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APRIL 2022 ISSUE 232



YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY MAGAZINE SINCE 2002



Advanced Eye Exams for

- AGE RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION (AMD)
- GLAUCOMA POOR SIGHT

By Dr. S A Janjua BSc(Hons) MCOptom DOptom Prof Cert Glau Prof Cert LV Prof Cert Med Ret DipSV Director & Doctor of Optometry

Brand new, state-of-the-art equipment at John Flynn Opticians in Beeston is now facilitating the very best diagnostic capabilities to ensure the best eyecare in the country. Optometrist Dr. Janjua's new equipment provides hospital-standard insight into your health and is one of just a handful of such machines anywhere in the UK...

Foresight. Hindsight. Insight. It's quite clear how much importance we place on sight. We've all come to recognise that a first-class optometrist will not only make your vision sharper, as a result of the prescription they determine you need, but will also help to assess your overall health, using your eyes to as an indicator of your general health. As eye-care technology has finessed, some optometrists have invested in decent technology, but some diagnostic equipment remains the preserve of dedicated eye-care departments in specialist hospitals such as Moorfields, Manchester Royal Eye Hospital and Nottingham's Queens Medical Centre. Those specialist facilities and teaching hospitals have previously been able to boast the best diagnostic technology, which High Street opticians could only look upon with envy... that is, until now. Beeston's John Flynn Opticians, established in 1938, recently took delivery of its new Heidelberg Spectralis machine which is without exaggeration - the best OCT scanner available for any eye-care practitioners and one which most dedicated hospital eyecare departments would covet. It's one of just a handful of machines here in the UK and as Dr. Janjua says, it's the gold standard for dedicated eye hospitals, let alone a High Street optician, providing him with unprecedented accuracy and clarity when making a diagnosis.

An OCT (Optical Coherence Tomography) machine is used to take a 3D scan of the eye to allow a specialist to assess the health of the optic nerve, macular and to detect and monitor the progression of conditions like age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and glaucoma.

John Flynn Opticians' new machine, though, builds on this technology to create 4D imagery accurate to just a single micron – one hundredth of the width of a human hair.



Above: John Flynn Opticians new Heidelberg Spectralis OCT machine is one of the few in the UK, and is best in class, offering hospital-standard diagnosis of eye health for the optician's patients.

The system also uses artificial intelligence to track the exact position of successive scans, overlaying them precisely to check changes over successive months or years. Fast, contact-free and painless, the system can also send images to hospital departments for other clinicians to review in the event of a referral.

"We can use the technology to examine tiny details that help us to detect eye disease at the earliest stages, reducing the risk of sight loss and improving our patients' lives," says Dr Janjua.

Naturally technology is nothing without expertise, and so Dr. Janjua is committed to interpreting the results of a scan and explaining findings in an accessible way. With the highest quality diagnostic information comes the most accurate prescription, and alongside the very best ophthalmic lenses from across the industry – Zeiss, Nikon and Hoya – the practice's state-of-the-art equipment is crucial, but only when used alongside the very best diagnostic skill and the provision of quality ophthalmic lenses and luxury frames.

The result is great service, clear vision and true peace of mind; a holistic service that's clearly better at providing quality eyecare.

John Flynn Opticians provides eye examinations, prescription eyewear and contact lenses from its practice on **Devonshire Avenue**, **Beeston**, **NG9 1BS**, call **0115 925 5051 / 0115 939 2421** or see **www.johnflynnopticians.co.uk**.

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E. Taylor

"I cannot speak highly enough of Dr Janjua and all his team at Flynn Opticians in Beeston. Due to wrong prescriptions in the past going to him changed my life. Not only do you get the best product on the market and expert advice, everybody is so helpful and kind. I would not go anywhere else."

J. West

"I'd heard that the glasses were great quality and the service was great at John Flynn Optician. The staff have been very helpful and gave me all the facts I needed. I love the personal touch and that you don't have to ask for help it's just given. I love my new glasses - the style, the colour, the quality - everything. Dan and Annette have been brilliant from the minute I walked in the door. They are very friendly and provided perfect service in every way. I will be coming back and

> will share my experience with others."



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support each other



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freedom boxes

Ukrainian aid effort gathers pace

Keeping it Local Since 2002

This is eight-year-old Sofiia,

she lives in Zhytomyr,

Ukraine - a village that

has suffered numerous

aerial attacks by Russia.

Freedom Boxes contain

vears

A humanitarian mission launched within 24 hours of the conflict breaking out in Ukraine is delivering thousands of boxes of essential items and collecting refugees at the Ukraine/Poland border to bring them to safety in the Czech Republic, Poland and Switzerland.



Freedom Boxes

has been created by Stuart Watkins, who also owns a software company which has offices in Prague and the UK. When the conflict Stuart, his began, family, and his team set about to do something to deliver help and provide hope to those affected by the invasion. With Freedom Boxes, the team has created an immediate way to directly help those in need.

The team is made up of people from the UK and across the Central and Eastern European region, including Russia and Ukraine, who have pulled together to prepare, pack, and deliver Freedom Boxes.

The Freedom Boxes are delivered across the border directly to those in need - in bunkers and war zones with the team's drivers risking their lives on every trip.

