YOUR HOME

f you are looking for a new indoor plant for your home, then a fiddle-leaf fig is a great choice. With large, glossy leaves and an impressive trunk, this

> statuesque tree can act as the focal point in any room.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF

The most common type of fiddle-leaf fig plant is the ficus lyrata, which grows to around 10 feet tall when kept inside. Other varieties include:

> Ficus lyrata bambino - a dwarf variety that grows to only a few feet tall

> Ficus lyrata compacta - features smaller leaves and grows to around five feet tall

> Ficus lyrata variegata - an uncommon variety with a mix of green and cream leaves

HOW TO CARE FOR A FIDDLE-LEAF FIG.

A fiddle-leaf fig needs bright, filtered light to grow, as direct sunlight can burn its leaves. Any quality indoor plant potting mix is fine as long as the soil drains well.

This plant needs a moderate amount of moisture to thrive; too much can cause root rot and too little can cause the leaves to wilt. During the growing season (spring to autumn), water when the top inch of the soil feels dry, and then slightly less over winter. Also add a fertiliser specially made for this plant during growing season and remember to regularly clean its leaves.

HOW TO PRUNE A FIDDLE-LEAF FIG

To keep your fiddle-leaf fig in optimal condition, cut back any damaged leaves, overgrowth or crossing branches. Make the cuts about an inch away from the trunk to avoid damage.

WHERE TO BUY A FIDDLE-LEAF FIG

You can buy fiddle-leaf fig trees either online or at some garden centres.



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DISCOVER YOUR LODIAC

id you know that each zodiac sign has its own bespoke colour palette? Based around the concept of colour psychology, here are the best colours for you and your home, plus why you are drawn to them in the first place.

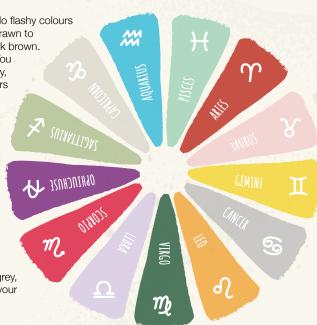
- > AOUARIUS: Elevated primary colours... Not one to stick to the rules, you're drawn to colours that stand out. Choose primary colours with a twist, such as turquoise or deep red.
- > PISCES: Soft and daydreamy colours... A true romantic, opt for soft hues such as seafoam green and lavender that promise to make you feel open and carefree.
- > ARIES: Big and bold colours... Energetic and passionate, you are linked to powerful colours that draw the eye, such as red and deep oranges.
- > TAURUS: Playful and bright colours... Light shades of pink and pastel green are perfect for your playful nature.
- > GEMINI: Contrasting colours... Geminis are associated with the colour yellow owing to their sunny deposition. Add in some neutral shades for enhanced balance.
- > CANCER: Gentle and cool colours... You gravitate towards cooler and lighter tones such as light blue and
- > LEO: Striking and statement colours... You command attention, so bold and warm colours such as orange, yellow and gold are ideal for you.

> VIRGO: Grounded and earthy colours... No flashy colours or concepts for Virgos. Instead, you are drawn to earthy tones such as forest green and dark brown.

> LIBRA: Warm and welcoming colours... You have energy that likes to promote harmony, so lavender and pink are both great colours for you.

> **SCORPIO:** Dark and moody colours... As a sensual and mysterious being, you are inspired by maroon and crimson tones.

- > OPHIUCHUS: Deep and mysterious colours... Located between Scorpio and Sagittarius, you are both passionate and unpredictable. Purple should be your go-to colour.
- > SAGITTARIUS: Inspiring and intelligent colours... You want a space that makes you feel free, so greens and blues are the colours that draw you in.
- > CAPRICORN: Simple and minimalistic colours... Neutral colours such as white, grey, black and ivory are the perfect match for your calm demeanour.



FROM YOUR AREA







V comedian Jo Brand (pictured above right) set to start the event on Sunday, May 14.

Participants will take part in a number of races in the mud at Promenade Park to raise funds for various local charities, such as Farleigh Hospice and Brainwave.

Maldon Mud Race chairman Brian Farrington said: "The day involves nearly 12 months of planning and there are always a few surprises. As the event grows. we are expanding our offering to include our duck race and fancy dress competition, plus a wide range of stalls with snacks and promotional gifts.

"Last year saw nearly 20,000 people attend the event and we distributed more than £35,000."

