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Editor's notes...

APRIL 2024

Hello I r and cou

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of ${\bf VISION}{\sf Tendring}.$

I recently read the story of Chris Kanizi, who runs an award-winning fish and chip shop in Greenwich. Of Cypriot descent, his family moved to this country in 1977 and has embraced one of Britain's culinary staples for two decades. Yet he's been told the 8ft Union Jack mural on the outside of his restaurant must go because both the mural, and the words 'A Great British Meal' are "inappropriate for the area"!

Nik Allen, Editor

How? Why? In what version of Britain are we living in that we cannot proudly display our own flag? In fact, how many times have you been in an

Italian, Spanish, French, or Turkish restaurant, or visited the US or Canada or Australia, and welcomed the fact that they openly embrace the colours, flavours and flags of their country?

We have lost our minds if the lunatics at Greenwich Borough Council force through the order for Kanizi to paint over a mural that portrays the love, gratitude and respect he has for this nation. It can't be allowed that Kanizi, or me, or anyone else, cannot fly their flag. It's enough to send a man doolally with disgust.

Until next month, take care of yourself, each other, and fly your flags with pride!



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Tifty years ago this month, a Swedish pop group called ABBA wowed the Eurovision stage with their - catchy hit, Waterloo - even though the UK gave them precisely 'nul points'. This victory launched the band into legendary status in the world of pop music. But what have they been up to since then?

SABBA NI SAW OHW

ABBA was made up of two couples: Agnetha Fältskog and Björn Ulvaeus, and Benny Andersson and Anni-Frid Lyngstad. The group enjoyed worldwide success throughout the 1970s and into the 1980s with pop classics like Dancing Queen, The Winner Takes it All, and Gimme! Gimme! Gimme! (A Man After Midnight). They had nine UK chart-toppers and sold up to 385 million records worldwide.

THE BIG SPLIT

In 1982, the pop world was shocked when the group announced they were breaking up. Around the same time, each couple within the group also parted ways. But the band members kept busy. Agnetha and Anni-Frid both released solo albums, and Anni-Frid devoted herself to charitable work. Björn and Benny forged individual careers, but also continued working together on shows like the award-winning musical Chess and the Mamma Mia! stage show.

BACK TOGETHER AGAIN

Fast forward to 2016, and the group shocked the world once again with the announcement of their reunion. They were going to appear as virtual avatars in a groundbreaking entertainment experience called ABBA Voyage.

In a joint statement, the members expressed their joy at reuniting after more than three decades apart, saying: "We all four felt that, after some 35 years, it could be fun to join forces again and go into the recording studio. So we did. And it was like time had stood still and that we only had been away on a short holiday."

A RESOUNDING TRIUMPH

The show featured super-realistic avatars of the band, looking just like they did in the late 1970s. They played a mix of new and old hits, and the show was a massive hit. In May 2022, all four members attended the premiere in London and the newspapers had a field day.

In November 2021, ABBA released their ninth and final studio album, Voyage - their first release in 40 years. The reviews might have been mixed, but fans loved it. It soared to the top position in the UK charts, earned four Grammy nominations, and brought the group's music to a new generation of fans. And, of course, it will help to make sure the Money, Money, Money continues to roll in!

50 YEARS ON

This May, BBC One is showing a special documentary called ABBA: Against The Odds, commemorating the 50th anniversary of ABBA's Eurovision triumph. The programme will coincide with the 68th Eurovision Song Contest, where Years & Years singer Olly Alexander will be representing the UK. Coincidentally, this year's show is being held in ABBA's own country - in Malmö, Sweden, on Saturday, May 11. The documentary promises to unveil the untold story of the iconic supergroup, showcasing their remarkable journey to global fame.



WITH TV PRESENTERS BEN AND CAT TAKING OVER AS THE NEW HOSTS

ollowing a challenging few months for the show, ITV bosses have pinned their hopes on Ben Shephard and Cat Deeley to take forward the continued renaissance of This Morning.

Having stepped in during a turbulent interim period, the charismatic pair are now the permanent hosts for the Monday to Thursday slots, succeeding Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby, who departed the show in May and October respectively.

Both new presenters are veterans of British TV. Deeley rose to prominence as the host of SMTV alongside Ant and Dec. She also gained recognition by earning an Emmy Award nomination for her role as the host of So You Think You Can Dance? in the United States.

