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NOVEMBER 2022

ISSUE 239



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oh yes it is!

Running from Friday 25th November
- Saturday 14th January 2023.



Nottingham Playhouse today announces details for their eagerly awaited 2022 pantomime, Dick Whittington.

Pack up your hanky and join the plucky hero and his trusty cat on their quest for fame and fortune. Their magical rags to riches tale takes us to London, where the streets are paved with gold, on to the High Seas, into battle with the evil King Rat and falling head over heels in love with his boss's daughter Alice. All the while the magical Bow Bells are whispering Dick Whittington's destiny – to become Mayor of London! Packed with the trademark dazzling dance, brilliant live music and swashbuckling adventure, as ever the Nottingham Playhouse panto promises a fantastic, festive family night out.

Nottingham Playhouse Chief Executive Stephanie Surr says - "This year's pantomime will be our sparkliest, funniest and most magical yet. Not only do we bring you the best performers from the West End and closer to home but we welcome back Uncle Johnnie on keys. He and the fantastic company will bring everyone together for a fabulous time with family and friends of all ages this Christmas. We will also be welcoming Santa to select performances and are pleased to offer a wide range of ticket prices from just £18 to make sure everyone can enjoy the adventures of Dick Whittington"

Alongside Dick Whittington, running from 8th to 31st December is Nottingham Playhouse's annual Christmas show for younger audiences, which this year is Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The show is written and composed by local artists, Anna Wheatley and Jack Quarton, and directed by Playhouse Associate Artist, Hannah Stone.

No matter how hard she tries, Goldilocks can't sit still. She just wants to dance but where she's from, it's forbidden. Unable to keep her toes from tap tap tapping, she has no option but to make her great escape.

She runs through busy cityscapes and frosty beaches until she reaches a magical forest and a home like none she's ever known. But what happens when a family of bears return to find that someone has made a right old mess of their lair?

Join Goldilocks and the Three Bears on this pop-tastic dance-party of an adventure exploring friendship, home and daring to share. With music, magic and plenty of opportunities to join in along the way, this show is 'just right' for little humans aged 3 – 8 and their grownups.

Dick Whittington is sponsored by Nottingham City Transport and Woodland Trust.

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As I approached 60, the goal for myself was concentrate more on the customer service side within the trade, so after taking a look around Long Eaton town centre back in 2020, an affordable unit became available on the high street. I decided to set up a base by opening up a showroom. This is when my step daughter Jess came on board, with her having over 10 years of experience within the customer service industry, I thought that it would work well for us as a company for her to manage the showroom. Since opening the showroom, my fitting partner of 15 years joined the team and another Father and Son fitting joined us too. As a whole, we have a great team who work to a very high standard taking pride in our work.

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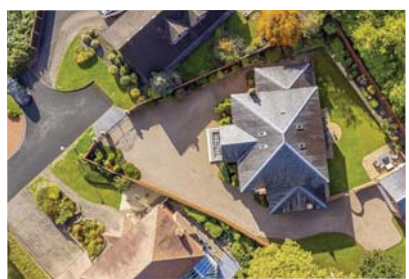



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Outside the property occupies a generous and elevated plot of approximately 0.33 of an acre sitting behind private electric gates. There is a large driveway with garage beyond, landscaped gardens flanking both sides of the building and an enclosed primarily lawned garden with patio to the rear.

Offering further development potential (subject to the necessary consents) this truly outstanding property simply must be viewed to be fully appreciated.

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christmas at wollaton



Un-wrapped... for local charities, as countdown starts

Organisers of Christmas at Wollaton are donating 500 tickets to local lucky Notts charities to enjoy the event, which opens on Friday 2nd December.

Now in its third year, after two sell-out events, Wollaton Hall & Deer Park will again host the breath-taking Christmas lights trail, as the formal gardens are transformed as night falls. Christmas at Wollaton will run from Friday 2nd December 2022 until Sunday 1st January 2023 (and will be closed on 5 and 25 December), with pre-bookable slots staggered every 30 minutes.

A major attraction for festive visitors, last year Christmas at Wollaton Hall was attended by 100,000 people, who travelled from across the region and beyond to marvel at the wonderful displays of lights and lasers.