To find out more, head to maldonmudrace.com

Plans submitted to build 100 new homes

lans have been submitted to build up to 100 new homes on land near Edmund Street and Newman Drive in Burnham-on-Crouch.

Developers Pigeon Investment Management Ltd and Burwest LLP submitted the application to Maldon District Council on April 13, and it was validated on April 24.

They hope to build a mix of bungalows, affordable housing and custom/self-build properties.

The plans also aim to encourage sustainable travel with cycle and pedestrian links to local facilities.

The concept plan reads: "A mix of homes will be provided on the site, including affordable homes,

housing that is designed for older people (which will include new homes built to meet the needs of people with accessibility requirements), and custom/self-build homes to meet the needs of people wishing to build or design their own home."

To view the application, visit bit.ly/3LTTxot Pigeon Investment Management Ltd has been contacted for comment.

Heritage centre receives sensory accreditation

The Maeldune Heritage Centre in Maldon High Street has been recognised for improving access for people with sight and/or hearing impairments.

The centre, which aims to celebrate the town's heritage and showcase local arts and crafts, is the first venue to receive the Sensory Access Charter Mark from ECL Sensory Service. The service supports those with sight loss and hearing loss, and the Charter Mark recognises organisations and businesses that have adapted to become more accessible.

Centre manager Lynda O'Brien said: "It is really important to us to make the centre as accessible as possible. ECL Sensory Service has been able to guide us on how small improvements can make a really big difference to our visitors."

Faye Harburt, head of ECL Sensory Service, said: "The Maeldune Heritage Centre is a great venue. Supporting them to improve their visitor offer has been a privilege. The council's commitment to providing a better quality of life for residents is fantastic, and we are pleased to be working with them to support more businesses in the area."





magine living amid the smog, chaos and stench of Victorian London. Now imagine the bliss of fresh air and some live entertainment to take your mind off things. Alexandra Palace, which opened 150 years ago this month, was built to give Londoners that chance to escape the daily grind.

The palace opened on Queen Victoria's 54th birthday with a grand celebration. Tragically, fire destroyed the building just a fortnight after it opened. But two years later, it opened again and this time it was bigger and better. There was a concert hall, theatre, circus, racetrack, boating lake. Japanese-style garden.

Sadly, the privately owned palace and surrounding parkland struggled to make money. In 1900, the site was bought by the nation, and an Act of Parliament decreed that it should remain "a place of public resort and recreation".

During the First World War, the palace was home to refugees and later became an internment camp for 'enemy aliens'. It became a refugee shelter again during the Second World War, and also a staging post for troops on their way back from Dunkirk.

But perhaps the palace is best known for its link to BBC television. The corporation launched the world's first television service from studios built in the palace's former dining rooms in 1936.

To this day, the palace continues to host leading the Victorian equivalent of a food court, and even a events, including theatre performances, retail shows, gigs, fairs and festivals to honour its commitment to serve the public.

> To find out what's on this summer, check out alexandrapalace.com/whats-on

Alexandra Palace was built as a north London version of Crystal Palace, which hosted The Great Exhibition in 1851. It was named after the Danish-born Princess Alexandra, who had just married Queen Victoria's eldest son - later to become Edward VII. It was called The People's Palace and soon became widely known as Ally Pally.

SIR JOHN WHITTINGDALE MP

Conservative MP for Maldon





am always delighted to receive invitations to visit schools in my constituency or to meet pupils who are coming to Parliament. It is very important that young people learn about democracy and our system of government. I greatly enjoy these sessions and am fascinated by the huge range of questions that children want to ask. It was also notable that when paving tribute to Her Late Maiesty The Queen, many MPs said that they were always asked on school visits whether they had met the Queen, and certainly that has been my experience too.

Recently, I visited All Saints' Primary School in Maldon to mark the start of the work on a new classroom as part of an extension of the school.

I was also able to speak with executive headteacher Phil Brown (pictured back row, second from left) and other members of staff about school funding and other relevant issues. I am very aware of the pressure that schools are under and welcomed the £2.3billion of additional funding for schools in both 2023/24 and 2024/25, which was announced in November's Budget. However, I know that the financial pressures are still very great and I will continue to make sure that ministers are aware of this.

Parliament now has an Education Unit which can organise visits for groups from schools. I will always try to come if a school from my constituency is visiting.