As well as previously hosting ITV's Good Morning Britain, Shephard, who started his career on Channel 4's The Bigger Breakfast, has also held presenting gigs for T4, The Xtra Factor and Ninja Warrior UK. He also previously stood in for Schofield on This Morning several times, and currently fronts the

game show Tipping Point.

The 49 year old said: "I get a bit longer in bed, so I am grateful for the opportunity!

"This Morning is such a prestigious show and it's a real honour to be taking my place on the sofa."

With such experience and long-time popularity with UK viewers, it is not surprising that the photogenic pair have been trusted to reinvigorate what is considered to be a British institution.

Also, given the show's failure to win at the audience-voted National Television Awards in September 2023 (for the first time in 13 years), Deeley and Shephard will have their eyes on a very specific prize in 2024!

In recent months, This Morning has featured an ever-rotating line-up of presenters, including Andi Peters, Sian Welby, Mollie King, Josie Gibson, Craig Doyle, Emma Willis, Christine Lampard and Rylan Clark. Alison Hammond and Dermot O'Leary, who have previously presented the show throughout the week, will continue to co-host the show on Fridays.



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tudio Iro is the design studio of founder Lucy Carrell, whose work is inspired by the Japanese practice of Wabi, where beauty is found in imperfection. Studio Iro's portfolio contains understated designs that have subtle details to create warm spaces that leave a lasting impression.

A CLOSER LOOK AT STUDIO IRO

Studio Iro creates styles that are eclectic and beautiful, bringing together a range of influences to create looks that are always unique. From antique furniture to colour blocks that add interest and style, you should expect the unexpected and watch it all come together perfectly.

Studio Iro uses textures and original features of properties to create looks that are unique to each space. Colour pops through art, textiles and accessories add fun elements to looks that are

easy to recreate in your own home.

CREATING THE LOOK IN YOUR HOME

Lucy describes her designs as "soulful and warm", and this is a theme you can easily recreate in your own space. Some Studio Iro-inspired tips include:

- > Imperfections should be embraced, such as bricked walls, adding their own beautiful touch to your project. Not everything needs to be flawless.
- > Keep an eye out for antique furniture, like a sideboard and armchair that can add some character to a more contemporary home.
- > Use abstract or fine art and decorative wallpaper to lift your spaces and bring in some patterns
- > Embrace florals and greenery to add further detail to your space and make it look more

















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HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN OTTOMAN

You will need:

A wooden crate | Castor wheels | Dark wood wax | Short wood screws | Standard wood screws | Plywood 2 x wood battens Upholstery foam | A piece of fabric | Spray adhesive | Wadding | A staple gun

How to make:

- . Apply furniture wax to the crate to make it look more rustic and aged
- 2. Fix the castor wheels to the base of the crate using short wood screws.
- 3. Measure the top of the crate and then cut a piece of plywood to these measurements.
- 4. Cut two battens of wood, one inch shorter than the width of the plywood lid.
- 5. Cut a piece of upholstery foam the same size as the lid.
- 6. Stick the foam to the back of the plywood lid using the spray adhesive.
- 7. Cut a piece of wadding that is large enough to wrap around the foam and then cover the lid with it, and secure it with the staple gun.
- 8. Cut your chosen fabric so that it is big enough to wrap around the lid.
- 9. Cover the lid with the fabric and use the staple gun to secure it to the underside.
- 10. Add the battens of wood to the underside of the lid using two standard wood screws. These will stop the ottoman lid from sliding around.

CUSTOMISATION TIPS



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Find your Luxury with Stone Replacement Worktops

Granite Unlimited is a family-run business dedicating to producing kitchen worktops. Founder Malcolm Wade is an expert stonemason, bringing 33 years of experience to the company, producing customers with the best quality products and services.

Here, they go through the top things to consider when renovating your kitchen worktops.

BUDGET

Your first – and most important – consideration should be your budget. Sticking to a budget shouldn't mean compromising on aesthetics or quality.

Granite Unlimited offer premium quality, madeto-measure worktops at affordable prices. They will also provide a free, no-obligation quote. Should you find a cheaper offer locally, they will do their best to beat any written quotation.

CHOICE OF MATERIALS

Granite Unlimited offer a variety of heat-resistant materials for your worktops. Granite comes in a variety of colours and is a popular choice for modern kitchens, while quartz is similar but has a more consistent finish. Corian is an acrylic material which is surging in popularity and has seamless joints producing a flawless finish. Neolith

is both heat- and scratch-resistant and easily withstands daily kitchen use. Dekton is famed



for its incredible strength, high performance and compact nature.

