

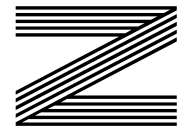
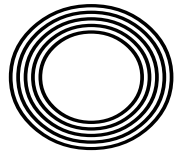
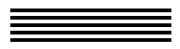


SUN SAFETY FOR YOUR BABY

RSPCA CELEBRATES 200 YEARS

PUMP IT UP
How to rock ballet pumps

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Editor's notes...

JUNE 2024



Nik Allen, Editor

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

Who wants to be bored? Well, it turns out, we all do - or rather, we should all strive to be bored every now and again.

Let me explain. I've spent the past few days planning things for myself and my family this summer - those six long weeks that are an extended version of every half term, long weekend and inset day. And in the 24/7/365 world we live in, it often feels like there's an expectation to schedule fun.

However, long before technology and wall-to-wall entertainment took over, I remember days as a kid when we made do with some very basic elements - sticks from the garden, a sheet of paper and a pen, or some Lego bricks.

Undoubtedly, we had a lot less, but our reaction was, in essence, to create a lot more. And recent research suggests that some of the most valuable experiences can emanate from basic, ordinary, organic things, because they tap into a sense of creativity that the internet age has perhaps taken away.

So maybe it's time to reconnect with some basic elements? Now then, where did I put that crumpled old piece of tin foil?!

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

Nik Allen

This is your town's hyperlocal magazine, delivering to homes and businesses every month.

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PROTECTING ANIMALS FOR

200
YEARS

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) was founded 200 years ago this month. A small group of dedicated people gathered in a London coffee shop to discuss how to prevent animals from being badly treated. They shared a common goal: to stop cruelty to animals and improve animals' lives. This humble beginning marked the start of a flourishing national movement.

In many ways, animal welfare has improved considerably since the 19th century – partly because of the RSPCA. But new times bring new challenges, and the organisation's work throughout England and Wales remains vital. Despite all the progress, there are still many issues that need attention, and the RSPCA must continue to adapt and respond to these challenges to ensure animals are treated with respect.

THE RSPCA IN HISTORY

The RSPCA has made countless contributions to animal welfare over the years – far too many to list! But here are just a few key milestones – each one representing a significant victory in the fight for

animal rights and welfare.

- **1835** – Cruel sports like bear and bull baiting are banned
- **1870** – The last bullfight in England takes place
- **1914** – A fund for horses wounded in the First World War is set up
- **1998** – Testing cosmetics on animals is banned
- **2019** – Wild animals are banned in circuses

ON THE FRONT LINES

The RSPCA has its own teams dedicated to saving animals in danger, investigating animal crimes and providing advice on animal care. These teams work tirelessly, often in difficult and dangerous situations.

The organisation also runs several hospitals and wildlife centres. These facilities are staffed by skilled veterinary surgeons, nurses and carers who provide treatment and support to help animals recover.

Wherever possible and appropriate, animals are returned to their natural habitats.

SHAPING LAWS AND MINDS

The organisation also campaigns for improved animal welfare laws, educates young people about animal care, and provides expert advice to help ensure animals are well treated. Through its advocacy efforts, the RSPCA has influenced significant changes in legislation, leading to better protection for animals. Meanwhile, education programmes in schools are teaching future generations about the importance of compassion and proper care for pets and wildlife.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate its 200th year, the RSPCA is launching a year-long campaign to grow its movement to one million supporters, so people can join in creating a better world for animals – and a better world for us all. There will also be special events such as the One Fun Day, the #50MilesForAnimals challenge,

and the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards. These events are designed to engage the public, raise awareness and generate support for the RSPCA's essential work.

For more information on getting involved in the RSPCA's 200th birthday celebrations, please visit www.rspca.org.uk/200th or contact your local RSPCA branch or shop. Whether you choose to volunteer, donate or participate in events, your support can make a difference. Join the RSPCA in celebrating 200 years of compassion and help create a brighter future for animals everywhere.





Watch out for this year's National Bingo Day on Thursday, June 27. Even if you've never played before, now's the time to have fun, meet new people, and maybe even win a prize!

BINGO THROUGH THE AGES

- Bingo began in Italy in the 1500s, when people played a lottery game called Il Giuoco del Lotto d'Italia (The Game of Lotto of Italy).
- A version of the game reached the US in the 1920s, where it was first called Beano. The name Bingo started by mistake when someone called out "Bingo!" instead of "Beano".
- Bingo became popular in the UK in the 1960s, and the first bingo halls and clubs soon appeared.
- The first online bingo sites were established in 1996 – and there are now more than 200.

National Bingo Day is a chance for people of all ages and backgrounds to get together and celebrate the excitement of bingo (although remember that bingo halls are usually for ages 18 and over).

Activities will be held at bingo clubs around the

country, and online events will also be held.

MAKE THE DAY YOUR OWN

You don't have to follow the crowd. There are lots of ways you can put your own twist on the day, and here are just a few ideas:

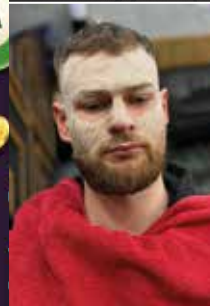
1. Throw a bingo party with family and friends.
2. Organise a charity bingo game to raise money for your favourite cause.
3. Set up a game of Reverse Bingo – you start with a full card and erase numbers as they're called.
4. Organise a bingo walk or scavenger hunt where participants collect bingo numbers at various checkpoints.

WHY NATIONAL BINGO DAY MATTERS

National Bingo Day is more than just playing games. It's a chance for people to enjoy an entertaining tradition that many of us love – and it's a great way of meeting and making friends.

Remember to mark Thursday, June 27, on your calendar – and get your dabbers ready for a day of bingo joy!

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Magic MAYO

Mayonnaise is one of the most popular condiments, boasting a creamy texture and tangy taste. However, did you know that it can also be surprisingly useful around the house?

TO DUST HOUSEPLANTS

If you have any faux houseplants in your home, you will know only too well how dusty these can get. Give them a whole new shine using just a clean cloth and a little bit of mayonnaise. Dust the leaves first, wipe with the mayo and then buff to finish.

TO SHINE STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless steel is susceptible to smudges which can make your surfaces and appliances appear dirtier than they actually are. To remedy this, grab a clean cloth and a small dab of mayo and use them to buff and restore any stainless steel in your home.

TO BANISH SQUEAKY HINGES

If you are driven to distraction by a squeaky hinge in your home, then all you need is a small amount of mayonnaise and 10 seconds of your time. Simply slather the mayo onto the hinge using your finger and then open and shut it several times to get it worked into the hinge. Wipe away any excess mayo using a paper towel or clean cloth.