Two of the four people working on the project in Ukraine are Stuart's team members and they are helping deal with the coordination of getting

people to the border and out of the areas under siege.

Stuart Watkins, founder of Freedom Boxes, said: "During war, it is always the vulnerable who suffer the most. We are dropping off truckloads of Freedom Boxes for distribution to those who need them and bringing Ukrainian refugees to safety.

"As a private company located in Prague and with colleagues in Ukraine, we had the ability to mobilise our assets, people, and connections very quickly to get up and running and begin helping. Larger organisations are less agile and take longer to mobilise, whereas Freedom Boxes provides a way for people to have a much more immediate and direct impact.

"In just two weeks since the war began, we have already delivered over 450 Freedom Boxes and transported over 70 refugees to safety. We will continue to do whatever we can to get essential items into Ukraine while getting as many people as we can out and away from

"As the humanitarian crisis worsens, bordering countries are filling up with refugees. They are having to travel further afar which can add days onto their journeys. The Freedom Buses are helping solve this problem."

With their tech background, Stuart and his team have been able to guickly build solutions to utilise their assets for the greater good, with QR codes to help understand what people need and tracking devices to verify receipt of items.

Visit www.freedom-boxes.com to purchase a Freedom Bus ticket for someone fleeing Ukraine or choose from a range of Freedom Boxes tailormade for families, children, and the heroes who have taken up arms to defend their country.

Children who want to let families and children who are victims of war in Ukraine know they are thinking about them are uploading messages of hope at www.messagesofhope.uk – the messages will be delivered directly to Ukrainian families via Freedom Boxes. Children everywhere are encouraged to upload their messages of hope.

For further information, please visit: www.freedom-boxes.com



One of our drivers, taking essential supplies across the Ukrainian border and into war zones - they are risking their lives to help people.

This elderly lady is Svitlana, she is 77-years-old and lived alone

in Ukraine - she crossed the border on her own. Freedom Boxes got her a cab to take her to her daughter 1.5 hours away where she works

in a supermarket and was unable to leave. Her daughter texted Freedom Boxes to say:

"Thank you all so much for what you did for my mom and what you're doing!!! I am incredibly grateful. May God bless you all."

She also called the team to confirm her mom made it to her safe and sound!

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young creatives

Call for Entries for Nottingham's Young Creative Awards 2022



Keeping it Local Since 2002

Young people from across Nottingham have been busy submitting their entries for this year's Young Creative Awards, ahead of the deadline on 25th April 2022.

The Young Creative Awards supports and nurtures the creative talent of young people who live, work or study in Nottingham. Now in its fourteenth year, the Young Creative Awards is open to anyone aged between 11 and 24 years of age. Entering the awards is completely free. In total there are eleven different categories: Animation & Digital Media, Creative Writing, Dance, Design & Architecture, Fashion & Textiles, Film, Graphic Design, Music, Photography, Theatre and Visual Arts.

Young Creative Awards winners receive cash prizes, plus industry experience, mentoring and training opportunities. Previous entrants have gone on to design clothing for Beyoncé, become published authors, perform at the BBC Proms, set up their own successful businesses and develop exciting careers in the creative industries. Last year, illustrator Kate Sharp (a winner in the Graphic Design category in 2020) was commissioned by Awards sponsors CarShop to design a special Nottingham-inspired car wrap for one of their courtesy cars.

In 2021 a group of Young Creative Awards winners and finalists also collaborated to produce 300 special activity boxes, full of creative ideas and materials, which were distributed to young people via four city food banks.

Dancer and artist Jamal Sterrett Phoenix was a Young Creative Awards winner in 2015. Jamal who last year performed on ITV "idents" between programmes – talked enthusiastically about how the Young Creative Awards exposes and connects the work of young creatives to a wider audience. He said: "I never entered believing I would win. I did it because it's free and presented itself as an unturned stone on my life path. As an artist it's important to turn all the stones, not all of them will lead to greater things, but every small stone makes the path smoother."

NTU graduate Em Green was a winner in the Animation & Digital Media category in 2020. Em, now a Junior Animator & Designer at Tinmouse Animation Studio in Chesterfield, encouraged young people to enter. They said: "Do it! You might get some great opportunities directly from winning an award or taking part – like a placement, interview or invitations to speak at events, as I have recently. There are so many other indirect benefits though. Awards are a great subject to bring up in job interviews, but they also give you a big boost of confidence that what you're making is great as lots of people think that too."

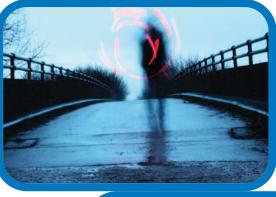
All of this year's winners and finalists will also receive free Affinity professional creative software thanks to Nottingham-based firm Serif, who are one of the headline sponsors of the 2021 Young Creative Awards.

Stacey Richards, Head of Human Resources at Serif, said: "We're really pleased to be sponsoring the Nottingham Young Creative Awards for the third year running. It's fantastic to be involved with a local event that helps encourage and develop local creative talent, something that is particularly important to us being in the creative industry. Those who have been on the judging panels from Affinity have seen such a high level of talent over the last couple of years and can't wait to see this year's entries."