There is also an opportunity for teachers through the UK Parliament Teacher Ambassador Programme. Following the three-day programme, teachers will go back to their schools and will be able to develop their students' and colleagues' knowledge of UK Parliament and democracy.

If any school would like me to visit, or would like to come to Westminster, then please get in touch at john.whittingdale.mp@parliament.uk



Burnham-On-Crouch Carnival Saturday 30th September 2023

VISION

Vision magazine are pleased to announce they are now the official media sponsors for Burnham Carnival

> Over the next four months we will be supporting the carnival and keeping our readers informed of all the events and attractions being organised for the event.

Carnival committee member Lorna Hart said: "We are so pleased to have the support of Vision magazine. It has been touch and go as to whether the carnival will go ahead this year so every little bit of support we get is important. We have had some amazing support so far from local businesses and hopefully the carnival is now secure,

but we do still need more support and we have lots of sponsorships available, so if any businesses would like to help us please do get In touch"

> You can email Lorna at burnhamcarnivalpress@gmail.com

WWW.JOHNWHITTINGDALE.ORG.UK

YOUR LOCAL EVENTS

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Black Rabbit Pub, 188 High Street, Maldon, CM9 5BX Thursdays, 10am – 10.45am



Bond with your baby at the weekly yoga sessions at Black Rabbit Pub. The classes encourage playful interaction and communication to promote healthy development, as well as relaxation through massages.

It must be booked in advance, so for more information and prices, head to www.happity.co.uk/schedules/basking-babies-maldon-black-rabbit-pub-baby-yoga-thursdays-10-00-10-45

DUCATI BBQ 2023

Hyside Motorcycles, Unit 9 Wycke Hill Business Park, Wycke Hill, Maldon, CM9 6UZ

Sunday, May 21, 11am

If you're into motorbikes, then you need to come along to Hyside's Ducati BBQ this month. You can enjoy live music from singer-guitarist Brad Luff and a delicious BBQ, as well as beers and soft drinks. The showroom will also be open for browsing, with a moto trainer on site to help.

To find out more, visit www.allevents.in/maldon/ducati-bbq-2023/200024349224137

MUSIC BINGO

The Anchor, The Quay, Burnham-on-Crouch, CM0 8AT

Thursday, May 25, 8pm - 10.30pm

The Anchor pub is hosting a music bingo this month, where guests will have the chance to win a cash prize. Combining disco, bingo and music entertainment, it's guaranteed to be a fun night out.

A five-game pack costs £10. No need to book, just show up on the evening.

THE TINA TURNER TRIBUTE

Village Hall, Arcadia Road, Burnham-on-Crouch, CM0 8EF

Saturday, May 27, 7pm - 11pm

You can expect to hear all of Tina's greatest hits, like *River Deep* and *Proud Mary*, as well as a live DJ act. There will also be a bar and hot food available.

Tickets cost £20 and more information can be found via www.facebook.com/events/village-hall-burnham-on-crouch/tina-turner-tribute-supporting-act-plus-dj-dan-/1408454466352295

WINGS AND WHEELS 2023

Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, Hackmans Lane, Maldon, CM3 6RN Sunday, May 28, 10am – 3pm

The Wings and Wheels air show is back this month following a huge success last year. You can enjoy aeroplane displays in the air and vintage cars on the ground. There will also be a café and BBQ.

Tickets cost £20 for adult admission and can be bought from www.stowmaries.org.uk/event-bookings/event/wings-and-wheels-2023/

WIZARD SCHOOL - CLASS OF 23

Creeksea Place, Ferry Road, Burnham-on-Crouch, CM0 8PJ Wednesday, May 31, 11am – 1.15pm

Creeksea Place is offering *Harry Potter* fans the chance to dine in the Great Hall, find out what house you're in, cast spells, play Quidditch and meet some furry friends. There will also be an afternoon tea.

Tickets cost $\pounds 30$ per child and $\pounds 10$ for adults and can be booked via 01621 784535. Find out more at www.creekseaplace.co.uk/event



Enjoy the delights of the traditional British seaside

or those who crave a bit of nostalgia, and maybe worry that our ability to connect with iconic seaside locations of old is a thing of the past, a trip to Frinton-on-Sea is the perfect remedy.

There is little to rival the natural vibrancy of a sumptuous, sunny, sandy beach, as radiant sun beats down on the coolest, finest Essex sand.

And yet, where Frinton-on-Sea is concerned, serenity and nostalgia come as much from its vibrant rows of beach huts as they do from the wondrous natural environment.