For the first time, organisers of Christmas at Wollaton is award winning team Kilimanjaro who are donating 500 tickets so that charities can enjoy the lights in the first week of opening. This could be members or supporters of the charity and would be perfect for anyone in need of some festive spirit this Christmas.

After its premier in 2020, Christmas at Wollaton has got better and better every year, and last time included a new Christmas market and terrace serving festive food and drink, which will this year be perfectly positioned in the courtyard at the end of the trail.

More additions for the 2022 event are soon to be revealed.

The stunning show, which can be seen from miles around, is specially designed to complement the natural landscape and architecture of the gothic Hall and Gardens.

It is a challenging time for everyone which is organisers of one of Nottingham's biggest festive events are doing their bit by having a century Christmas charity donation. The tickets can be used for members or supporters of the charity, can be given to those the charity supports (it is entirely up to the charity involved).

Even better the tickets will be for the first week the event opens so visitors will be able to see and experience it first!

Organisers of the event commented "We appreciate this year is tough and especially for charities and causes whose work is vital to the local communities they serve. So, for 2022, for the first time we are offering charities the opportunity to get a total of 500 tickets, either as a thank you to their volunteers or for their staff, families or users."

Christmas at Wollaton will have pre-bookable slots staggered every 30 minutes. Christmas at Wollaton will run from Friday 2 December 2022 until Sunday 1 January 2023 (and will be closed on 5 and 25 December).

Tickets are priced from *£21.45 for an adult and *£15.40 for children *Including booking fee. Nottingham residents discount available on selected time slots (for council tax payers). For full ticket details visit www.christmasatwollaton.org

To apply for tickets, go to <https://www.christmasatwollaton.org/christmas-unwrapped> and apply by 5pm on Friday 18 November.

Standing on a natural hill three miles west of Nottingham City Centre, Wollaton Hall & Deer Park is set in five hundred acres of spectacular gardens and parkland.

Tickets are valid for Friday 2nd December to Thursday 8 December

For more information, please visit www.christmasatwollaton.org

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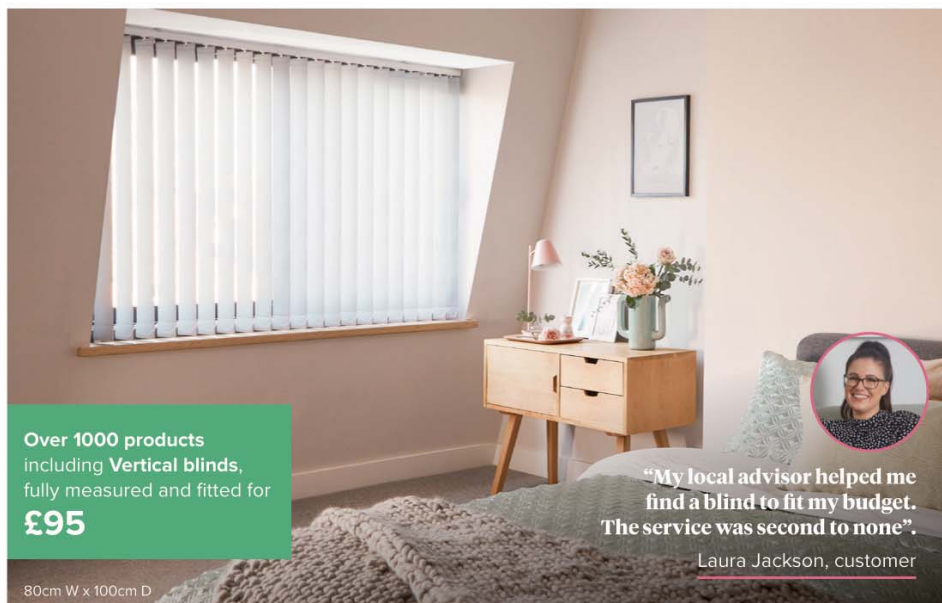
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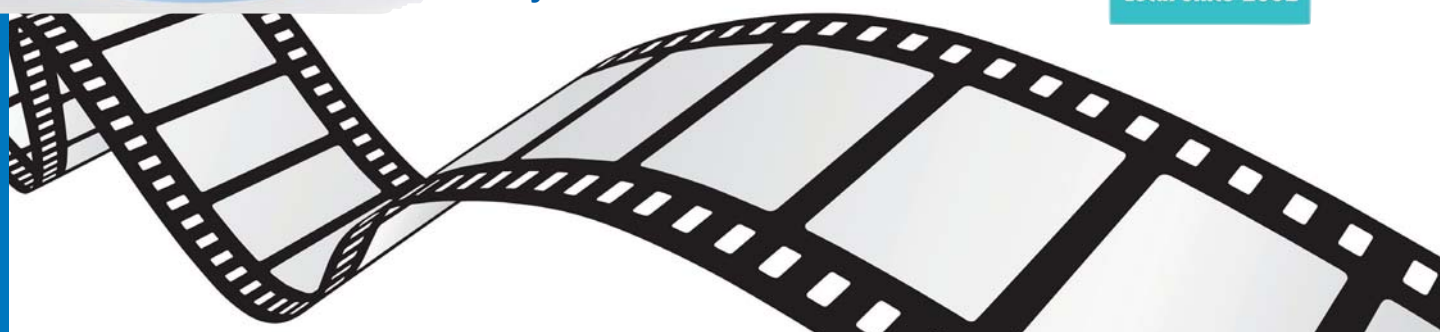
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SCAN ME