Entries can be submitted up until 25th April, so there is still plenty of time to get involved. The Young Creative Awards is made possible thanks to sponsorship from a range of local and national companies and organisations. These include: Broadway, CarShop, Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies, Dance4, Maber, Nottingham College, Nottingham Music Hub, Nottingham Trent University, Romo, Skeleton, STENCIL, University of Nottingham and Walkgrove.

More information is available online at www.youngcreativeawards.org







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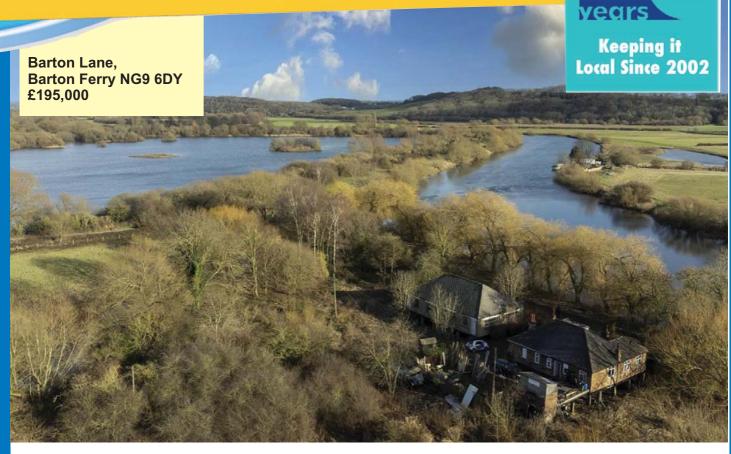




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beeston players

Bringing joy to the local area since 1968, Beeston Players are all set to communicate their latest play...

vegrs

Keeping it Local Since 2002

Beeston Players are pleased to announce that May 2022's play is Communicating Doors written by acclaimed playwright Alan Ackybourn at Round Hill School, Beeston on Wednesday 11th May to Friday 13th May at 7:30pm and a matinee on Saturday 14th May at 2:30pm.

Communicating Doors is an intricate time travelling comic thriller by the British master of farcical comedy which has delighted London and New York audiences.

A London sex specialist from the future stumbles into a murder plot that sends her, compliments of a unique set of hotel doors, travelling back in time. She and two women who were murdered in 1998 and 1978 race back and forth in time trying to rewrite history and prevent their own violent ends. The frantic race begins when Poopay is hired for an evening at the Regal Hotel by an old man who eschews a fling in favour of confessing his role in the demise of his wives. Now a target, Poopay flees into the vestibule and somehow triggers the time machine.

The Beeston Players were formed in 1968 and have performed in Beeston and Chilwell area throughout this time. Rehearsals and weekly meetings are on Mondays 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Haven Centre in Stapleford. New members are always welcome.

Tickets for Communicating Doors are available to buy on line http://beestonplayers.org/tickets or on the door or by mobile on 07722 551387





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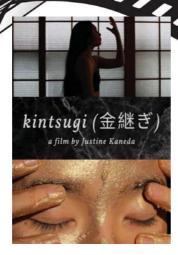
beeston film festival

Celebrating and showcasing international short films in the heart of its community

years

Keeping it Local Since 2002







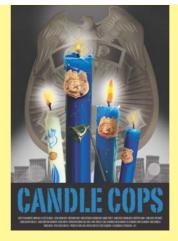


The posters have come down. The floors have been swept. The audience has gone home. Another Beeston Film Festival has come and gone.

And it was brilliant! After all, what can be better than spending a whole weekend in the cinema, watching films from all around the world, surrounded by friends and film-lovers? After the last couple of online festivals, we're so happy that we were able to bring our festival back into the physical world, to mingle once again with our fellow Beestonians.

As always, it's been an emotional roller-coaster for the audience. From belly laughs to thrills and chills, there was something for everyone. And how about those B'Oscar nominated films? Talk about high quality! The bar is raised higher and higher every year, and film-makers just keep excelling themselves.

Speaking of film-makers, we're pleased and proud to have hosted several of the people behind this year's fantastic films, from as far away as Israel, Peru, Denmark and Spain. It's always great to have the film-maker in the room when watching their work, especially when you can grab a drink and chat with them about it afterwards!



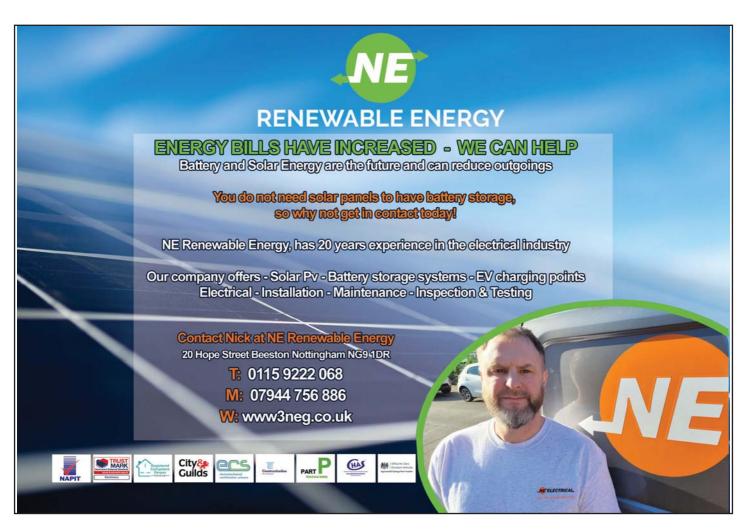


This year saw a couple of new developments for the festival. There was the introduction of music videos, sprinkled in amongst the sessions, celebrating both the creativity behind the visuals and the great songs themselves. Directors like Michael Bay, Spike Jonze and David Fincher all got their start in music videos, so we felt it was about time we showed them some love! We also introduced a showcase of Iranian films, with the aim of perhaps making this a yearly thing; each year we can focus on a different country, a different cultural outlook and perspective.