Its architecturally precise promenade sees beach huts painted in a kaleidoscope of bright colours, and these have been an integral part of the town's heritage for more than 100 years. Simple in their form, they retail for upwards of £50,000 – yet if a 12ft square space is adequate for you to relax, change or store beach essentials in, then perhaps the investment is worthwhile? These picturesque huts have become a symbol of traditional British seaside culture and continue to draw visitors from far and wide, yet Frinton is about so much more.

Its unspoiled sandy beaches are award-winning and stretch for miles along the coast, and the gentle slope of the shoreline creates a shallow, safe swimming area that is perfect for families and children. Meanwhile, the absence of amusement arcades, commercial outlets and 'kiss me quick' hats ensures that this part of the Tendring coastline retains a sense of simplicity and class that few other resorts around the UK can rival.

Even the aforementioned promenade, adorned with Victorian-style streetlamps and ornate railings, holds a sense of class about it; while further back, extensive parkland shows the town's custodians are just as adept with grass as they are with sand.

Frinton-on-Sea has a population of fewer than 5,000. Although several times that number swarm into the area on hot summer days, it rarely feels anything other than idyllic. The next time you're looking for an idyllic British seaside escape, Frinton should be top of the list.



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DOES YOUR DOG HAVE HAY FEVER

id you know that dogs can suffer with hay fever? In fact, an estimated 10 per cent of pooches in the UK suffer with this seasonal

DOES MY DOG HAVE HAY FEVER?

Unlike in humans, who typically experience itchy eyes, sneezing and a runny nose, hay fever in dogs typically manifests itself on their skin. Look out for your dog itching, nibbling or rubbing any of the following spots:

Paws | Eyes, ears and mouth | Armpits | Abdomen | Legs | Around their bottom | Groin

In some cases, their skin may also look red, flaky and sore, or they may experience fur loss as a result of constant scratching.

WHEN IS HAY FEVER SEASON?

When your dog suffers with hay fever will be dependent on where you live in the UK and what strain of pollen your dog is sensitive to. However, that being said:

- > Tree pollen occurs from late March to mid-May
- > Grass pollen occurs from mid-May to July
- > Weed pollen occurs from the end of June to September

HOW TO TREAT HAY FEVER IN DOGS



treatments for dogs are:

> Topical treatments, such as medicated shampoos and creams

PE

- > Antihistamines (prescribed by your vet)
- > Essential fatty acid supplements
- > Medication to reduce your dog's immune reaction, such as steroids
- > Immunotherapy although this is expensive and not always effective

HOW TO MANAGE HAY FEVER IN DOGS

- > Walk your dog early in the morning or later in the evening to avoid high pollen counts
- > Keep your dog's ears clean to prevent irritation
- > Wipe your dog's fur, skin and paws with a damp cloth after a walk
- > Wash their bedding regularly
- > Vacuum your home regularly
- > Use an air filter system in your home
- > Stay up to date with your dog's flea and worming treatments

CAN CATS GET HAY FEVER?

Yes, cats can also get hay fever and tend to experience many of the same symptoms as dogs such as excessive itching, most commonly on the ears, bottom and paws. Cats

of an inflamed throat. You can get topical creams and antiitch wipes to alleviate their symptoms.





If you want to start saving, then you may be wondering where to put your hardearned cash. Two of the most popular options are ISAs and savings accounts, but which one is best for you?

ISA stands for individual savings account and offers a tax-efficient way to save

money. There are four types of ISAs:

- Cash ISAs
- Stocks and shares ISAs
- Innovative finance ISAs
- I ifetime ISAs

The government sets a limit for how much can be saved each financial year and does not charge any tax on the interest you earn.

WHAT IS A SAVINGS ACCOUNT?

A savings account offers a safe place to put aside your money and allows you to earn varying amounts of interest. Depending on your circumstances, you may have to pay tax on any interest earned.

There are several different types of savings accounts, including:

- Easy-access accounts
- Fixed-term accounts
- Regular savings accounts

ISA	Savings Account
Completely tax-free	Interest is taxed if you earn over £1,000 for basic tax earners and £500 for high tax earners per year
You can deposit up to £20,000 per year	No limits on deposits
Limited to opening one type of ISA per year	No limits on how many accounts you can open
Good for large amounts and long-term saving	Good for large amounts and long-term saving

Before you decide whether to open an ISA or a savings account, you need to determine your needs and savings goals. Typically, you can earn more competitive interest rates on a savings account and. depending on the account, you may be able to both deposit and withdraw money. However, an ISA is a good choice if you want to protect yourself from paying tax on any interest earned.