Animation: A Medium, Not a Genre by Sam Kurd



One of the Beeston Film Festival's most successful categories is Animation. There's a common misconception that 'animated' is a genre in and of itself, synonymous with 'family' or 'for kids'. This couldn't be more wrong!

Animation is a medium, just like live-action, and as such animated films come in many genres. Many of the films that are submitted to the festival under this category would sit just as comfortably in the Drama, Comedy or even Horror category. Animation lets a creator's imagination run wild, painting with a palette they'd never have in live-action without a budget in the high millions.

Here's a few of this year's festival hopefuls in the Animation category:

My Dear Son is a touching and emotional story of a mother whose son is different to the other kids. Not wanting him to be ostracised and disadvantaged, she forces him to be something he's not, hoping he'll fit in. Anyone who's struggled with their identity is bound to be moved by this one.

On the more abstract end of the scale is **Stay**, which uses the imagery of a game of cats cradle to represent the fabric of a family in turmoil, a daughter whose father is distant and cold. The visuals are rendered beautifully (they're hand-embroidered!) and this one's a real tear-jerker.

On a much darker note, **Wych** is a film that would comfortably slot right into our Horror session. Light on narrative but heavy on oppressive atmosphere, it's a Lynchian nightmare that uses its soundscape expertly to disturb and unnerve. Not for the faint of heart!

The coffee-lovers among us (like me!) may feel called out by **Sip**, a hilarious Nigerian film about the dangerous relationship between coffee and productivity. Sure, it feels good to down a cup and zip through your workload, but at what cost?

Then there's **Yellowstone 88 – A Song of Fire** is a narrative poem that tells of a terrible wildfire that blazed through drought-struck Yellowstone Park in 1988. Breathtakingly gorgeous, as the fire and peril ramp up it leaves you with your heart in your throat. If this one makes it into the festival, it's a must-see!

If you think animated films are just for kids, do yourself a favour and stop by our Animation session at next year's festival. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised!



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Walking Football for Women

'Have fun, get fit, meet some new people and have a laugh over a cuppa afterwards' is how Chris Clift described the new walking football sessions for women at the Chilwell Memorial Institute's artificial multi-sport court.

Walking football is an increasingly popular sport for all ages and abilities and requires no previous expertise in football!

Chris said 'The success of the Lionesses during the summer has raised the profile of women's football and so made walking football a more attractive option for women who want to keep fit and have a bit of fun'.

'It's an ideal game for those who like to gently participate in a robust sport!' said Chris.

Walking football is a five or six a-side game played on a pitch about the size of a tennis court. It suits all ages and abilities and there is no heading nor running – only walking! 'It's excellent for helping with co-ordination and getting fit!' said Chris.