The friendly and experienced team at Granite Unlimited can talk through the different options with you to ensure you are choosing the right

material for your kitchen. Their highly skilled stonemasons manufacture bespoke worktops at their Essexbased workshop using state-of-the-art machinery.

MATCHING ELEMENTS

If you already have a bespoke worktop and are looking for a matching product, Granite Unlimited also produce fireplaces and tables to match perfectly match your rooms together. Contact them today to start the process of creating your dream

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Sports legend celebrates community links

hough not a native of Brentwood, legendary British boxer and former world champion Frank Bruno MBE's significant association with the area packs a punch.

During his 14-year boxing career, which started in the 1980s. Frank Bruno MBE was known for his exceptional punching power and dynamic resilience. It led him on the path to becoming a national hero in Britain, as a nation celebrated not just his sporting achievements. but also his unique personality.

His connection to the Brentwood and Ongar area was also something that became greatly aligned with his professional journey. It began during the peak of his career after he moved to the area, as he found the environs a serene contrast to the intense and brutal arena of boxing.

His presence also helped to raise the profile of the region, drawing attention to its community and cultural offerings. as he engaged with local events and charities and endeared himself to residents, becoming a beloved local figure.

It showed in his career as he eventually fought 45 times, winning 40 bouts - 38 of which were by knockout. His most notable victory came against Oliver McCall in 1995, when he won the WBC heavyweight title - a significant moment for both British boxing and Bruno's status as a UK icon.

After retiring, Bruno willingly discussed his own battles with mental health and wellbeing, becoming an advocate for raising awareness of such issues, particularly among men. His openness has been instrumental in helping to reduce stigma.

His autobiography, Frank: Fighting Back, chronicles his life, career and struggles, offering an intimate examination of the life of a sports legend. His ongoing association with the local area highlights the enduring bond between the public figure and the community he chose to call home.

Frank Bruno's story is one of hardiness. community engagement and the power of sport to unite and uplift.



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The stunning Elizabethan mansion – Hill Hall

mong Essex's many notable buildings, one in particular offers visitors a I glimpse into England's rich past.

Hill Hall was originally constructed for Sir Thomas Smith during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, covering approximately 50 hectares. Enveloped by an 18th-century landscaped park providing dramatic vistas atop a high ridge, with grounds descending in every direction, it offers breathtaking

views across the rolling landscape. The gardens, designed by prominent architects

Reginald Blomfield and Philip Tilden, retain features from the late 17th century and are nestled within the parkland for which Humphry Repton, a renowned landscape gardener, created a design in 1791.

Located southeast of Epping – near Junction 27 of the M25 - its approach is through a carriage drive lined with young lime trees, leading directly to the hall's gates. This path closely follows the original drive of the house, despite various modifications over the centuries.

The hall itself was built between 1569 and 1575. Adorned with terracotta and cut-brick dressings, it features a north front with mullioned windows and central Elizabethan entrance arch under a Tuscan

The garden to the south displays nine bays with outer three-storey towers, while the east front remodelled in 1714 - boasts giant half-columns and a family coat of arms. Despite numerous alterations by the Smith family, the original Elizabethan layout remains largely intact.

A blend of historical and modern landscaping, surrounding gardens to the east, south and west of the hall feature a late 19th-century flagstone terrace, mature trees and remnants of 17th-century formal gardens.

Later, it briefly became a women's prison hosting. among others, Christine Keeler, the model involved in the Profumo affair, who was jailed for perjury.

Hill Hall has now been divided into private houses, but parts remain open to the public for pre-booked tours on Wednesday afternoons.





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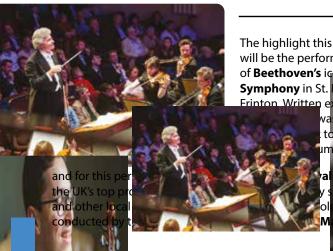
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About the Tenth Anniversary Frinton Festival

2024 marks **Frinton Festival's** 10th Anniversary, an annual feast of live music over the late May Bank Holiday weekend. Each concert is in a characterful local venue and the generosity of loyal sponsor Mr. Wheeler means that every ticket-holder can enjoy a glass of their delicious wine, or a soft drink if they prefer, in the interval of each concert.