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n unusual vegetable owing to its very sour yet slightly sweet taste, rhubarb is instantly recognisable by its deep pink hue. Super simple to grow, rhubarb is popular for both sweet and savoury dishes.

What are the health benefits of rhubarb?

- > Contains high levels of fibre, which is linked to lower cholesterol levels
- A good source of vitamin K, which is beneficial for your bone and heart health
- > Full of antioxidants that protect the body from free radicals
- May help with digestion and to treat digestive disorders

Serve as it is or strain the liquid through a muslin-lined sieve first.

RHUBARB CHUTNEY

YOU WILL NEED: 250ml cider vinegar

| 100g golden caster sugar | 300g chopped rhubarb | 4 chopped medjool dates | 1 tsp grated ginger | 1 cardamon pod

HOW TO MAKE: In a pan, heat the cider vinegar and caster sugar until dissolved | Add the chopped rhubarb, ginger, dates and cardamon pod and cook for 15-20 minutes | Once you have a thick chutney consistency, season with salt to taste | Store in sterilised jars for up to two years (unopened).



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Europe's best SECOND CITIES

FIVE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHERE THE LESSER-KNOWN SECOND CITIES OFFER. ARGUABLY, MORE THAN THE CAPITAL

1. BERGEN, NORWAY

Many people visiting Scandinavia will instantly migrate towards Oslo for its green spaces, architecture and nightlife, yet for those looking to sample a more stylish, artistic side of Norwegian culture, Bergen is the choice. A seductive port decorated with colourful houses and romantic cobbled streets, it is the gateway to the fjords.

2. KRAKÓW, POLAND

Poland's elevation into a popular location to visit over the past 20 years has been impressive, and this is no better exemplified than in the way Kraków, its second city, welcomes visitors.

A former European Capital of Culture, it is a creative tourist's dream, with arts, crafts, collections and museums, plus a host of theatres for the performing arts.

3. PORTO, PORTUGAL

Located on the Iberian Peninsula, many parts of Porto were built with the aim of luring in foreign investment, so it makes sense that Lisbon's smaller sibling has an abundance of interest and charm.

From bridges to cathedrals, elegant gardens to wine tasting - the city is the birthplace of port wine - it's a smorgasbord of tastes and flavours.

4. CORK, IRELAND

The last port of call for the Titanic before it headed off across the Atlantic, Cork has a lot going for it, with a bustling market, friendly people, and a renowned food and drink scene.

Much more personal than Dublin, it introduces tourists to the rural delights of southern Ireland.

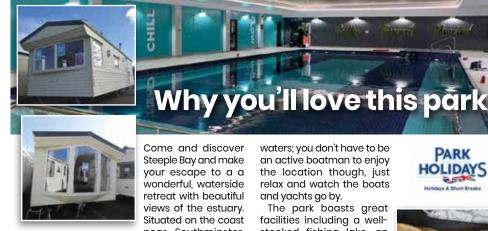
5. KOŠICE, SLOVAKIA

A modern city with an eco edge, Košice combines incredible architecture dating back centuries with a defined approach towards sustainability and the repurposing of old spaces for

creative industry.

With a warm welcome and thriving arts scene, this is an inspirational place which transports visitors into a world that reflects the past while embracing the future.





Come and discover Steeple Bay and make your escape to a a wonderful, waterside retreat with beautiful views of the estuary. Situated on the coast near Southminster,

the park is the hidden treasure of the South East of England, with ready access to the Mayland Creek.

If you're looking for a relaxing getaway for all the family then Steeple Bay is the right place to be. Choose to spend time in our Riverside bar or take a dip in the heated outdoor swimming pool, while the kids have fun around the park with Loopy and his friends. Or take to the nearby



waters; you don't have to be an active boatman to enjoy the location though, just relax and watch the boats and yachts go by.

The park boasts great facilities including a wellstocked fishing lake, an adventure playground and an amusement arcade. Along with our leisure pool, there is also a paddling pool for our very youngest guests.

A visit the clubhouse will round off a perfect day with tasty food and drink available, along with live music and top shows during busier periods.