'Walking' groups are the new way for older residents to still participate in sport but in a manner more suited to their age and ability'. The Institute is expanding its walking football men's group and is now offering walking football for women as well as mixed groups.

The venture is run in partnership with the Nottingham Bramcote Walking Football Club and takes place on Friday mornings in the heart of Chilwell.

The Institute already has a very active walking netball group that meets on Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons. For those who may like to join this group please go to the website www.chilwellmemorialinstitute.org

For those interested in trying out walking football please contact Chris on 0115 972 3653 or check out the website above. It's great fun and good to be involved!



International Artist

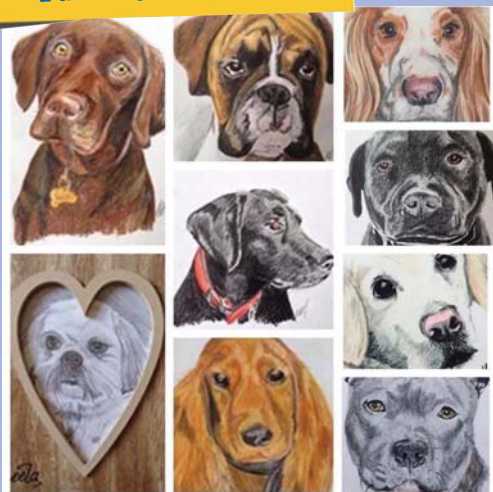
Beeston artist Pamela Glover will be exhibiting her work internationally for the first time this November.

Having over many years successfully exhibited locally with The Spotted Dog Art Group she has been invited to attend the 38th Exhibition of Independent Painters in Lille, France. Pamela sees this as an excellent opportunity to meet other artists and widen her audience. Drawing on influences from wild landscapes, fairy stories and Japanese art her work aims to draw viewers into a fantasy to escape the everyday. Preparation is well underway including new prints and brushing up on some French!

For more updates and information about Pamela's work can be found on her Facebook page and Instagram by searching @pamelagloverart



Fur Baby Portraits



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Beeston u3a brings together retired and partly retired people and those no longer involved in raising a family. Our members are usually looking to meet new friends in the community, stay active, keep learning and having fun.

The u3a was first launched in the UK in 1982 and this year all 1000+ nationwide groups are celebrating the 40th anniversary.

Beeston u3a, which started ten plus years ago, is a particularly active and vibrant group. It now has 950+ members and nearly 100 interest groups, which meet regularly. Our Groups span everything from Board Games to talks on History and Science, Walking and Sports Activities, Crafts, Languages, Dance and Music making, Lunch and Theatre Groups, Writing, Reading and Wine/Beer tasting, along with many others.

The Beeston u3a team enjoyed meeting people at the Publicity stall we set up in Beeston Square in September. Lots of our existing members popped by to say hello and we enjoyed chatting to visitors and signing up many new members.

If you'd like to find out more about our activities please visit our website www.beestonu3a.org.uk or you'd be very welcome to come to one of our monthly Open Meetings, at Beeston Methodist Church on Chilwell Road, at 10am on the first Thursday of every month.

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Celebrate their fifth fulfilling year...

Children around the world are struggling with anxiety and their overall physical and mental well-being, and Freedom Foundation has succeeded in its aim to tackle rising mental health issues among young people across Nottinghamshire.

Nottingham based social enterprise Freedom Foundation has been at the forefront of the East Midlands' battle with bettering the mental health of young people, building partnerships with schools, Nottingham City Council, Nottingham County Council, Nottinghamshire Police, and many more.

The organisation was set up by two single working mums, Laura Grant, and Stacey Green, both 47, with a vision to help people. Co-founder Laura Grant emphasises how the foundation's work is more important now than ever before.

"Five years on we've remained core to our vision-to support children and young people's mental and physical well-being, and upon our fifth year we have no plans to stop.

"We are working on expanding our programmes to include University settings, and we now employ 8 full time staff and over 50 contractors within our own office in Nottingham's Antenna building. This is just the beginning for us."

Freedom Foundation has reached 3635 young people ages between 2 and 25 since the organisation's creation, delivering a total of 121 programmes, with the Holiday and Food Provision Programme at Forest alone reaching 1000 children.