TO REMOVE CRAYONS FROM WALLS

Have your little darlings let their artistic side run wild? Crayon marks on the walls can be a nightmare to remove, but you will be pleased to hear that mayonnaise offers the perfect solution. Use your finger to apply a layer of the condiment to the crayon marks and leave to sit for 10-15 minutes. Then wipe away with a clean cloth.

TO ERASE WATER STAINS

Erase water stains and rings on wooden furniture using just mayonnaise. Cover the mark completely, leave for 48 hours and then wipe with a clean cloth.

NB: You can use either full-fat or light mayo to achieve the same results.



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That's CORKSOME!



HOME & DIY

Have you ever looked at a wine cork and thought, "I wonder what I could make with that?" Well, now you'll find out!

MINIATURE PLANTERS

YOU WILL NEED: 1 wine cork for each planter | A small knife | Soil | Small succulents

HOW TO MAKE: Carefully use the knife to hollow out the centre of the cork, leaving enough space to plant | Add a small amount of soil to the hollowed-out cork | Place your chosen succulent into the soil and water sparingly when needed

A KEYCHAIN

YOU WILL NEED: A wine cork | A small eye screw | A key ring | Decorative beads or charms (optional)

HOW TO MAKE: Screw the eye screw into one end of the cork, twisting gently until secure | Add the key ring to the eye screw | If desired, thread beads or attach charms

A BIRDHOUSE

YOU WILL NEED: Wine corks (50-70, depending on the desired size) | A wooden base | Adhesive glue or a hot glue gun | Wooden shingles or metal sheets (for the roof) | A dowel or small perch

HOW TO MAKE: Glue the corks to the base (standing upwards), creating the walls of the birdhouse | Attach the roofing material to the top, creating a slope to shelter the structure | Glue the dowel or small perch near the entrance of the birdhouse for the birds to land on | Add any desired decorations like moss, twigs, flowers or hand-painted details

A HEAT-PROOF TABLE MAT

YOU WILL NEED: Wine corks (20-30, depending on the desired size) | Strong adhesive glue or a hot glue gun | Some ribbon or twine

HOW TO MAKE: Arrange the corks on their sides into your preferred shape, such as a circle or square | Apply the glue to the sides of the corks, pressing them together according to your chosen pattern | Hold each cork in place briefly to secure them | Wrap the ribbon or twine around the mat and secure with glue | Allow to fully dry.

Photo credit: thesocialhomedecor.com, rustic-crafts.com, 14mining.com



HOME & DIY

SHAPE UP YOUR SPACE

UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST WITH GEOMETRIC WALL ART

Geometric art is super fashionable right now. But original artwork is pricey – so why not make your own? You can create something beautiful even if you're a complete beginner. And it won't cost a fortune – you can buy everything you need for less than £20!

What is geometric art? Geometric art involves using basic shapes like triangles to create visually appealing designs.

A mural or a canvas? You can paint directly onto your wall using emulsion paint, whether it's leftovers or sample pots. Alternatively, purchase an artist's canvas and use acrylic paints to create a masterpiece to hang on your wall.

What do I need? For both murals and canvases, you'll need paint, masking tape and appropriately sized paintbrushes.

Decide on your design. First, sketch your design on paper rather than directly onto the wall or canvas. We recommend using straight lines, so choose triangles and squares rather than half moons or circles. Now select paint colours to complement your room's décor. Using three or four colours works best, and a combination of matt and metallic paints can look really cool.

Get it taped. If you're working directly on a



wall, start by outlining the entire area of your mural with masking tape. For both murals and canvases, apply masking tape to the areas that will form the outlines of your shapes, so that they remain your base colour. Ensure the tape is firmly pressed down and the edges are smooth. If you're working on a canvas, extend the tape (and later, the paint) down the sides of the canvas for a polished look.

Get painting. Paint each section from the edge of the tape in to avoid the paint bleeding, rather than brushing from the middle of each space out towards the tape, and don't apply your paint too thickly. Once you've done all the edges, you can fill the shape. When your masterpiece is completely dry, carefully peel off the tape.

Voilà! You now have a stunning piece of geometric art to adorn your wall.



Photo credit: What Walls Want via ebay.com, ighoandme.com

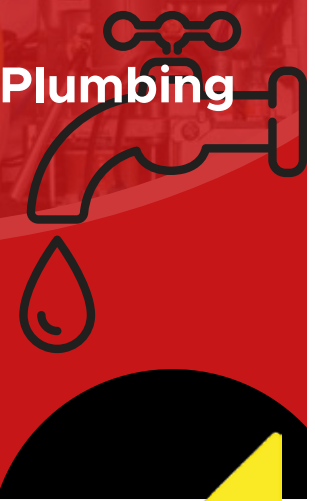


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1 FLOATING HALLWAY STORAGE

If you are always losing your keys and other essential items, then you need this Ikea hack in your home. To make this, all you need to do is mount an Ikea floating shelf to your chosen wall and then attach a few Ikea magazine holders underneath.



2 RATTAN PENDANT LIGHT

Designer lighting can be expensive, but it doesn't need to be with this super-stylish and affordable Ikea hack. Simply take a round Ikea rattan basket, remove the lid and attach it to your chosen ceiling light fixture.



3 CONTEMPORARY CAT TREE

Fed up with your feline friend scratching your sofa? Just take four Ikea wall shelves, cover them with Ikea's faux sheepskin fabric, and then mount them on your chosen wall. Hey, presto; a cosy corner for your cats to climb and play.



4 WALL-MOUNTED CHARGING STATION

If you and your family are always losing your phone chargers, or worse, fighting over whose turn it is to use them, then this DIY charging station is just what you need. To create, attach an Ikea Hultarp rail to the wall and then hook on a matching Hultarp basket or container. Add an indoor plant or two to the rail for enhanced visual appeal.



5 DIY DESK

Need somewhere to work but don't have space for a home office? Take two Ikea three-drawer dressers and place an Ikea worktop on the top. For a more upmarket look, cover the drawer fronts in wood-look laminate and replace the knobs with sleek handles.



Photo credits: instructables.com, Mini Map via housebeautiful.com, Aaron Bengtsson via housebeautiful.com, honetalk.com, Mike Garten via goodhousekeeping.com



SUN SAFETY

tips for babies

Whether you are planning to stay in the UK this summer or you are travelling to another country, if you have a baby, you need to make sure you are keeping them safe in the sun.

Keeping your baby protected from the sun

Babies under six months old should be kept out of direct sunlight as their skin does not contain enough melanin to protect them from the sun. Sunscreen is not recommended for babies under six months. Older babies should be kept out of the sun as much as possible, particularly in the summer and between 11am and 3pm when the sun is at its strongest.