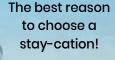
Steeple Bay Holiday Park

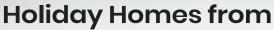










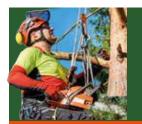


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GOT SOME FRONT

ur front gardens are typically a bit more restrictive than the spaces behind our homes, but that doesn't mean we can't still make them look stunning.

They are the outdoor spaces that typically lack privacy, are exposed to dirtier air, and may even find themselves hosting a car or work vehicle. Therefore, for the added aggro our front gardens have to put up with, it's sensible to keep things simple, saving your energy for the private space at the back.

Beginning with plants and varieties of flowers, it's sensible to limit a front garden to perhaps just five or six variations. If you include too many different styles, it can create a hotchpotch of ideas that will only make your home look untidy.

Also try to prioritise privacy over prettiness. The front of our property is exposed to all and sundry, so carefully positioned hedges, shrubs and trees can keep unwanted eyes away. Just be sure not to

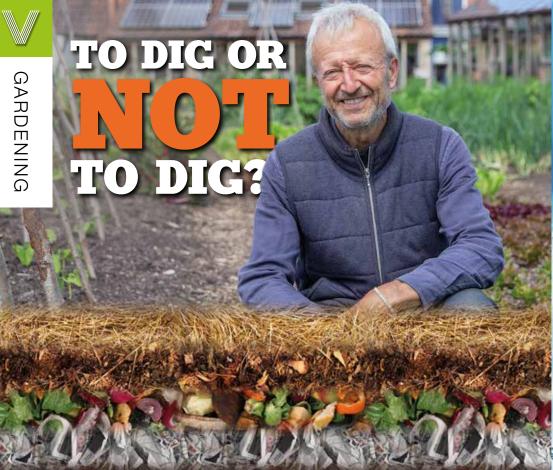
position larger living matter in front of windows to prevent blocking out the light.

When selecting plants, consider varieties that will last all year round, saving you a constant summer/winter change-up. Think summer roses that progress into gorgeous winter blossoms, and evergreens that will grace the changing seasons with constant class.

As far as a lawn goes, while artificial grass has never been better or looked more authentic, a small area of real grass, or perhaps one either side of a path, is low maintenance and can be taken care of with a simple mower. While it's tempting to bring a wild meadow into the equation, that look is always better achieved in a larger garden, where a rugged area is established in a well-tended garden.

Finally, if you're looking to pave or lay down slate or stone in a front garden, remember weeds will still work their way through, so keep an eye on things, particularly in the summer months.

keeping your front garden low maintenance



Although it may seem strange, no-dig gardening is becoming increasingly popular owing to its ability to save time, banish weeds and ensure plants grow more healthily.

WHAT IS NO-DIG GARDENING?

No-dig gardening is a method of cultivation that aims for minimal disturbance of the soil. Made popular by Charles Dowding, an author and avid gardener, no-dig gardening requires less fertiliser and pesticide, is suitable for any size garden, and can be used to grow flowers, shrubs or vegetables.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

No-dig gardening is beneficial to your soil, garden and the environment, and can significantly reduce the need to weed. Soil stores a lot of carbon, which means that the more you dig, the more is released into the atmosphere. There is also evidence to suggest that digging upsets the structure of the soil.

A CUIDE TO NO-DIG GARDENING

STEP 1: PREPARE THE AREA

Remove any large weeds and then cover the ground in a layer of light blocking material such as torn-up newspaper. If creating a no-dig area on grass, add a layer of manure and lime first.

STEP 2: ADD LAYERS

Add a layer of kitchen scraps, such as vegetable peelings or fruit waste, and a layer of compost made from leaves and grass cuttings. Then, add a layer of straw, another layer of compost, and finally another layer of straw.

STEP 3: MAKE WELLS FOR PLANTING

Create wells about 10cm deep in the top layer of straw and fill them with compost. Then, plant your seeds or seedlings into the wells. Water well and wait for your no-dig garden to grow.



there's something for everyone at this popular waterpark.

A guide to

EXPIRATION DATES

e honest, how often do you check the expiration date on your make-up? If the answer is hardly ever, then you're not alone.

Unfortunately, out-of-date make-up can cause a whole host of problems, including skin irritations and eye infections.

FOUNDATION: Shelf life of six months to one year

You can keep your foundation germ-free for longer by keeping your fingers away from the neck of the bottle and gently dripping the formula onto the back of your hand before applying. If your foundation starts to separate, it definitely needs to be binned.