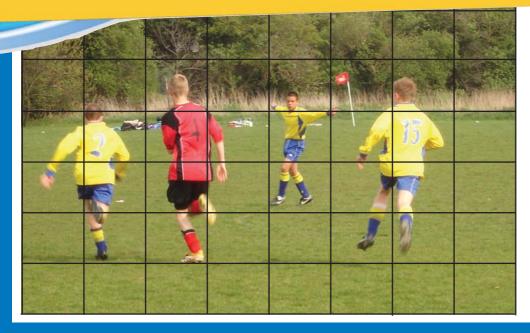
"We hope you enjoyed the festival as much as we enjoyed running it – if you have any feedback for us, head over to our website beestonfilm.com and drop us a line! And if you're a Beestonian film-lover like we are and want to volunteer and get involved, we're always on the lookout for new friends.

Unfortunately we weren't able to get our pictures or the B'Oscar Award results into this article, but have no fear! We'll be back in next month's Breeze with an awards retrospective and plenty of great snaps from the night! Catch you then!"





spot the ball..





Keeping it **Local Since 2002**

Remember this? We're looking to return it to our pages.

If you are a local team and want to take part please email us at info@breeze-magazine.co.uk

Can you spot where the ball should be? Answer on page 28.

Here's the boring stuff, you must be able to get consent for publication in print and on-line from parents or guardians of anyone under 16 that will be featured.



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on your bike!

years

Keeping it Local Since 2002

Vith sunny weather predictions coming in early his year, experts advise Brits on how to cycle afely in the sun. British leisure bike brand gives ps on what Brits should be doing to ensure a mooth ride when out in the sun.

The crisp Spring sun can make it tempting to et outdoors for a scenic bike ride, but it's ssential to protect ourselves when in the sun nd make sure we're adequately equipped for ne journey. Things like applying SPF and taying hydrated are crucial for a safe journey.

When heading out for a bike ride in the sun, ther essential things to consider are making ure we have dressed appropriately in ghtweight, breathable clothing.

A spokesperson from said: "Cycling in Spring beautiful, the weather picks up, which makes a lot more enjoyable, but we want people to ycle safely and take care of themselves and there

"One of the most important things we can do is rotect ourselves from the sun. This means lanning our routes, wearing appropriate lothing and staying hydrated on the journey.

"These things apply to everyone - adults and hildren, professionals and beginners.

"You shouldn't compromise on any of these nings, really, and by doing them, you can enjoy pring cycling knowing you're doing it safely."

Cycle Safety

Stay hydrated

It's essential to stay hydrated whilst out in the sun, so it's worth investing in a water bottle and a holder that you can attach to your bike for easy access.

Remember, you're losing even more body water from sweating in the sun, so replacing this with water is important to avoid becoming dehydrated.

Keep fueled with food

Energy can be quickly drained in the sun, and that's why you should keep yourself fueled with food if you're planning a long journey. Snacks like dried fruits and nuts are good for refuelling your energy.

Dress weather appropriately

Whether you cycle professionally or just for leisure, you must dress appropriately for the sun. Ideally, you'll want lightweight and airy clothes to keep you cool while you cycle. This goes for your helmet and shoes, and try to find some that are breathable and have good ventilation.

Invest in some cycling sunglasses Like driving, it's

vital to protect

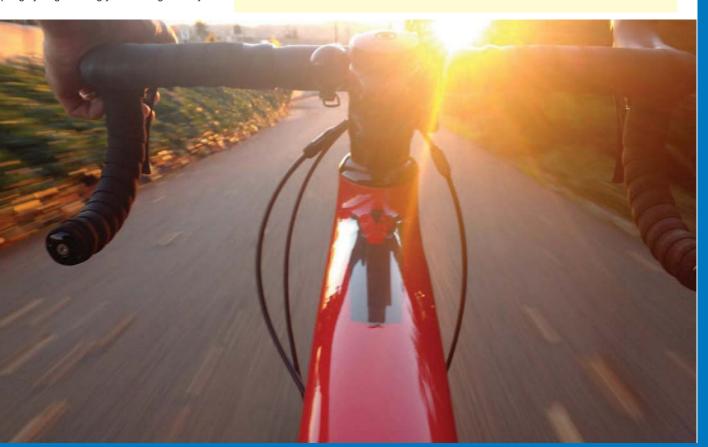
your eyes from being dazzled by the sun. That's why it's advised that we wear sunglasses when cycling. Unfortunately, your stylish aviator ones won't do the trick. You'll want to invest in proper cycling sunglasses that are secure and will stay on while you're cycling