The highlight this year will be the performance of Beethoven's iconic 9th Symphony in St. Mary's, Frinton Written exactly 200 was the first to add the



Keen festival-goers are also looking forward to the ret rn of the seven sensationa rformances in 2015 ar lists known as the Massive Violins who gave soldey bring a selection of their fabulously entertaining arrangements of iconic music by vid Bowie, The Buggles, Queen, Simon & Garfunkel, Madness and Johnny



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YOUR LOCAL EVENTS

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West Cliff Theatre, Tower Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1LE Saturday, April 27, 7.30pm



This New Romantic Symphony goes on a journey through one of the greatest musical eras of all time – the electrifying 80s. Featuring songs from legendary artists such as Duran Duran, Spandau Ballet, The Human League, Ultravox, Tears for Fears, Depeche Mode, Soft Cell, and many more. Performed by an incredible live band with awesome symphonic arrangements, combined with stunning vocals and cast, this is a must-see show.

Tickets cost £26.50 from www.westcliffclacton.co.uk/livemusic/calling-planet-earth

JIMMY CARR: LAUGHS FUNNY

Princes Theatre, Clacton Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1SE Thursday, May 2, 7pm and 9.30pm

If you like fast-paced, edgy one-liners, then get ready to be happy. Jimmy Carr is going back on tour with his new show. Some people are repelled by Jimmy's dark brand of comedy. This show is not for them.

This event is not suitable for under-16s. Tickets cost £35 and can be bought from www.princestheatre.

NAZE NATURE IN WATERCOLOURS – PAINTING WATER

The Naze Nature Discovery Centre, Old Hall Lane, Walton-on-the-Naze, CO14 8LE Saturday, May 11, 10am

Join watercolour artist Vivien McGuinness for a relaxed, friendly, fun-filled morning. Learn to use watercolour in

an exciting, experimental way. Everyone is welcome and no previous experience is necessary.

The session costs $\mathfrak{L}24$ and more information can be found at www.t.ly/hPLHs

AN EVENING WITH MATTHEW ETHERINGTON

Frinton Golf Club, 1 The Esplanade, Frinton-on-Sea, CO13 9EP Friday, May 17, 6pm – 10.30pm

Frinton Golf Club is pleased to announce another Hammers Heroes event with former Hammers winger, Matthew Etherington. This is a very special event that marks the 20th anniversary of Matthew's goal against lpswich in the 2004 play-off semi-final that helped fire West Ham into the final in Cardiff. The evening also includes a raffle and a memorabilia auction in aid of Prostate Cancer UK, as well as photo and autograph opportunities at no extra cost.

Tickets cost £20 from www.tickettailor.com/events/mandevillepromotionslimited/1022084

THE ROCK DINOSAURS

The Waggon at Wix, Clacton Road, Manningtree, CO11 2RU Saturday, May 18, 8.30pm

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WINSLET

he was the prim beauty who won our hearts on the doomed deck of the *Titanic*. Wind forward almost three decades and Kate Winslet CBE wows again as a ferocious female leader who makes grown men quake in their boots.

Once upon a time in Hollywood, there were two unspoken rules: first, glamorous film stars generally played the roles of glamorous women; and second, a jump to television often meant your career was in terminal decline!

Thankfully, like most things in Tinseltown, neither of these caveats remains true.

Take Kate Winslet in HBO's *Mare of Easttown*, for example a critically acclaimed 2021 miniseries in which her character Mare Sheehan – a detective sergeant and lifelong resident of Easttown – is tasked with investigating a local murder while also dealing with personal and professional challenges. The show was lauded for its gritty realism, encapsulated by Winslet's Mare, a downtrodden, frumpy and dishevelled woman who is a far cry from the actress's usual splendour.

"It's always been good to step outside who I really am," the *Titanic*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, *Hamlet* and *Avatar: The Way of Water* actress begins. "Some actors like the security of a certain type of characterisation, but for me that feels boring. My contentment actually comes in taking risks; and of course, some work, and some don't!"

Most for Winslet have worked, thankfully; so much so that rather than push her daughter away from the emotional perils of the entertainment industry, as so many parents do, she has encouraged her to carve out a niche. In 2022, the Reading-born beauty starred in *I Am Ruth*, a deeply moving film for Channel 4 which explores the ruptured relationship between Ruth (Winslet) and her teenage daughter, Freya, played by Winslet's own first-born child Mia Threapleton, whose mental health is becoming increasingly compromised by her mobile phone.

"I've always kept my children away from the media and that part of the industry. And in the case of Mia, not only has this protected her, but I think also kept the idea of acting and performing pure and wholesome, and that's really important."