The importance of the organisation's work is emphasised by Young Minds' research showing that in the UK today, an estimated five children in every classroom has a mental health problem.

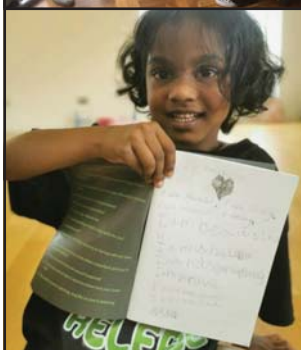
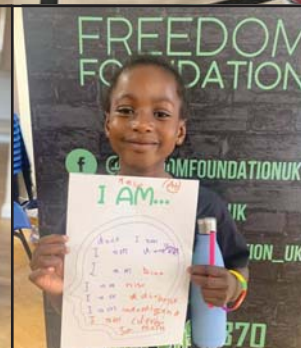
The charity also reports that 1 in 6 children aged 5 to 16 were identified as having a probable mental health problem in July 2020, with social media playing a huge part in this.

Freedom Foundation has successfully worked to alleviate the anxieties of young people surrounding social media, with 87% saying that the HAF Release Clubs helped to increase their confidence, and 88% saying the Motivational Mornings Programme helped them to understand more about being safe online.

Since the start of September 2022, 186 children have been reached in schools across the county and 9 different projects have been carried out, including in SEND schools.

The company's incredible work is only set to get better, as the highly popular Food Provision Release Clubs will benefit children in Cotgrave, Hucknall, Clipstone, Forest, and Bestwood.

For more information on the impactful work being carried out by Freedom Foundation, visit FreedomFoundationUK.org, or email laura.grant@freedomfoundationuk.org.



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10 Jobs for Garden Improvements

Home sellers hoping for a quick sale are being told of ten simple garden improvements to make their home more attractive to buyers. Tips include repainting fences, staging the space and clearing up any stubborn weeds. Full release below.

Simple garden improvements to make your home easier to sell

Homeowners are being offered ten simple garden improvements to help get their home off the market. The outdoor experts at have revealed ten top tips to help those who are unsure of how to spruce up their outdoor space when putting their home up for sale.

As the housing market currently faces buyer difficulties, transforming an outdoor space is one of the most effective ways to make a house stand out from the rest of the competition. There are various ways to spruce up a garden, from simple jobs such as clearing up weeds and debris, to putting in the work by adding a patio space which can greatly boost the value of a home. A spokesperson for said: "Updating your outdoor space to fit what a buyer is looking for can be a tricky task if not thought out carefully. "With the state of the housing market leaving sellers in a slight state of panic, it's important to explore different ways to update your outdoor living space and make your home stand out for potential buyers." Simple tasks such as cutting the grass down to two and a half inches, as well as giving the fence a fresh coat of paint, can transform your garden into a buyer's dream." Here are the handy garden improvements by to help make your home more attractive and sell quicker:

1. Clear up the weeds

Start by digging up the weeds that may have been left to overgrow while the rainy weather has taken over. Mulch is also a great way to control excessive weed growth and, if applied correctly to overgrown areas, it can instantly improve the look of a garden.

2. Mow the grass

This is a simple task which can often get overlooked, but it's vital to make sure the garden has a clean appearance to attract potential buyers. If the grass is neat and cut down to around two and a half inches, then it shows that the space is well maintained and means less work for the new owner to put up with.

3. Tidy up the space

First impressions always count and if your outdoor space is full of broken chairs or litter scattered around the garden, it could quite easily put people off from buying the property. To make the space tidier, make sure to clean up any excess debris, rake fallen leaves and trim the hedges.

continue...