Dressing your baby in the sun

Choose fabrics that are made from natural materials such as organic cotton and bamboo as these will feel cool and allow your baby's skin to breathe. Always make sure your baby wears a sun hat with a wide brim or a long flap at the back to protect their head and neck from the sun.

Avoiding dehydration

Babies need to have access to plenty of fluids when they are exposed to hot temperatures, in the same way that adults do. Breastfed babies do not need any water until they have started to consume solids, but they may want to breastfeed more than normal during hot weather. Formula-fed or combi-fed babies under six months can have a little cooled boiled water as well as their usual milk. Once you have started to introduce solids, your baby can have sips of water with their meals.

Keeping your baby cool

There are many ways to keep your baby cool when the sun is shining, such as running them a cool bath before bedtime, keeping their bedroom cool in the day by closing the blinds or curtains, and using a fan to allow air to circulate. In the daytime, babies can play in a paddling pool as long as they are supervised at all times and kept in the shade.

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George Mallory...

‘BECAUSE IT’S THERE’

One hundred years ago this month, on June 8 1924, the 37-year-old mountaineer George Mallory disappeared on Mount Everest. He was presumed dead, leaving a widow and three young children. But his body wasn't discovered till decades later.

Mallory was born in June 1886 in Mobberley in Cheshire. He started climbing while still at school and proved himself a natural.

SCHOLAR, TEACHER AND CLIMBER

When he graduated from Cambridge, he became a teacher, though he also served in France during the First World War. But his heart remained in the mountains. In 1921, he was selected for the first major British expedition to Everest.

Sadly, the 1921 expedition failed because of strong winds. Another try was made in 1922, with three more attempts to reach the top. However, they didn't make it, and tragically, seven Sherpa porters lost their lives.

FAMOUS WORDS

Before the third expedition in 1924, a reporter from

The New York Times asked Mallory why people wanted to climb Mount Everest. In response, Mallory offered the simple yet profound reply: "Because it's there."

THE THIRD AND FINAL EXPEDITION

Mallory and his less-experienced companion, 22-year-old Andrew Irvine, set out for the summit from their last camp on the morning of June 8. It was the expedition's third attempt to reach the summit. They were last spotted about 800 vertical feet (some 240m) below the summit but never returned to camp. Britain was shocked by the news.

THE GRIM DISCOVERY

An expedition dedicated to solving the mountaineers' disappearance was launched in 1999. Mallory's well-preserved body was found – he was identified by his clothing and personal items. Evidence suggests he died from a fall during his descent in darkness. Despite extensive searches, Irvine's body has never been found. And to this day, no one is sure whether either man reached the summit before his death.



LOCAL FEATURE

The iconic, evocative voice born in Billericay

Alison Moyet MBE has always been a remarkable figure in the music industry, possessing a distinctive voice that resonates through generations and captivating audiences with her soulful sound and profound lyrical depth.

Born in Billericay in June 1961, growing up in a vibrant community exposed Moyet to various musical influences. Adding those to her love of global icons Gladys Knight and Janis Joplin assisted in shaping her own unique style.

In the early 1980s, Moyet rose to prominence as one half of the synth-pop duo Yazoo, alongside former Depeche Mode and future Erasure musician, Vince Clarke.

Their hits *Only You* and *Don't Go* are timeless classics, showcasing Moyet's powerful vocals against the backdrop of Vince Clarke's innovative electronic soundscapes. Following Yazoo's disbandment, Moyet embarked on a successful solo career.

Moyet's debut solo album, *Alf* – named after her punk-era nickname – released in 1984,

was a commercial and critical success. Featuring hits like *All Cried Out* and *Invisible*, it cemented her status as a solo artist.

Her voice – characterised by a deep, rich timbre – set her apart in an era dominated by synth-pop and new wave. However, throughout her career, Moyet has shown a remarkable ability to evolve.

She's successfully navigated through various musical styles, from the synth-pop of Yazoo to blues, jazz and even theatre. Her adaptability and willingness to experiment with different genres demonstrate her versatility and commitment to artistic growth.

The 62 year old's journey is a testament to her enduring talent and versatility. From the streets of Billericay to the global stage, she has left an indelible mark on the music industry.

Moyet now lives in Brighton with her husband, David Ballard, with whom she has a daughter, Caitlin. She also has a daughter, Alex, with her former partner Kim McCarthy and a son, Joe, from her first marriage to Malcolm Lee.



Photo credit: BBC/Shiraine Forrest



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Discover the Oliver Hill Art Deco Houses and their demonstration of architectural excellence and innovative brilliance.

Sitting quaintly in the charming district of Tendring and designed in the 1930s by the renowned architect after whom they are named, the Oliver Hill Art Deco Houses are more than just structures – they are enduring symbols of a bygone era, encapsulating the spirit of Art Deco design.

Out of the original 12 located on the Frinton Park Estate, 10 still proudly exist today, each showcasing the elegance and forward-thinking design typical of the 1930s.

Crafted during a time when the popular style was at its zenith, they reflect an era characterised by optimism, progress and a flair for the dramatic. The clean lines, geometric shapes and occasional opulent detail of these houses speak of an era when design was both an artistic expression and a bold statement.

For visitors and architecture enthusiasts, the properties offer a unique glimpse into the past.

Walking through this neighbourhood is like stepping into a different era, where each house reveals its own story of design evolution and cultural history.

Safeguarding them has been a community effort, underscoring their significance not just as residential spaces but also as historical landmarks, and today they mean different things to different people.

For the residents, they are cherished homes, carefully maintained to preserve their original charm and character. For architecture students and historians, they serve as a real-life textbook of Art Deco design, offering insights into the techniques and trends of the time period.

More than that, though, they are now serving to inspire future generations of designers, calling many students, architects and planners to the area – not to mention the odd ambitious estate agent, with many of the properties estimated to be worth in excess of £1million each.



Photo credit: Zoopla



LOCAL FEATURE



YOUR LOCAL EVENTS

WHAT'S ON

HEROES AND VILLAINS PARTY

Madison Heights, Park Drive, Maldon, CM9 5JQ
Friday, June 21, 3.30pm – 10.30pm



Photo credit: Madison Heights Instagram

Come along to this superheroes and villains-themed roller disco. Doors open at 3.30pm, with a disco, DJ and games from 7pm. There will be themed cocktails and mocktails from the bar, as well as bar meals.

Come in superhero fancy dress for discounted entry of just £10. Entry for non-skaters costs £2. Find out more and buy tickets from www.t.ly/wtn3x

FESTIVAL OF FUN

Burnham-on-Crouch Primary School,
Dunkirk Road, Burnham-on-Crouch, CMO 8LG
Saturday, June 22, 12pm – 3pm

Burnham Primary families as well as the wider Maldon community are invited to the Festival of Fun. Burnham alumni and BAFTA winning actor Lenny Rush will open the festival, which will feature a range of local small businesses and talent plus inflatables, rides, a food area, and a visit from the fire service. There will also be plenty of games including the popular sweet tombola. The grand prize draw has some amazing prizes including a Nintendo Switch Lite, a champagne afternoon tea at a London hotel, and more.