CONCEALER: Shelf life of six months to one year

Similar to foundation, concealer can last up to one year as long as you keep it out of direct sunlight and avoid touching the applicator with your fingers. Again, if it separates, throw it away.

LIPSTICK: Shelf life of one year

Typically, a lipstick should last for around 12 months. However, if you notice a change in texture, whether it has started to dry out or become gloopy, or if it starts to smell funny, it is no longer usable. Remember to store your lipstick in a cool, dry place.

Shelf life of one year

Pencils tend to last longer than other eve products as they are sharpened regularly. Keep away from steam for enhanced longevity.

Shelf life of three months

If you don't want to get a nasty eye infection, you should be replacing your mascara once every three months or sooner if you notice that the formula has started to become clumpy or smell strange. Never share mascara.

Shelf life of three to six months

Although powder eyeshadow can potentially last for up to two years, because it is used around the eyes, you should replace it more often.

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he may only recently have become a recognised TV star, but Esme Young has had a career most budding fashionistas can only dream of.

On first impressions, fashion designers Esme Young and Patrick Grant make unlikely candidates for a sparkling television duo, but that is precisely what they have become as judges on The Great British Sewing Bee.

Both have decades of experience in the fashion industry, yet it is Young's effervescent wit and charm that has made her a media darling in her twilight years. She is a natural in front of the camera, but given the Bedfordshire native's illustrious life and career - as revealed in her memoir Behind the Seams: My Life in Creativity, Friendship and Adventure - this is hardly surprising.

After graduating from Central Saint Martins in the early 1970s, Young and three of her female friends launched the Camden-based fashion collective Swanky Modes, whose designs appeared in Vogue

and were snapped by the likes of David Bailey and Helmut Newton. During these carefree years, Young lived in a squat in Maida Vale, partied with the likes of David Bowie and the Sex Pistols, and saw Swanky Mode dresses worn by superstars of the era such as Grace Jones and Cher.

In the 1990s, Young moved into cinema. Her creations included Leonardo DiCaprio's shirt in The Beach and Renée Zellweger's iconic bunny outfit in Bridget Jones's Diary.

Alongside her judging role, Young teaches at Central Saint Martins, where she passes down her sartorial wisdom. Musing on how she was taught darning, mending and crocheting by nuns at the all-girl convent school she attended, the talented designer confesses that while seeking perfection in the seams and sleeves she judges, she also wants to be excited and surprised by contestants'

It seems that, even at 74, Esme Young's best days remain ahead of her.

UR GP wishes you knew

o you often find yourself Googling questions or symptoms you wish you could discuss with vour doctor? Read on to discover 10 things your GP wishes you knew, and save yourself time and worry.

You do not need to clean your ears

Earwax is needed to protect your ears and should not be removed with a cotton bud or any other small item. This may cause a perforated ear drum.

- You do not have to have a period on the pill You don't need to have a break from the pill so that you have a period. Taking 21-day contraceptive pills back to back without having the seven-day break will not cause any ill effects.
- You don't need to bring down a child's fever A fever shows that your body is fighting an infection so, if your child seems well in themselves, you do not need to bring down a high temperature. However, seek medical attention if it is 39.4°C or higher.
- Verrucas do not need to be treated

In most cases, a verruca will go away on its own in a few weeks or a month without the need for treatment. However, there are over-the-counter

remedies that you can use to treat them.

You do not need to drink eight glasses of water per day

As long as you stay hydrated, aiming to drink eight glasses of water a day isn't a necessity.

Watching TV in the dark isn't bad for vour eves

As long as you take regular breaks from watching TV or any other screen, watching TV with the light off is no worse than watching it with the light on.

- You can drink alcohol on some antibiotics Most antibiotics do not interact with alcohol, so you can safely enjoy a drink if you feel well enough. However, you should always check the attached leaflet to be on the safe side.
- Being cold will not give you a cold A cold is a virus and is not caused by cold temperatures or being outside.
- Cracking joints doesn't cause arthritis Cracking of the joints is caused by bubbles of gas and is nothing to be worried about.
- The five-second rule isn't real If your child eats food that has been dropped on the floor, this is highly unlikely to cause any problems.



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SPORT



How do bees make honey?

Using their hollow tongues, bees suck up the nectar from flowers and store it in part of their stomach. Back in the hive, they regurgitate the mixture and spread it through the honeycomb cells. They then fan it with their wings to evaporate the moisture and turn it into honey. There are more than 300 different kinds of honey, depending on the flowers the nectar comes from.