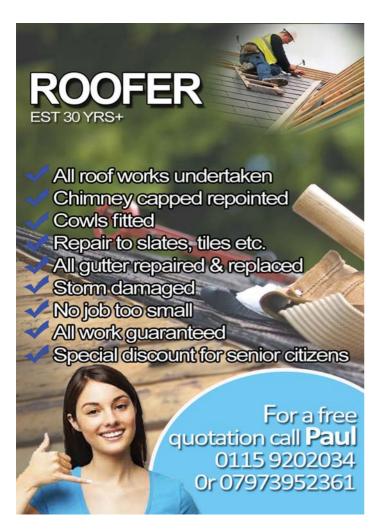
Apply SPF

It's crucial to protect your skin when in the sun for long periods, so before heading out on your bike, ensure that you are covering any exposed skin with sunscreen - face, neck, hands, arms and legs.

Plan your route carefully

Going for a bike ride in the sun's peak with no shade probably isn't the best idea. Try to plan your ride either before or after the sun hits its peak if the temperatures are high. It's also worth trying to head for a route that isn't completely exposed to the sun. Riding in shady spots will allow your body to cool off for short periods.















what's on

Bowls Club...

Beeston Unity Bowls Club at Beeston Unity we are eagerly looking forward to the first week in May when our green will be opening for our first full season since 2019. We have a full programme of fixtures so lots of opportunities to get involved.

The club is currently experiencing a revival. Although we have lost a few players we have also gained a few and there is starting to be a real buzz about the club both on and off the green. We have always been a competitive club but we are also a friendly and welcoming club. The clubhouse is currently getting a makeover which will improve our facilities for both ourselves and our visitors.

There are lots of health benefits to playing the game of Bowls with exercise and fresh air being the main ones. I'm sure we have all been glad to get out and meet people again and what better way to do that than joining a Bowls club where for a couple of hours or so you can make new friends and forget all your troubles as you immerse yourself in the game.

Would YOU like to be part of Beeston Unity Bowls Club? If you are a bowler and new to the area we would be glad to welcome you to our club. Or are you thinking of taking up the game, if you are we can help and support you as you learn all about the game of Bowls. You can find us on Facebook – Beeston Unity Bowls Club – and you can contact us on either of these two numbers:- Mick Towlson 07516 474284 or Malcolm Potter 07746 663063.

Our green is located on Broadgate Recreation Ground and nearer to the start of the season there will be a list of our fixtures on the board by the gate.

Do come along to a home match and make yourself known to us. We have a good selection of bowls to choose from if you are new to the game and we're happy to help and support you in your enjoyment of the game that we've enjoyed for so long.

Beeston Wildlife

Beeston Wildlife Group is a group of enthusiasts affiliated to Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

They aim to engage others in the whole wildlife experience by providing access to a range of walks and talks.

Their April talk will take place on Monday 25th April 2022 at 7.30pm and is entitled Bird Migration - The Latest Discoveries by Nigel Slater. This talk will have you marvelling at the miracle of migration. Using the very latest technology, we are discovering incredible facts about the journeys birds make across the planet. Find out where, why, when and how birds migrate. Truly amazing!

£3 Adults, Children free. Trent Vale Infant School, Trent Road, Beeston Rylands, NG9 1LP.

If you would like to find out more information or speak to someone about the group please contact Nigel Slater on 0115 916 6518 or visit www.beestonwildlifegroup.org

Afternoon Choir

Afternoon of choirs with Beeston Voices, West Bridgford Social Singers, Unreliable Voices and Harlequin

Where: St. John's Parish Church Beeston
On: Saturday 14 May
Time: 2pm Free Entry
Raising money for refugees
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Wellbeing Café

Free Groups for Older People in the Long Eaton Area
The Wellbeing Café is a free group for older people living
alone, or for carers to attend with their loved one.
We provide free tea and cake, a weekly reminiscence session,
activities, games and information about local support services.
The group meets on a Tuesday afternoon.
Singing for the Brain is an initiative by the Alzheimer's Society.
It is a free, fun, relaxed group taking place on a Friday

afternoon. No singing experience is necessary to be able to join in and exercise your voice, body and brain!

Both groups are at All Saint's Church hall, Sawley
If you would like to register for either group or want to

know more, please contact Janet on 07906 367553

Volunteer?

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION APPEALS FOR VOLUNTEERS IN BEESTON

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) is encouraging the people of Beeston to volunteer in their nearest shop located on Beeston High Road to help raise funds for life saving research.

The BHF has plenty of exciting volunteering roles available, for those looking to support their local community, increase their wellbeing and widen their social network in the local area – while supporting a good cause and helping the environment.

"The gift of time is vital to the British Heart Foundation, and we rely on the generous support of the public. Every hour given will help us upport the people in Beeston living with heart and circulatory.

raise funds to support the people in Beeston living with heart and circulatory diseases."

This year, the BHF will save around 71,000 tonnes of goods from going to waste, by selling over half a million pieces of living room furniture and 14,000 tonnes of preloved clothes.