Entry is free. Email ptaburnham@gmail.com for more information.

SECRETS OF THE BLACKWATER DAY SAIL

Topsail Charters, Cooks Yard,
The Hythe, Maldon, CM9 5HN
Saturday, June 29, 6.30am – 6.30pm

Enjoy a relaxing day of sailing and exploring the River Blackwater. Includes coffee and biscuits, two-course lunch, tea and cake, and soup supper.

Tickets cost £75 for adults or £55 for children aged 12 and under.

Find out more and book at www.top-sail.co.uk/product/secrets-of-the-blackwater-day-sail-4

MALDON OUTDOOR ANTIQUES & VINTAGE FAIR

Promenade Park, Park Drive, Maldon, CM9 5JQ
Sunday, June 30, 9am – 4pm

Come along to this exciting fair, where dealers and collectors from around the region will be selling a wide range of vintage, antique and collectable items.

Entry is free. Find out more at www.t.ly/cs7wA

BOWLS OPEN DAY

Burnham Hillside Bowls Club, 99 Station Road,
Burnham-on-Crouch, CMO 8HR
Sunday, July 7, 11am – 4pm

Burnham Hillside Bowls Club are offering local resident the chance to try their skills at green bowls.

Bowls are provided and visitors should wear casual dress with flat shoes. Refreshments available.

Entry is free. To find out more, contact 01621 785631 or head to www.burnhamhillsidebowlsclub.org

10TH ESSEX WWI LIVING HISTORY DAY

Combined Military Services Museum,
Station Road, Maldon, CM9 4LQ
Saturday, July 13, 10.30am – 4pm

The Combined Military Services Museum will welcome members of the 10th Essex Regiment, a reenactment regiment who will be putting on a First World War living history day.

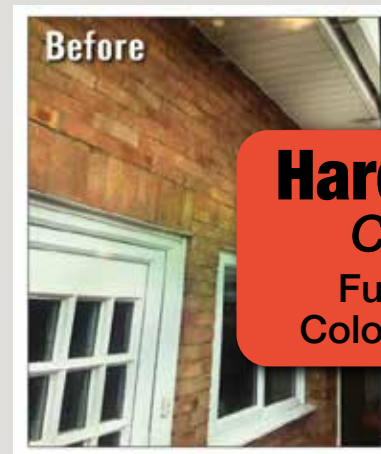
Entry costs £9.50 for adults over 16, £8.50 for students, or £6.50 for children aged five to 16.

For more information, visit www.t.ly/5aZnX



Photo credit: Maldon District

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EMMA HAYES
AND HER...

BARCLAYS WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE
CHAMPIONS
2023-24



AS SHE DEPARTS FOR THE UNITED STATES WITH A FIFTH SUCCESSIVE WSL CROWN AS CHELSEA BOSS, A NATION OF FOOTBALL LOVERS SALUTES THE ENIGMATIC EMMA HAYES OBE

The spectacular rise of women's football in this country has made household names of the game's best players; yet the likes of Mary Earps MBE, Lauren James and Sam Kerr OAM are not the only stars on show, a fact proven by outgoing Chelsea manager Emma Hayes OBE.

The fiery, firm-talking Blues boss is arguably the most recognisable manager in the game – although England coach Sarina Wiegman OON CBE may disagree! – and someone whose tenure in West London has been nothing short of sensational.

In the Women's Super League's (WSL) most competitive era, Hayes has led Chelsea to 14 major trophies, including five successive Super League titles – the last wrapped up on the final day of the domestic season with a 6-0 demolition of Manchester United.

She now departs to take charge of the US women's team.

The fact that Hayes has chosen to venture to the burgeoning football across the pond shouldn't come as too much of a surprise. Her managerial career actually kicked off Stateside when she took charge of the Long Island Lady Riders in 2002, progressing on to Iona Gaels. A short stint at Arsenal Ladies followed before Hayes found her niche at Chicago Red Stars, where she worked as head coach and director of football operations.

Arguably, this insight, refined on both sides of the Atlantic, has informed the 47 year old's approach to football. She is a master tactician and one of the sport's most resilient characters, as well as a driving force behind mental and physical health in sport.

Her own evolution has run alongside that of

the game, and moving back Stateside in what is perhaps the biggest job in the game will add another layer to an already flourishing career.

"There are some opportunities in football that become just too great to refuse," says Hayes, "and I think this is one of them.

"The US women's team job is massive in every way, and I look forward to reconnecting to life over there, as it gave me some of my happiest memories.

"In my head, it was probably time to look for a new challenge anyway. We have done marvellous things at Chelsea, but I think both myself and the club need a new approach and direction, and I've no doubt we will both find it."

Ever controversial, Hayes has stoked the furnaces in the past with her comments on equal pay, player-to-player relationships, and the use of the tag "male

aggression" in describing a co-manager.

"When I've caused a stir, it's usually been in the heat of the moment," she says. "I am big enough to admit to my mistakes and to own them. I will make more in future, I'm sure!

"If I can supplement those slip-ups with winning trophies and continuing to push forward everything within this brilliant game, I'll take that!"

Hayes's first task is to restore the US women's team to their number one FIFA ranking. They currently sit fourth – their lowest-ever rating – behind world champions Spain, England and France.

"It's a big job, but I can't wait to get started," she says. "Hopefully, my experiences will go on to inspire not just the next generation of footballer, but coaches and managers as well. That really will be my greatest achievement."



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TRAVEL

STAY COOL

this summer in the Faroe Islands



If you don't want to risk the sweltering heat of Britain in August, never mind the crowded beaches, why not make a beeline for the enchanting Faroe Islands?

Tucked away in the North Atlantic, the best thing for heat-haters is that summer daytime temperatures average just 12°C. But there's much more to the islands than cool breezes.

WHAT'S IT LIKE?

The 18 islands that make up the group offer rolling green hills dotted with colourful cottages. There are also mountains, waterfalls, rugged coasts, caves and fjords. But there are some lovely towns as well. Many of the 18 islands are now connected by tunnels and bridges.

The Faroes are a self-governing region of Denmark. It has its own language – Faroese, which is closely related to Icelandic. But English is also widely spoken.

WHERE CAN I STAY?

There are plenty of places to stay, from quaint wooden cabins to luxury hotels. Airbnb is an excellent way to explore the main options. Prices aren't rock bottom, but they're generally similar to those in the UK – and public transport is cheap.

IS IT SUITABLE FOR WILDLIFE LOVERS?