Indeed, with her lookalike daughter embarking on her own acting career, 48-year-old Winslet could consider early retirement, especially considering she's already won an Oscar, two Emmy Awards and numerous BAFTAs, as well as being awarded a CBE by Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2012 for services to drama.

Instead, she has delivered one of her finest performances yet in six-part satire, *The Regime*.

Created by Succession alum and The Menu cowriter Will Tracy, the Sky Max series features Winslet as the manicured and manic dictator of an imagined European state.

Primarily filmed at the picturesque Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna, Austria, with additional scenes shot in the baroque rooms of Wentworth Woodhouse, near Rotherham, *The Regime* is a fever dream that simultaneously terrifies, baffles and entertains viewers.

"You've got to keep pushing in this industry. As they say, standing still is going backwards!" Push she does, something aided by a happy private life and marriage with Edward Abel Smith. The couple contentedly exist in the rural confines of West Wittering on the Sussex coast, turning away from the red carpets and flashbulbs. "Of course I will do what I can when promoting projects, but outside that, I've never been too fussed about the scene.

"I've never missed it, and I don't think it's ever missed me!"

REACH

limbing vines are great for all-sized gardens, adding visual interest and acting as a highly effective disquise for any eyesores without taking up too much room. Discover the best climbing plants for your garden.

BEST CLIMBING VINES FOR STUNNING SCENTS

JAPANESE WISTERIA: Boasting fragrant flowers in shades of purple-blue and white, Japanese wisteria needs a lot of space and support, as well as twice-yearly pruning. Allow this plant to grow up an established tree or a house wall.

ROSE CLIMBERS: Roses are beautiful to look at and stunning to smell, making them the perfect climbing vine for creating a scent-filled garden. These can be grown up a trellis or up and around arbors to create an intimate area in your garden.

BEST CLIMBING VINES FOR EARLY BLOOMS

WINTER JASMINE: Winter jasmine produces fragrant yellow flowers in the depths of winter before its dark green leaves appear in spring. Its stems do not like twine so they need support from a trellis secured to either a wall or fence.

JAPANESE QUINCE: One of the first shrubs to flower each year, the Japanese guince bears red, pink or white blossoms along its bare branches. This vine can be trained to grow up against a wall or a fence.

BEST CLIMBING VINES FOR SHADY SPOTS

SAUSAGE VINE: Sausage vine is a frost-hardy evergreen climber that grows to around 6m high. With pale pink blooms in April and May, this climbing vine will grow in the shade, making it ideal for a dreary corner. Grow in a wall-side border for the best results.

CHINESE VIRGINIA CREEPER: A deciduous climber that attaches itself to walls and fences with little sucker disks, the Chinese Virginia creeper produces masses of growth each season and is one of the few climbers that actively thrive in shady areas.





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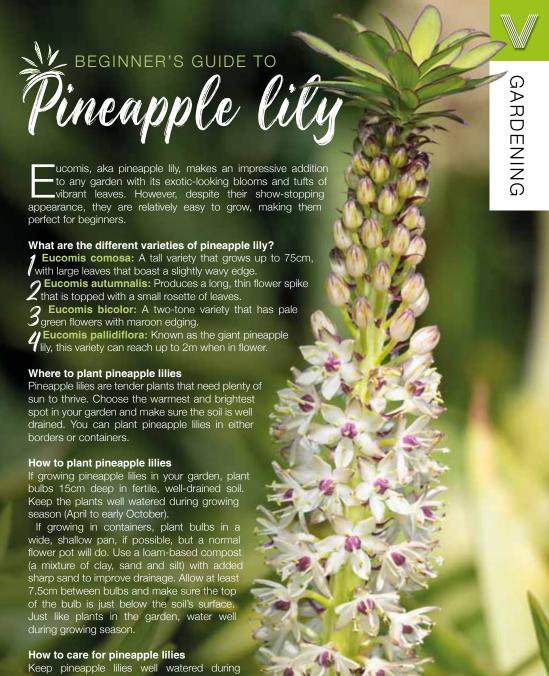
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the summer but dry in the winter by either digging up the bulbs or moving pots indoors in autumn. Remove any dead leaves and spent flowers at the end of each growing



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GOING, THE D & S T A N C E

A brief history of the London Marathon, in advance of this year's event on April 21

hile we have the Ancient Greeks to thank for the world's most recognised long-distance running event (it's named after the 25-mile route from Marathon to Athens, embarked on by a Greek messenger who announced victory over invading Persians in 490BC, then promptly collapsed and died), the modern incarnation of the challenge is a very British creation.