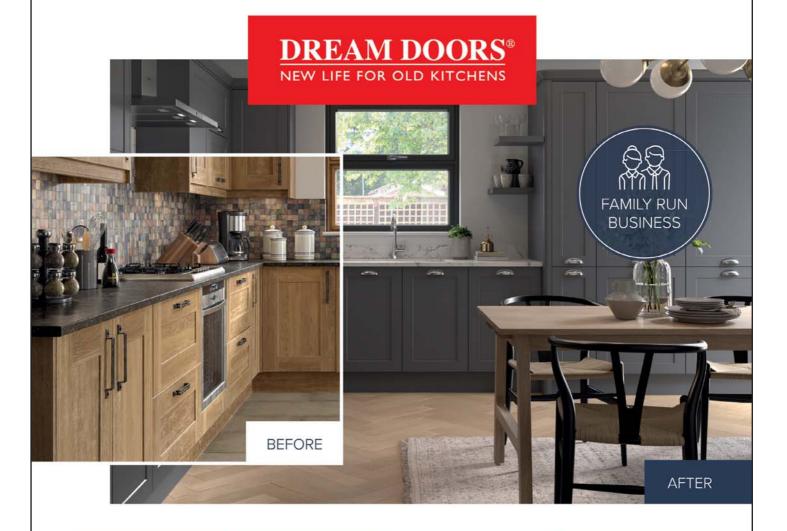
Every pound raised in BHF shops helps the charity to support those living with heart and circulatory diseases. Your gift of time can help the BHF, help them.

For more information contact the shop on 0115 9678104 or email B15@bhf.org.uk.



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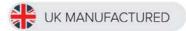
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gardening... Get the Bridgerton garden look...

Netflix's hotly anticipated regency drama is back for a second season and not your average garden centre, Dobbies, is here to show you how you can recreate the gorgeous outdoor spaces seen on the show.

Perfectly manicured lawns, extravagant water features and breathtaking flower displays come together on screen to create the ultimate Regency core aesthetic, with some of the UK's most notable estates, including Hatfield House, Castle House and Windsor Great Park, acting as a backdrop to the drama.

Set to be a popular trend for summer 2022, we caught up with Dobbies' Horticultural Director, Marcus Eyles, to find out how you can get the Bridgerton garden look and create an outdoor space worthy of Lady Whistledown herself.

Many of Bridgerton's scenes see the characters walking through grand country estates full of ornamental topiary and impressive borders that might seem challenging to recreate on a smaller scale. However, Marcus advises that well-groomed shrubs and colourful borders will give you a similar effect.

Marcus said: "Á great way to get the Regency look as seen on the show is with creative topiary, which is the art of trimming trees and shrubs into shapely sculptures. This is a fantastic way to make a statement and give your garden a grand look and feel, however, it can take some

time to perfect your sculpting skills. An easy alternative is to neaten up your shrubs and give them a good trim to ensure clean lines. This will give your garden structure and is a good way to give your beds and borders a tidy look without too much hassle."

Marcus said: "Planting is one of the most enjoyable spring gardening jobs and you can achieve some fantastic Bridgerton colour with summer flowering bulbs like Dahlias, Bagonias, Lilies and Gladioli.

Climbing plants like Wisteria adorn the grand homes in Bridgerton, giving the buildings a decadent air. To get the look, a statement pergola with climbing greenery will add a touch of grandeur to your garden, and give you the perfect space to enjoy a spot of high tea in summer months – and what could be more Bridgerton than that?

Marcus said: "Climbing plants such as Clematis montana and Sweet Peas work well with most structures and will create a striking effect in any space.

To complete your Bridgerton inspired garden, Dobbies' Visit www.dobbies.com.











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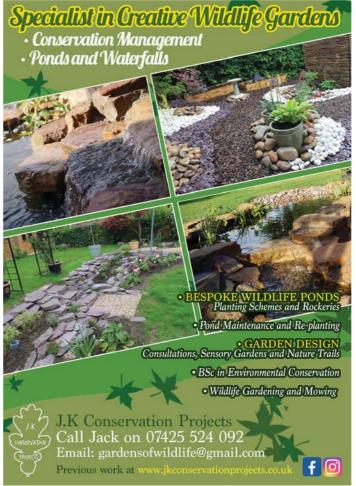


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Bestwood MVC's 2022 Spring Concert

oh, what a night!



Keeping it Local Since 2002

Bestwood Male Voice Choir was delighted to be back singing live last month, with a Spring Concert at Hucknall Central Methodist Church, celebrating the life and legacy of the Choir's founder, Len Hogg.

The concert was a huge success, with a capacity audience and raised £1,300 which was donated in full to the fund for 7 year old Leila Hallam, from Calverton who has rhabdomyosarcoma, a rear life threatening children's cancer. The fund was originally formed to take Leila and her family to Disneyland but having already passed the target of £20,000, the family have decided to donate any additional money to the Rhabdomyosarcoma Clinical Trial.

Only a week before the event, the choir was concerned that ticket sales were quite low but word soon got round and on the night it was wonderful to see the church packed out. With the Ukrainian flag respectfully draped over the compere's rostrum, the concert got off to a very emotional start with everyone standing as the Ukraine National Anthem was played over the church's sound system.

After a long enforced 'covid break', the audience showed tremendous appreciation for Bestwood MVC's repertoire with some old favourites including the 'Lord's Prayer', 'Take me home' and the appropriate and ever popular 'What would I do without my music?'. Under Musical Director Mirek Rus and with accompanist Philip Miles making his debut concert performance, new items such as 'The fields of Athenry', 'Shine' and 'The Water is Wide' were also included.