Yes, especially birdwatchers. Thousands of puffins fly freely, and there's an astonishing array of other seabirds, including gannets, fulmars, loons and petrels. Summer is the perfect time to visit because it's breeding season. There are also seals, dolphins, and plenty of sheep.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

As well as outdoor activities like fishing, kayaking and surfing, there's a lively music scene and plenty of great restaurants specialising in lamb, fish and seafood.

HOW CAN I GET THERE?

You can fly direct from Edinburgh in around an hour. You can also fly via Denmark from most UK airports. Alternatively, you can get a ferry from Edinburgh, which will take around five hours.

For more information, see visitfaroeislands.com



Escape to Paradise: Discover Casa de Campo Resort & Villas in 2024

Nestled along the pristine shores of the Dominican Republic lies a sanctuary of luxury and tranquillity: Casa de Campo Resort & Villas. This enchanting retreat beckons travellers seeking lush landscapes and unparalleled hospitality. Whether you crave adventure, relaxation, or simply the embrace of nature's beauty, Casa de Campo offers an idyllic haven where dreams come to life.

As you step foot into Casa de Campo, you are greeted by a world of opulence and elegance. The resort boasts a rich tapestry of luxurious accommodations, from stunning Superior Casita to lavish villas overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

Casa de Campo emerges as the preferred celebrity retreat, drawing the likes of Taron Egerton, Jay-Z, Beyoncé, Ricky Martin, President Bill Clinton, and numerous other A listers!



At Casa de Campo, the possibilities are as endless as the horizon. Golf enthusiasts can tee off at 3 courses, including Teeth of the Dog, ranked No. 1 in the Caribbean. Fans of equestrians can explore lush trails on horseback. The Racquet Academy offers 13 pristine courts. The resort even boasts a 245-trap clay shooting centre & a spectacular 370 berth marina!

Indulge your senses at the resort's brand new 18000 sq. ft. world-class spa, where expert therapists rejuvenate mind, body, and spirit with luxurious treatments inspired by indigenous traditions. Meanwhile, fine dining awaits at the resort's exquisite restaurants, spread over its 7000 acres, where culinary masters curate gastronomic journeys that celebrate the vibrant flavours of the Caribbean.

Prices start from £1995pp for flights & hotel with All-Inclusive.

*Prices are based per person on a all-inclusive basis. Correct at the time of going to press. All prices & availability are subject to change. Terms and conditions apply.



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PUMP sit up



Ballet pumps are one of the biggest shoe trends of the summer, having dominated the catwalks earlier this year. Versatile, comfortable and super stylish, these can be worn for all occasions and with many different outfits.

What are ballet pumps

Ballet pumps are a type of flat-heeled, round-toed shoe that are typically lightweight and look similar to the shoes worn by ballet dancers. They are often made from soft leather, but you can also find them in materials such as canvas, PVC and nylon.

Where to wear ballet pumps

To the office: Simple, soft leather ballet pumps are perfect for the office owing to their neat design and flat soles. Avoid embellishments and pair with a smart skirt, dress or formal trousers.

To a party: If you don't like wearing heels, embellished ballet pumps are a great alternative for parties and nights out. Wear with your favourite dress, jumpsuit or midi skirt.

To a wedding: Elegant and graceful, ballet pumps are the ideal match for a wedding guest outfit. Opt for pale pastel colours such as cream, pink or powder blue.

For every day: Ballet pumps are comfortable and stylish, making them the obvious choice for everyday casual outfits. Great with straight-legged jeans and a shirt or vest top.

How to wear ballet pumps

- > Avoid wearing tights, stockings or socks with ballet pumps as these can cause unsightly creases and wrinkles around the ankles.
- > Different strap styles can make your legs look either shorter or longer. Thick ankle straps can take length off your leg, whereas thinner straps can help to elongate them.
- > Show some skin. Ballet flats look most flattering when the lower leg or ankles are showing, so keep dresses and skirts above ankle length or pair them with cropped trousers.
- > Complement your ballet pumps with statement accessories such as a chunky necklace, a large clutch bag or a bold belt.



Photo credit: ASOS.com



Burnham on Crouch Carnival
Saturday 28th September 2024



Planning for this year's carnival is well underway and thanks to the generosity of local businesses many of the days attractions are now secured. Sonic Rail Services have again helped us by sponsoring our security, Impamark are again providing all our printing and entertainment is now being secured. Aspire Body Transformations have again kindly sponsored our annual Tug of war between 2 local pubs and Hillside Nursery are sponsoring the Kids Fancy Dress. Registration for the Fancy dress happens on the day but don't waste any time getting your thinking caps on now and get your kids ready for entry.

Our local pubs, The Anchor, The White Hart. The Queens, The Victoria Inn and The Star have all contributed to help us pay for the day's entertainment, but we do still need more sponsorship to help make the day as special as we can.

There are many different sponsorship opportunities still available so why not get your business involved and help the local community have a fantastic day.

If you would like to sponsor an event or advertise in this years program please contact Lorna by emailing burnhamcarnivalpress@gmail.com

You don't have to sponsor to get involved, entering a float in the parade is a great way to help make the day more fun. You don't need a vehicle, you can walk the procession, just use your imagination and create an entry with your friend's, family or your entire street.

To enter the procession contact Zoe by emailing zj.swimming@gmail.com

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Working from home comes with a whole host of benefits, such as a better work/life balance and no commute, but that doesn't mean it's without its challenges. If you struggle to maintain productivity levels throughout the day, these products are just what you need.

1 AN ERGONOMIC MOUSE

A standard mouse can cause discomfort to the hand, wrist and forearm over time, whereas an ergonomic mouse is designed to keep them in a more natural position. It also requires less grip and force, which can help to prevent strains and other injuries.

2 AN ADJUSTABLE DESK

If you do not have a good workstation setup, you are at risk of injuries such as carpal tunnel syndrome, mouse shoulder and repetitive strain injury, all of which can harm productivity. An adjustable desk allows you to alternate between sitting and standing to encourage movement and reduce strain.

3 A WELLBEING PLATFORM/APP

Working from home can be stressful, especially when family life starts to overlap with your office hours. To ensure you can work productively without damaging your health, consider downloading a wellness app such as Unmind, Headspace or Happify which can help you de-stress, sleep better and improve your mental wellbeing.

4 A DESK PLANT OR TWO

Indoor plants have been scientifically proven to improve concentration and reduce stress in the workplace. They have also been shown to boost productivity and creativity. Choose low-maintenance plants such as the snake plant, peace lily and aloe vera.

5 A WI-FI RANGE EXTENDER

As a remote worker, you will know only too well how important a good Wi-Fi connection is, and that there's nothing worse than poor signal when you have a deadline looming. A Wi-Fi range extender connects to your Wi-Fi router and works to strengthen its signal to areas it cannot reach on its own.