Indeed, from a standardised 25-mile distance, the challenge was extended by a mile and 385 yards ahead of the 1908 Olympic Games in London, with Queen Alexandra requesting the race start on the Windsor Castle lawns and finish in front of the royal box at the Olympic Stadium.

The random boost in mileage stuck, and the marathon has evolved to become one of the toughest (yet at the same time perfectly achievable) endurance challenges.

Globally, there are thousands of official marathons that take place every year, yet of them all, no one has ever run one quicker than Kelvin Kiptum, who was tragically killed in a car crash in his native

Kenya on February 11 of this year. His time of two hours and 35 seconds (and a barely believable mile pace of four minutes and 36 seconds) at the 2023 Chicago Marathon is an incredible legacy to leave.

The London Marathon is arguably the world's favourite. Conceived by Chris Brasher and John Disley in 1981, it has men's, women's and wheelchair variants. At the first event, there were 6,255 finishers, with Dick Beardsley and Inge Simonsen crossing the finish line first hand-in-hand.

Kiptum holds the current London Marathon record (2:01:25), the fastest of more than one million entrants across the past four decades. More than £1billion pounds of sponsorship has been raised for good causes during that time.

With nearly 580,000 applicants in 2024 – an almost fourfold increase compared to a decade ago – the London Marathon has never been more popular. Beginning in Greenwich Park, it finishes on The Mall, and almost 99 per cent of runners who start will finish.

If you feel inspired, entries will soon open for the 2025 event. And even if you decide not to run, it's still a great event to witness as a spectator, with a lively atmosphere and community spirit as crowds come together to cheer on the runners.



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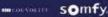














How to MANAGE you EMAIL INBOX

TOP TIPS TO KEEP YOUR EMAIL INBOX UNDER CONTROL AND MORE ORGANISED

o you struggle to keep on top of your emails? If yes, then you are far from alone, with the average professional spending a whopping 4.1 hours each day responding to work messages. Furthermore, more than one-third of office workers state that 'email fatigue' has made them want to quit their jobs.

ONLY KEEP EMAILS THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION IN YOUR INBOX

Although this may seem a little extreme, keeping only emails that require your immediate attention in your inbox can make this tedious task feel a lot more manageable. Move all non-urgent emails to relevant subfolders. Aim to have 25 emails or fewer in your inbox at the end of each day.

CREATE A WAITING FOLDER FOR ACTION-PENDING EMAILS

For any emails that require an action from someone else before you can respond, a waiting folder is a great idea. This way they are not taking

up space in your inbox and you can simply take a look at the end of each day or once a week to remind yourself of any projects that are still pending.

MAKE SUBFOLDERS OR USE A LABEL SYSTEM

Jelf you receive hundreds of emails a day, then subfolders are a must. These can be used to group together important email chains so that you can easily reference something when you need to.

■ USE YOUR CALENDAR TO TRACK EMAILS

For emails that require more than just a simple reply, we recommend that you add them to your email calendar with a reminder of when a follow-up email is required. You can also use an appropriately coloured follow-up flag to easily identify emails that require further attention.

CREATE TEMPLATES FOR GO-TO RESPONSES

Tailoring a reply for every email is timeprohibitive, so stock responses, can be a real life saver. Save a few





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Bauebells
The Sweetest Flower

s April arrives, bluebells emerge in woodlands, parks and gardens across the country, reminding us that spring is most definitely here. For centuries, these delicate blue flowers have captured the hearts of poets, artists and nature lovers. But sadly, they're not in bloom for long - usually from mid-April to early May. So get out and enjoy their beauty before it

starts to fade. These are some of the best places to see dramatic displays of bluebells this spring.