As if that was not enough and adding, lovely contrasting voices, Bestwood MVC was joined for this special occasion by the wonderful Rolls-Royce Ladies Choir from Derby, under their Musical Director Christine Hunt and accompanied by their pianist John Lord.

Holding the whole evening together with his usual brand of humour, jokes and one liners was Bestwood MVC's President, Compere and member of the baritone section, John Pritchard. It was also John who suggested that the proceeds from the concert should go towards Leila Hammond's charity, which was boosted by both choirs and Hucknall Central Methodist Church very generously waiving their fees.

If any men are interested in joining Bestwood MVC, they are always looking for new members of any age and would welcome anyone interested on Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm - 9.30pm at Bestwood Village Social Club or visit www.bestwoodmvc.org.uk for more information.

About the choir...

The Manor of Bestwood, a royal hunting lodge on the edge of Sherwood Forest, was granted to Nell Gwyn, mistress of Charles II who lived there with their young son, the First Duke of St Albans. The present Bestwood Lodge was built in 1858 by the tenth Duke who leased the land and mineral rights on the estate to the Bestwood Iron and Coal Company. Mining commenced in 1872 and continued until 1967.

In the autumn of 1952, Len Hogg came to Bestwood as Colliery Manager and very soon afterwards the Choir was formed under the name of "Bestwood Colliery Male Voice Choir". However membership was never confined solely to workers at the colliery so that within the first year, the name was changed to the "Bestwood Male Voice Choir" which still continues today. The Choir gave its first concert in Bestwood Village Hall in November 1953.

Over the years, the choir's achievements have been considerable, having numerous successes at musical festivals and engagements with some of Britain's finest choirs and regimental and brass bands, at the same time raising thousands of pounds for local and national charities.

Overseas travel and hosting of visiting choirs have resulted in memorable visits to Malta, Canada the United States, Germany, France, Holland and Poland.

The choir now numbers over 40 singers and is proud to be mentioned in the "Who's who" entry of His Grace the fourteenth Duke of St Albans, our patron.

If you would like the Choir to sing at your event, please contact our Concert Secretary, Gary Hallam at choir@bestwoodmvc.org.uk



















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the heart wants

JO HARROP ANNOUNCES 'THE HEART WANTS' TOUR

Lateralize Records are delighted to announce that Jo Harrop will be playing a series of live shows to support the recent release of her critically acclaimed solo debut, The Heart Wants.

Written and recorded over the last year when the world came to a sudden standstill in the wake of the pandemic, The Heart Wants is an album about love and life, about losing and then finding oneself in the silence after the applause has faded away.

in the silence after the applause has faded away.

Although she has built a reputation as an intuitive interpreter of other people's songs, Jo Harrop would be the first to admit that she always lacked the confidence to reveal her own songs to the world. With no shows in her diary, she started working on what would eventually turn out to be her first album of original material with producers Hannah Vasanth (known for her work with everyone from Stormzy to JP Cooper) and Jamie McCredie alongside a guest list of world-class musicians including Christian McBride, Jason Rebello and Troy Miller.

vears

Keeping it

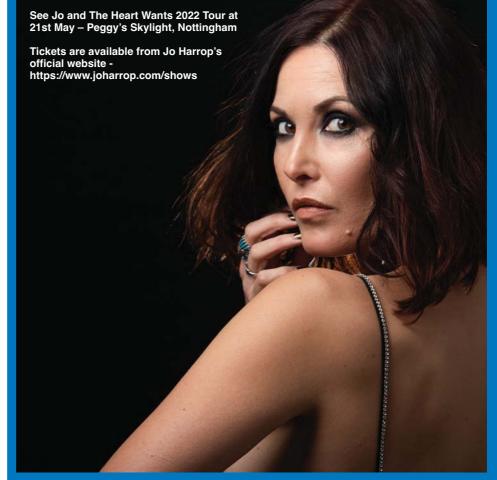
Local Since 2002

"We wrote and recorded the songs for The Heart Wants before we had a chance for people to hear them live, which is the ultimate litmus test," Harrop explains. "Songs don't really come alive until you play them to an audience, so I'm incredibly excited to finally be able to bring them to life on stage for the first time. Music has always had the power to transport me and to move me deep inside, and I want to create the same emotional connection with people who hear my songs."

"An extraordinary talent" - Jo Whiley - BBC Radio 2

Born in Durham, and raised on a heady musical diet of Nina Simone, Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin, Jo Harrop cut her teeth as a session singer, working with a host of iconic artists including Neil Diamond, Rod Stewart, Enrique Iglesias and Gloria Gaynor. After moving to London, she quickly established herself as one of the most unmistakable voices in British jazz, performing everywhere from the Boyal Albert Hall to the Sunset Sunside Jazz Club in Paris.

performing everywhere from the Royal Albert Hall to the Sunset Sunside Jazz Club in Paris. Having signed to London-based jazz label, Lateralize Records, she recently received a raft of rapturous reviews for Weathering The Storm, her debut with guitarist, Jamie McCredie. The Guardian dubbed it 'a little gem of an album: simple, modest and perfect,' whilst BBC 6 Music's Iggy Pop fell in love with her voice, calling her "a very fine jazz singer."