GET PRODUCTIVE!



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MAMMA MIA! THE PARTY

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VISION VENTURES TO THE O2 TO SAMPLE THE MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA EVERYONE IS TALKING SINGING ABOUT

At the point of being invited along to perhaps the ultimate immersive theatre experience – *Mamma Mia! The Party* at the O2 in London – there was, admittedly, a small sense of trepidation. We've all been to and sampled the splendour of musicals; and sometimes we've found ourselves woven into the performance in terms of, perhaps, our seat being a little too close to the action!

To combine that accidental participation with knocking back a four-course meal and expensive bottle of plonk... well, it's enough to pique the interest of even the most reluctant theatre-goer!

Mamma Mia! The Party, which has a year-plus run at the O2 Arena booking through to June 2025, follows the main characters' love story in Greece, while celebrating the influence ABBA has had on modern music.

Make no mistake, this is no bargain basement night out – what the creators have put on is a premium, all-encompassing experience.

The fun theatrical dining experience starts with a free welcome drink, and is set in a taverna in Skopelos with the audience seated as if they are in a restaurant.

As the story begins with foot-tapping brilliance, so too does a marvellous celebration of the Mediterranean food landing on each table. Guests can enjoy a wide selection of hot and cold Greek delicacies, from fluffy mezzes to succulent lamb shanks, delicious tabbouleh to sweet loukoumades (doughnuts).

The actors, band, set design, atmosphere and hospitality are all second to none, and at no point do you feel the need to rush the process... a key factor in the show's duration of more than four hours. Performers buzz around, firing up songs and interacting with the audience at any opportunity.

By the end, you're left wondering if you really have been taken back a few decades to a sun-trapped corner of Greece. On departure, the sight of North Greenwich Tube station will confirm that, sadly, you have not; but until then, transport your imagination, your mind, and your perception of musicals to a whole new place.

Photo credit: Grant Walker



AROMATHERAPY

awareness week

Aromatherapy Awareness Week (June 8-14) is designed to highlight the important role aromatherapy can play in the management of our health, with activities and events taking place all over the UK.

What is aromatherapy?

Aromatherapy is a holistic healing treatment that uses aromatic essential oils to enhance physical and emotional health. Considered to be a science and an art form, aromatherapy is used to treat a variety of different conditions.

What can aromatherapy oils be used for?

- Peppermint to manage pain
- Lavender to improve sleep quality and for discomfort during labour
- Ylang ylang to reduce stress and anxiety
- Eucalyptus to soothe sore joints and to boost immunity
- Rosemary to treat headaches and migraines
- Cardamom to improve digestion
- Ginger to alleviate the side effects of chemotherapy

How to practise aromatherapy at home

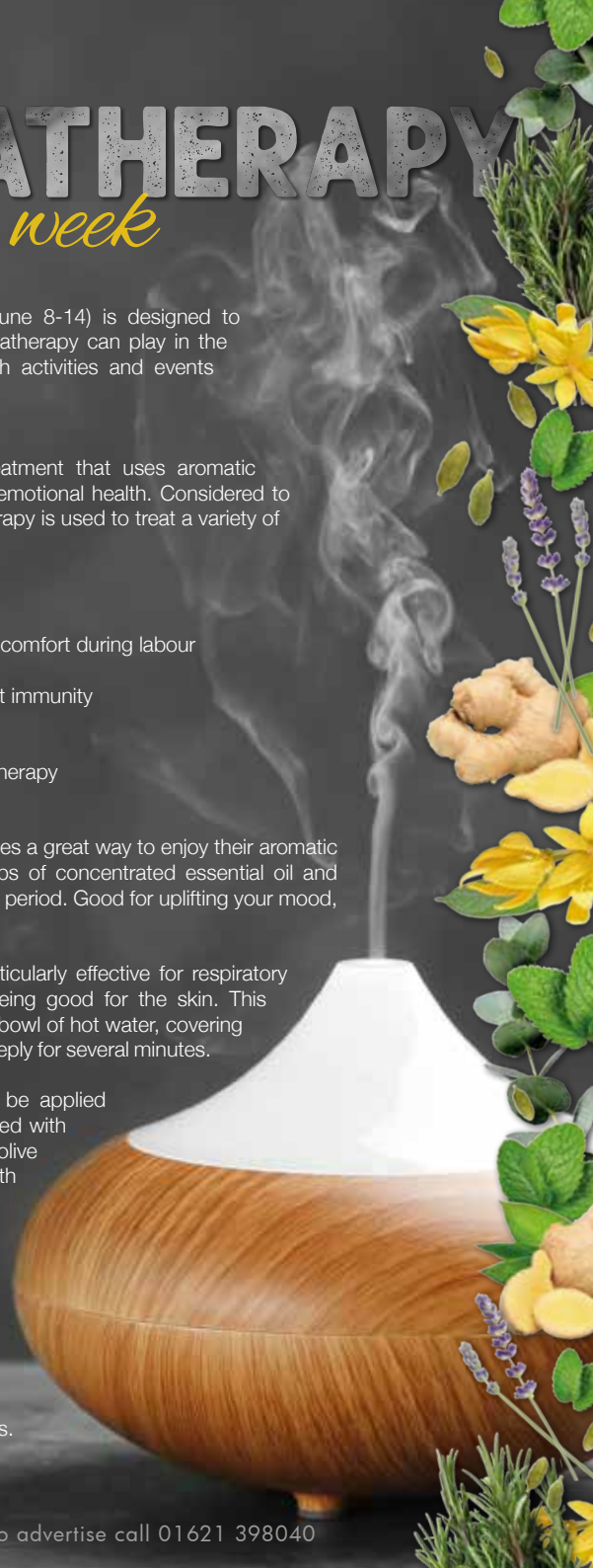
1 Use a diffuser – Diffusing essential oils provides a great way to enjoy their aromatic properties. This works by taking a few drops of concentrated essential oil and disseminating them into the air over an extended period. Good for uplifting your mood, promoting relaxation and aiding sleep.

2 Inhale the steam – Steam inhalation is particularly effective for respiratory issues and sinus congestion, as well as being good for the skin. This involves adding a few drops of essential oil to a bowl of hot water, covering your head with a towel and inhaling the steam deeply for several minutes.

3 Apply topically – Some essential oils can be applied topically to the skin, but these must be diluted with a carrier oil such as coconut oil, almond oil or olive oil. This method is good for massage, making bath oils, and creating soothing balms for pain relief.

Safety precautions

- If you have any allergies or sensitivities, perform a patch test on the skin before using a new essential oil.
- Keep essential oils out of reach of children and pets.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women should consult their doctor before using essential oils.