Leigh Woods, Bristol: Admire a sea of bluebells against the dramatic backdrop of the

Bodnant Garden, Conwy: Spanning more than 80 acres, Bodnant Garden is especially beautiful when the bluebells take over the

Blickling Estate, Norfolk: Visit the Great Wood and Temple Walk at the birthplace of Anne Boleyn to see one of the country's

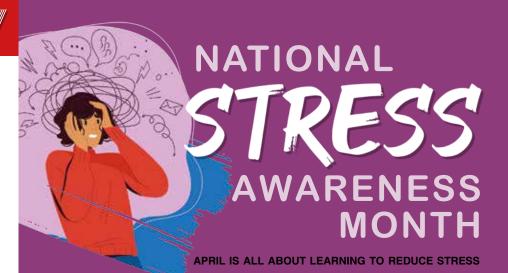
Mount Stuart. Bute: Visit this Victorian gothic mansion to see bluebells take over the stunning woodland below thousands of

There are also dazzling bluebell displays at:

- > Norsey Wood, Billericay, Essex
- > Blake's Wood, near Danbury, Essex
- > The UK is home to more than half of the
- > The UK has two types of bluebells: the scented native English bluebell and the unscented, more upright Spanish bluebell. The Spanish bluebell was originally an ornamental plant and many see it as a threat to our
- > It's a criminal offence to uproot wild
- >Other names for bluebells include cuckoo's boots, wood hyacinth, lady's nightcap and

Remember to tread gently when visiting bluebell woods so we can all help to preserve their beauty for future generations.

TRAVE



o you suffer with stress? If yes, then you are far from alone, with one in 14 adults admitting to feeling stressed every single day and more than one-third feeling stressed at least once a week.

WHAT CAUSES STRESS?

Sometimes stress is caused by one big event or situation in your life, or it might be an accumulation of lots of smaller things. People often feel stressed if they are under a lot of pressure, are facing big changes in their life or are worried about something. You may also feel stressed if you feel like you don't have control over a certain aspect of your life or you have responsibilities that you find overwhelming.

HOW DOES STRESS MAKE YOU FEEL?

Stress can affect your emotions, your body and how you behave in many different ways. Some of the ways stress can make you feel include: Feeling irritable, angry or impatient Feeling overwhelmed | Feeling anxious or depressed Not being able to enjoy yourself Not having a sense of humour Feeling uninterested in life | Feeling neglected or Ionely | Existing mental health problems getting worse

In severe cases of stress, some people may also experience suicidal thoughts.

WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS OF STRESS?

Difficulty breathing | Panic attacks | Trouble sleeping | Muscle aches and headaches Fatique | Chest pains and high blood pressure Sweating | Changes to your menstrual cycle | Existing physical conditions getting worse

HOW TO REDUCE STRESS

There are many techniques that you can try to

Being more active | Eating a healthy diet | Avoiding unhealthy habits such as drinking alcohol and smoking | Practising meditation | Laughing more Connecting with loved ones | Getting sufficient sleep | Seeking counselling | Limiting your time on social media | Working smarter, not harder.



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SCREEN

o you know how many hours a day you spend glued to your mobile phone? How about your kids? Are they more likely to be seen staring at a screen than playing with their toys?

How much time are people spending on screens?

The average screen time for people aged 16-64, across different platforms and devices, is an estimated six hours and 37 minutes per day. Mobile devices account for most of this, with users spending an average of three hours and 46 minutes on their smartphones, with desktop computers not far behind at two hours and 51 minutes.

What problems are associated with too much screen time?

Too much screen time can cause a whole host of problems for adults and children alike, including: Obesity | Sleep disturbance | Depression | Anxiety Hyperactivity | Poor language development | Inferior social development | Low moods | Headaches/eve strain | Light sensitivity | Shorter attention span Frustration and less impulse control

How to know if you are spending too much time in front of a screen

If you are unsure whether or not you are spending an unhealthy amount of time in front of a screen, ask yourself the below questions:

> How often do leave your house and socialise?

- > How are your eating habits?
- Are you sleeping okay?
- > Do you get any physical exercise?

If you are not happy with your answers, then it may be time to look at reducing your daily screen time.

How screen time adds up over one year



How to manage and reduce screen time

- Create tech-free zones, such as mealtimes and
- > Set and enforce daily/weekly screen time limits
- Consider using an app that controls the length of time vour child can use a device
- > Eliminate background TV from your home



FOCK(et)

A GUIDE TO GROWING, STORING AND COOKING WITH THIS CLASSIC SALAD GREEN

sed in salads since Elizabethan times, rocket has a distinct peppery flavour that people tend to either love or hate. Easy to grow and prepare, find out everything there is to know about this leafy salad green right here.

How to grow rocket

Rocket can be sown either indoors in containers filled with multi-purpose compost or directly into the soil. A sunny spot is best for spring sowings, whereas mid-summer sowings are best in a cooler spot in light shade. There are two main types of rocket you can grow:

1. WILD ROCKET

This is a perennial plant that is robust and easy to grow even in poor soil. It produces long, deeply divided leaves that have a strong peppery flavour.