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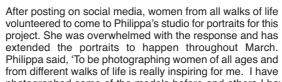
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celebrating women

on International Women's Day, Philippa Dytham-Double of Double Image Photography in Beeston, celebrated the true beauty of every woman in portraits...





photographed some of the models before and others I have never met and it's been a joy to work with women who have shared their stories with me, been completely open about how they feel being photographed and to work together to create images they love'.

This project is something Philippa has wanted to do for a number of years and her aim is to work collaboratively with the people she is photographing. She went on to say, "To help with the creative process I have asked models to think about when they feel their most beautiful and powerful. What makes them feel that way? I want women to be photographed in the way they want to be seen and not to feel pressured to look perfect, flawless or a certain way.

So far I've photographed women in glamorous outfits as well as work wear, super hero costumes and exercise kit with weights! This really is a celebration of all women and I am delighted that so many amazing women have come forward to be part of this".

To complete the project, Philippa will be creating a digital presentation of the portraits she has taken as well as displaying her work in her studio window.













Keeping it

Local Since 2002

sailing sailing



Local Since 2002

Attenborough Sailing Club Open day: 30th April between 11am and 4pm

Attenborough Sailing Club enjoys the use of the Coneries Lagoon in the Attenborough Nature Reserve. It is the lake to the right as you drive to the Attenborough Nature Reserve Centre car park.

"We pride ourselves on being a friendly club and attract many residents from the local area who want to enjoy being on the water in such a pleasant environment.

New members are always made to feel welcome. Over the last few years we have built a modern clubhouse with a viewing balcony overlooking the Nature Reserve with a fully equipped clubroom, changing rooms and access for the disabled.

Many of our members have learnt to sail with us on one of our formal RYA courses that we run throughout the year. Some had spent time on a sailing course whilst away on holiday and wanted to consolidate their experience by sailing with us. Others just enjoy being in and around boats.

Members enjoy a variety of racing, cruising and social activities. Club racing takes place on Sundays and Wednesday evenings throughout the year. For those not wanting to race, social gatherings and cruising takes place on Friday afternoons and evenings.

Our sport is not elitist. Our members come from many different walks of life. An individual membership is £120 a year and families, students and young people benefit from substantial discounts. Initially the club is able to provide new members with free to use club boats. Many nice pre-loved boats can be purchased for a few hundred pounds once a new member has decided that the sport is for them and what type of boat it is that they want to sail. Boats are regularly exchanged within the club.

In recent years the club has been unable to hold its annual 'Open Day' during the Covid pandemic but is pleased to now do so again.

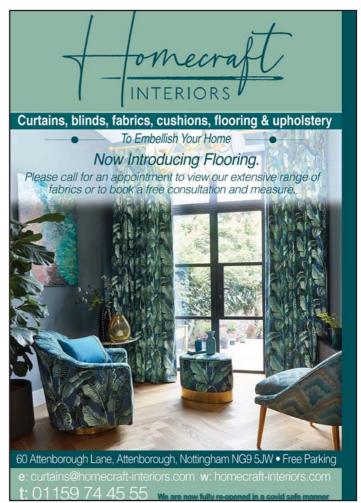
On the 30th April between 11am and 4pm we welcome the local community to "come and have a go". No booking is required. Just turn up with an old pair of soft shoes that might get wet and be taken out for a boat ride by an experienced sailor or just sit and enjoy a tea, coffee or beer on our balcony and enjoy the view".

More information can be found: Facebook page: Attenborough Sailing Club Website: www.attemboroughsc.org.uk

Email: membership@attenboroughsc.org.uk







breeze puzzler



Keeping it Local Since 2002

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Illustrious (6)
- 7 Acting game, popular at Christmas (8)
- 8 Impetus (6)
- 10 Shudder (6)
- 11 Drab, gloomy (5)
- 13 Male sibling (7)
- 16 Situated at or extending to the side (7)
- 17 Judged (5)
- 20 Self-effacing (6)
- 22 Opaque form of quartz (6)
- 24 Period of 366 days (4,4)
- 25 Frogmen (6)

Down

- 1 Set up, incriminated (coll) (6)
- 2 Steeped, dried barley (4)
- 3 Spirally threaded cylindrical rod (5)
- 4 Collection of electrical cells (7)
- 5 Live-action film about a piglet (4)
- 6 Oil used as fuel in lamps (8)
- 9 Fatuous (5)
- 12 Logically valid (8)
- 14 Limited periods of time (5)
- 15 Workers' dining hall (7)
- **18** Compulsory force or threat (6)
- 19 Norwegian sea inlet (5)
- 21 Catch sight of (4)
- 23 Gait (4)

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WORDSEARCH 'TAIL' ENDINGS

Can you find the listed words in the grid below? Words may run either forwards or backwards, in either a horizontal, vertical or diagonal direction, but always in a straight line.

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BRISTLETAIL	ENTAIL	RETAIL
COATTAIL	FANTAIL	SPRINGTAIL
CURTAIL	FISHTAIL	SWALLOWTAIL
DETAIL	OXTAIL	WAGTAIL
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