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Photo credit: worldrecordacademy.com

UNUSUAL SPORT:

WELLY WANGING

On Sunday, June 30, there will be another Welly Wanging World Championship in the small village of Upperthong, West Yorkshire. Welly wanging is a sport where people chuck a rubber welly as far as they can. The champ is the one who lobs it the farthest.

Legend has it that, a long time ago, two farmers were enjoying a drink and a chat when one accidentally spilt his beer down the other's leg and into his boot. In a fit of rage, the beer-soaked farmer chased the other one outside, took off his boot and flung it at his drinking buddy.

YORKSHIRE'S GIFT TO THE WORLD

The villagers thought the spectacle was hilarious and started throwing boots at each other for fun. And that's how welly wanging was born. The 'sport' has now caught on worldwide, with competitions in New Zealand, Russia, Finland, Italy and beyond.

RULES OF THE GAME

This year's world championship will have four

categories: men, women, boys and girls.

Players must maintain a cheerful attitude at all times, and the welly has to be a size 9 Dunlop green boot.

Adult winners get a trophy, and the top children get a crisp £5 note that they can spend on whatever they fancy.

You can throw your welly in a choice of styles: one-handed, double-handed, between the legs or, if you're feeling super confident, backwards.

WHO'S THE BEST WELLY WANGER?

The current world record holder for men is Teppo Luoma from Finland, with a throw of almost 64 metres. Sari Tirkkon, also from Finland, holds the women's record with a throw of more than 40 metres.

So there you have it – welly wanging in all its glory. Ready to give it a go? If so, keep a look out for local events. Or why not arrange your own championship to raise money for charity?



PRUNING climbing PLANTS

Following on from our guide on how to choose the right climbing plants for your garden, we are exploring how to prune these varieties, with simple steps that are easy to follow.

HOW TO PRUNE IVY: Ivy does not need to be pruned for its health, but as a vigorous plant, you will probably need to prune it at some point to prevent it from outgrowing your space. For best results, prune English ivy in spring.

- > Trim back any excess growth.
- > Remove any leaves that feature dark spots as these may have a bacterial or fungal infection.

HOW TO PRUNE JASMINE: Some jasmine varieties flower in summer and others in winter – both need to be pruned after they have finished blooming to avoid damaging any flower buds.

- > Start by pruning out any dead, diseased or damaged stems.
- > Next, trim out any long, straggling shoots that are growing away from the plant's support.
- > Finally, shorten the stems to the nearest strong side shoot to keep your plant's shape.

HOW TO PRUNE VIRGINIA CREEPER: Virginia creeper should be pruned annually (in winter) to

- keep growth in check. This is especially important if you are growing this plant up the side of your home.
- > To start, cut back older or overcrowded stems.
- > Trim back any growth from the gutter, windows and downpipes.
- > Remove dead or diseased vines that have been affected by pests or caused by overwatering.

HOW TO PRUNE JAPANESE QUINCE: Ideally, you should prune this plant in late April or early May, right after spring blossoming. If you prune any earlier than this, you risk losing many of its flowers.

- > Examine the shape of the plant and then select approximately one-third of the branches for removal (make sure these are divided evenly over the shrub).
- > At the same time, remove any dead, diseased or damaged branches.



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GARDENING

HIDDEN HAZARDS IN HOSEPIPES

The arrival of the summer sunshine means playing in paddling pools, topping up ponds and watering the plants. But did you know that your humble hosepipe is hiding a whole host of health hazards just waiting to strike?

1 SCALDING WATER: When a garden hose is left in direct sunlight, the water inside it can heat up. In fact, the water can easily reach temperatures that are hot enough to cause burns and scalding injuries.

2 CONTAMINATION WITH CHEMICALS: Hosepipes can release harmful chemicals such as lead, phthalates and BPA into the water, and this is especially true when they are heated up by the sun. These chemicals can pose health risks when ingested or absorbed through the skin.

3 ALGAE AND BACTERIA GROWTH: Warm and stagnant water in your hosepipe can create an environment for algae and bacteria to grow, and this can lead to unpleasant odours. It may also cause health issues if the contaminated water comes into contact with your skin, and severe complications if ingested.

4 LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE: One of the most dangerous types of bacteria that your hosepipe can breed is Legionella, which thrives in warm, stagnant water. While Legionnaires' disease is rare, it can cause serious illness or even death to the elderly and those with an underlying illness.

How to keep your hosepipe safe:

- > Keep it somewhere cool and make sure it's out of the sun.
- > Drain all of the water out before use by running it over a tall place such as a garden fence where gravity forces the water to exit the hose.
- > Fit an approved double-check valve to prevent any water or contaminants from flowing back into your main drinking supply.
- > Always turn the hosepipe off at the tap and, ideally, fully disconnect it when not in use.
- > Fit a self-closing flow control, such as a trigger spray gun, to prevent it from being used when unattended.
- > Use a watering can when possible to reduce your overall water usage.



Cooking with ARTICHOKES

Many people shy away from artichokes as they do not know how to prepare or cook them. While it is true that this tasty vegetable does require a little bit of TLC, the result is well worth the effort!

How to choose and buy artichokes

Look for artichokes that feel heavy as these will be more meaty. The leaves should ideally be closed with a little separation, but not wide open.

Which parts of an artichoke are edible?

The most common part of an artichoke that people eat is the heart. Within the heart, you will find the 'choke', which is too fibrous to consume. Surrounding the heart are the petals, which you can eat by pulling the base of the petal through lightly clenched teeth to strip off the petal meat.

How to prepare artichokes

- > Cut off the tips of the leaves.
- > Slice off the top of the artichoke.
- > Remove the small leaves at the base and on the stem of the artichoke.

- > Trim any excess stem, leaving up to 1 inch.
- > Rinse the artichoke in cold water.

How to cook artichokes

Steaming is considered to be the easiest method and also helps the vegetable retain moisture. Boiling is also a popular choice if you prefer a softer texture.

Our favourite artichoke recipe:

Artichokes with parmesan butter sauce

YOU WILL NEED:

- > 1 lemon, halved, and juice of 1 lemon
- > 4 globe artichokes
- > 200g chilled butter or vegan alternative, chopped into cubes
- > 100ml dry white wine
- > 25g parmesan or vegan alternative

HOW TO MAKE:

- > Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil.
- > Add the lemon halves.
- > Cut the stalks off the artichokes and add to the pan of water.
- > Boil for 40-45 minutes until soft and tender.
- > Pour the wine into a pan and reduce by half.
- > Whisk in the butter, one cube at a time.
- > Whisk in the parmesan and lemon juice.
 - > To eat, pull off the leaves and dip the broken end into the sauce.
 - > When you reach the middle of the artichoke, remove the centre leaves, scrape out the choke and eat the heart.