2. SALAD ROCKET

This is an annual plant that has a shorter life span and produces dark, delicate leaves that offer a milder taste.

How to store rocket

Rocket should be stored in the bottom part of your fridge, known as the salad drawer, in either a brown paper or perforated bag. Consume within two days for optimum freshness. If you would like to freeze rocket, make sure you chop up the leaves first and then place them in an airtight container as whole leaves do not thaw well.

How to use rocket in cooking

Rocket can be mixed with other salad leaves to add a hint of spice, scattered on a pizza or used to garnish pasta dishes. It can also be wilted directly into pasta or eggs; just make sure you add it at the last minute to retain its flavour.

Some of our favourite rocket recipes include:

- Rocket pesto (see recipe below)
- Prawn, fennel and rocket risotto
- Ricotta and rocket lasagne rolls
- Slow-roasted tomatoes and rocket

How to make rocket pesto

- Combine 50g pine nuts, 100g rocket, 50g parmesan or vegan alternative, 150ml olive oil and 1 garlic glove in a blender.
- Season with salt and pepper and blend to a paste.
- Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to five days.

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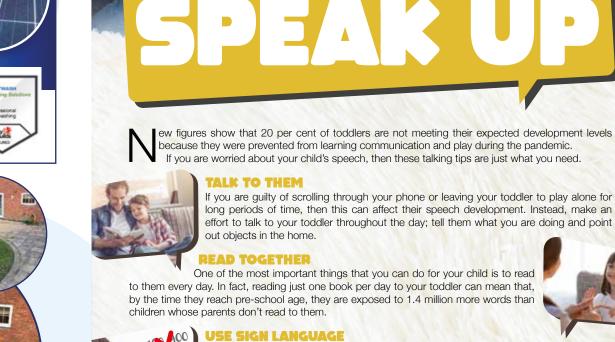
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AVOID BABY TALK

toddlers are no substitute for human communication.

LIMIT SCREEN TIME

not point out their mistake but simply repeat it back to them correctly.

While you don't have to become an expert in sign language, just teaching your baby

or toddler a few signs such as 'more' and 'milk' can help them learn how to express

themselves at a much younger age. It can also boost their confidence levels, which can in

turn create a better environment for learning to speak.

talk, however adorable it may be. If your baby or toddler gets a word slightly wrong, do

The less time your toddler spends on a screen, the better, as it is interactions with others

that help with language development. Even programs that are designed for babies and

It is much better to talk to your baby using proper words than with baby

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17. ROAST, 18. OFF, 19. BORNE, 20. GENTEEL, 21. EJECTION, 22. ONLY ACROSS: 1. URGE, 3. ACQUIRED, 9. REVENUE, 10. ELVES, 11. CAR, 12. POKER, 13. REBEL, 15. ITALY,



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ACROSS

- 1. Spur on (4)
- 3. Came into possession of (8)
- 9. Income (7)
- 10. Sprites (5)
- 11. Four-wheeled road vehicle (3)
- 12. Card game (5)
- 13. Insurgent or revolutionary (5)
- 15. Where one finds Rome (5)
- 17. Cook meat in the oven (5)
- 18. Not on (3)
- 19. Brought forth (5)
- 20. Respectable; refined (7)
- 21. Expulsion (8)
- 22. Solely (4)

DOWN

- 1. Irretrievable (13)
- 2. Donor (5)
- 4. Winged child (6)
- 5. Joblessness (12)
- 6. Officially cancels (7)
- 7. Shamefully (13)
- 8. Sporadic (12)
- 14. Open area of grassland (7)

12 13 17

- 16. In slow tempo (of music) (6)
- 18. Large body of water (5)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Feng shui, meaning 'wind and water', is an ancient Chinese art of arranging spaces to achieve harmony and balance.
- ▶The aim of feng shui is to balance the life force of chi. In the Taoist belief, chi is said to inhabit everything.
- ▶To protect against negative chi, feng shui practices include making sure to always keep the bathroom door closed and to throw away wilted flowers immediately.
- ▶In feng shui, every colour has a meaning. For example, black signifies contemplation and wisdom, while purple is connected to power and prosperity.
- Feng shui has influenced the design of a number of landmarks around the world, including the glass pyramid at the Louvre Museum in Paris and the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

SUDOKU

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