Of course, honey is delicious spread on toast. But did you know it's also a great natural health and beauty aid because it contains micronutrients, including vitamins, minerals and antioxidants? It also has moisturising, antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties. For maximum benefits, choose raw, organic honey.

Healthy scalp and hair

To treat your scalp, use a tablespoon or two of honey straight from the jar. Leave for a couple of hours before rinsing and shampooing. For a hair mask, mix a tablespoon of honey with the same quantity of olive oil. Leave on for 15 minutes before rinsing and shampooing.

Minor cuts, grazes and insect lites

If you're unlucky enough to suffer a cut or bite, simply dab on some honey to help with the healing process.

Sore throats

To relieve a sore throat, mix a tablespoon of honey with ¼ teaspoon turmeric in a mug of warm water or tea, and sip when you need it. You can also use the mixture as a gargle.

Healthy sleep

A tablespoon or two of honey before bed, eaten or in a drink, can help regulate your blood sugar and make you feel relaxed.

Remember.

Never give honey to children under one year as certain bacteria in honey can produce toxins in a baby's intestines. Also remember that honey is high in sugar and calories. The information here is for quidance only – it is not medical advice.

UNUSUAL SPORT: Underwater Rugby

HEARING THE RALLYING CRY OF 'SWIM LOW, SWEET CHARIOT', IT CAN ONLY BE AN INVITATION TO PLAY UNDERWATER RUGBY

n 1961 in Cologne, Germany, a new variation on a hybrid sport containing elements of rugby and water polo was invented.

Named underwater rugby, for perhaps rather obvious reasons, the first championships took place some 17 years later, even though the sport's overseers were still unclear as to what the rules should be.

Ultimately, it was decided that there should be six players per side in the pool at any one time, with further substitutes from a total squad of 15 able to be made during the two 15-minute halves.

Most team formations comprise of two forwards, two backs and two goalkeepers or left-wingers, with the aim being to keep possession and score after outwitting the opposition through speed, skill and holding your breath.

The underwater rugby ball is plastic and filled with salt

water and the players have to score in steel goals which are located at the bottom of opposing ends of the pool. The pool dimensions have to be between 12m and 22m in length, 8m and 12m wide, and with a depth of 3.5-5m.

No kicking, hitting or strangling is allowed, but it's a contact sport so, within reason, anything else goes. Officials are present to judge possible offences, resulting in punishments such as warnings, free throws or two-minute penalties.

There were 18 countries involved at the last World Championships in 2019, where Colombia became the first non-Nordic nation to win a gold medal, beating two-time and defending champions Norway in the final in Graz, Austria.

Underwater rugby is said to be the only true 3D sport in the world in the way both the ball and the players can travel in three dimensions and in all directions – imagine, for instance, having a teammate 5m below you in a pool. For this reason, its popularity is exploding.

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hether you are a first-time buyer or are seasoned in the world of scooters, a used one can save you a pretty penny.

Below are four questions you need to ask before buying a used scooter.

DOES IT RUN?

While this may seem like a no-brainer, before you buy a used scooter, you need to make sure that it actually runs. Once you have established that it does, the next step is to listen to how it sounds. Four-stroke engines should have a smooth hum, whereas two-stoke engines should sound like a gentle chainsaw, so make sure you listen out when vou do a test drive.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SITTING?

If you are purchasing a used scooter online, take a close look at the pictures. Does the scooter look dusty? If yes, then it may

have been sitting unused for a while. Make sure you check the battery and the tyres as both of these are likely to need replacing.

CAN YOU STILL GET SPARE PARTS FOR THE SCOOTER?

While you can still get spare parts for most scooters that have come out in the last decade, it is always worth checking before you sign on the dotted line. Don't forget to also be vigilant of scooters that are missing several body panels, as this can be a sign of a crash or that the scooter has been stolen.

WHO IS THE SELLER?

You can choose to buy a used scooter from either a dealership or a private seller. While there are advantages and disadvantages for each option, a dealership is a safer bet as you can find out about their reputation online and they are more likely to provide detailed checks on their scooters.











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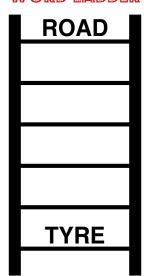
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- ►The former Prince of Wales has presented the weather forecast on the BBC.

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.

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

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