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FOOD & DRINK

Too many
TOMATOES!

One of the most popular vegetables for home gardeners, this plant is often responsible for creating an abundance of produce. So, what can you do with your surplus tomatoes?

SUN-DRIED TOMATOES (serves 4)

You will need:

1kg tomatoes | 4 garlic cloves | 20g fresh oregano | Olive oil | Sea salt

How to make:

Quarter the tomatoes and remove the seeds | Place in a colander and sprinkle generously with sea salt | Leave for 20 minutes and rinse with cold water | Make a paste by crushing the garlic, oregano and a drop of olive oil | Mix with the tomatoes until evenly coated | Arrange on greaseproof paper, cut side up | Set your oven to a low temperature (around 90°C/ 70°C fan/ gas mark 1) and put in the tomatoes | Dry them in the oven for around 3 hours – do not let them start to brown | Leave to cool before placing in a sterilised, airtight jar and filling to the top with olive oil | Lasts for up to one year | Perfect for adding to salads and pasta dishes

TOMATO CHUTNEY (makes 2 x 300ml/half-pint jars)

You will need:

1kg tomatoes | 500g finely sliced red onion | 4 sliced garlic cloves | 1 chopped red chilli | 4cm piece of fresh ginger, peeled and chopped | 250g brown sugar | 150ml red wine vinegar | 5 cardamom seeds | ½ tsp paprika

How to make:

Tip all the ingredients into a large pan and bring to a gentle simmer, stirring occasionally | Simmer for one hour, then bring to a boil until the mixture turns dark, jammy and shiny | Pour into sterilised jars and allow to cool before covering | Will keep for up to six weeks in the cupboard | Add to Indian-style curries, to elevate a sandwich, or use as a dipping sauce

TOMATO SALSA (serves 4)

You will need:

600g chopped tomatoes | 160g chopped onions | ½ cup green bell pepper | 2 tbsp fresh lime juice | 4 tsp chopped fresh jalapeno pepper (with the seeds) | 4 tbsp minced fresh coriander | ½ tsp ground cumin | ½ tsp kosher salt | ½ tsp ground black pepper

How to make:

Stir all the ingredients in a bowl until combined | Alternatively, for a smoother salsa, blitz in a blender | Add a little lemon juice or vinegar before storing to preserve your salsa for longer | Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to one week or up to one year in the freezer | Use as a dip for crisps, to cool down fajitas, or as a burger topping.



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ACROSS: 1. CONTOURS, 5. ITEM, 9. ROUTE, 10. BADGERS, 11. UKRAINE, 12. AORTA, 13. SOLIDS, 14. STTCH, 17. EXCEL, 19. REGIONS, 20. TEMPEST, 21. OVERT, 22. YEAR, 23. CONSISTS
DOWN: 1. CIRCUMSPECTLY, 2. NEUTRAL, 3. OVERINDULGED, 4. ROBBED, 6. THEIR, 7. MASSACHUSETTS, 8. ADVANTAGEOUS, 15. TROWELS, 16. GHOTTO, 18. COMMA



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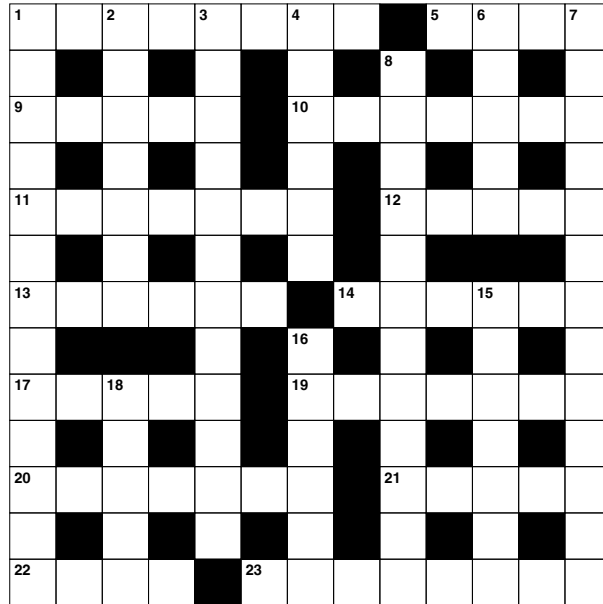
Answers: see end of The VISION Listings

ACROSS

- 1. Outlines (8)
- 5. Individual article or unit (4)
- 9. Path or road (5)
- 10. Nocturnal burrowing mammals (7)
- 11. Country whose capital is Kyiv (7)
- 12. Main artery (5)
- 13. Food that is not liquid (6)
- 14. Pain in the side (6)
- 17. Do extremely well at (5)
- 19. Ignores (anag) (7)
- 20. Storm (7)
- 21. Not concealed (5)
- 22. 365 days (4)
- 23. Is composed of (8)

DOWN

- 1. Warily; cautiously (13)
- 2. Impartial (7)
- 3. Ate too much (12)
- 4. Stole from (6)
- 6. Belonging to them (5)
- 7. State of the USA (13)

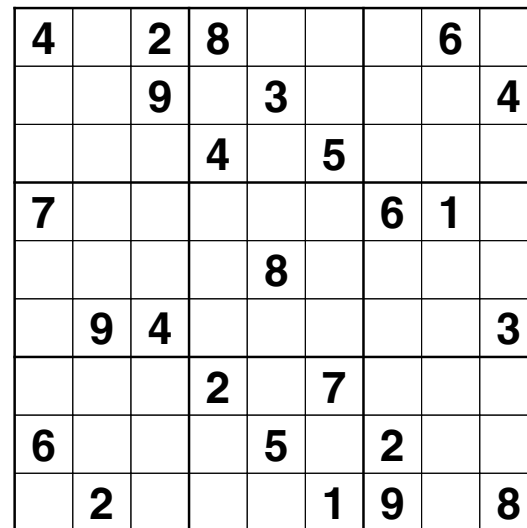


- 8. Beneficial (12)
- 15. Gardening tools (7)
- 16. Small cave (6)
- 18. Punctuation mark (5)

DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ Megalosaurus was the first-ever dinosaur to be described and named. It walked on its two hind legs and could grow up to three metres tall.
- ▶ One of the largest land animals ever found is named Patagotitan; it could grow up to 37.5 metres in length and weighed up to 57,000kg.
- ▶ In contrast, the Microraptor is one of the smallest known dinosaurs, and was only about the size of a crow. It had wings on both its legs and arms.
- ▶ The Tyrannosaurus Rex had 60 teeth and could deliver up to six tons of pressure in one bite.
- ▶ Though the Stegosaurus could grow up to nine metres in length, its brain was only the size of a lime. It had a spiked tail which it used to defend itself.

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