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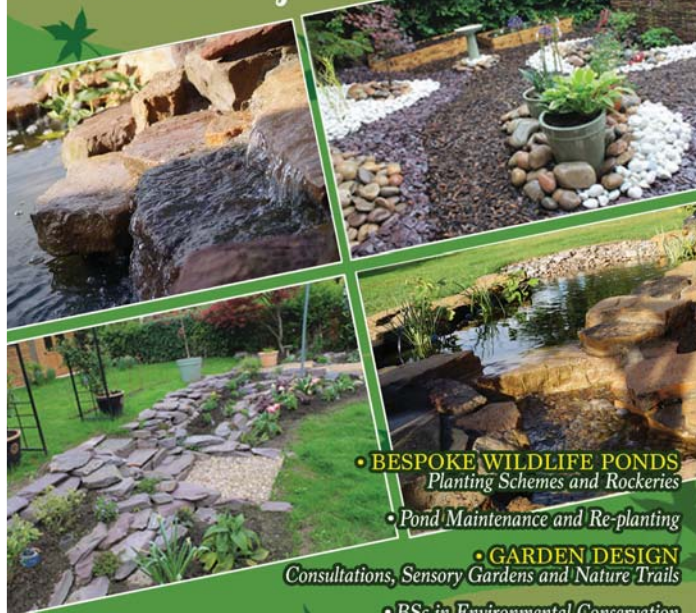
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4. Complete unfinished work

When people are coming to visit the property, unfinished work can stick out like a sore thumb. Make sure there's no rusty nails sticking out of the garden shed or, if an outdoor building is incomplete, get on top of repairing it before putting your home on the market. Buyers won't want to inherit the projects you didn't finish!

5. Dress up outdoor furniture

Having outdoor furniture is typically a must-need for outdoor lovers who want to make the most of relaxing in their back garden. To improve any existing furniture, add some pillows to brighten up the space. If the furniture is worn out, either hide the unpleasant seating areas with a lightweight blanket or replace the guilty furniture entirely.

6. Add a standout feature

If you're selling a space, you want to make sure it leaves a lasting impression on the people looking to buy the property. Having a standout feature such as a water fountain or a

cobblestone sculpture can not only enhance a garden's appearance, but it can also help people visualise how the space might look with their own ideas.

7. Minimalistic decorations

Simplicity is key to refining an outdoor area and decorating the area with a minimalistic aesthetic can help create a clean canvas for potential buyers. This will let them picture how they want to use and adapt the garden space. Using neutral colours such as greys, blacks and wood tones are best suited to fit this modern theme.

8. Repaint fences

Apply a fresh coat of matte black paint to your fence to enhance a modern look in the garden. You could take this further by placing some fairy lights around the fences to create a cosy atmosphere and add a homely touch to the outdoor area. Buyers will feel the cosiness themselves and want to spend more time there.

9. Add a patio space

Having an outdoor entertainment area can instantly boost the value of your home as potential buyers can view how the space can work for all types of occasions. It can be used all year round, from soaking up the sun during summer to gathering around a firepit to roast marshmallows or enjoy a few drinks in winter.

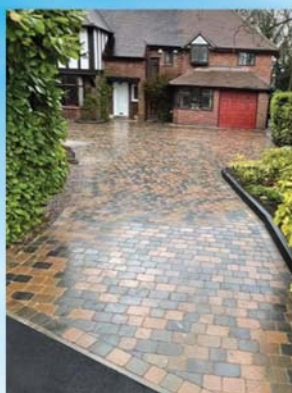
10. Stage the stylish space

Get the garden prepped and ready to showcase to people looking to buy the property. Having the area staged will help to highlight its best features which can help to attract buyers, as having an unfinished garden can sway people away due to the fear of high maintenance costs. Set it up so it looks like you're just about to host a party or soiree.

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A large and extremely appreciative audience enjoyed an afternoon of a rich mixture of music at a concert at the Nottingham Albert Hall last month to celebrate Bestwood Male Voice Choir's Platinum anniversary.

Special guest, the young Nottingham musician Jeneba Kanneh-Mason enthralled the audience with her superb renditions of pieces by Shostakovich, Mendelssohn and Chopin on the grand piano, attracting a number of standing ovations.

Bestwood MVC, under their Musical Director Mirek Rus, were joined for this special occasion by Carlton MVC, under their Musical Director Ian Watts and Mansfield and District MVC under their Musical Director Ian Grice. Although each choir sang a number of pieces on their own, the choirs also joined together to form a massed choir to sing several songs including 'African Trilogy', 'What would I do without my music', 'The wonder of you' and 'Viva la vida'.

As if that were not enough, the concert also included David Butterworth playing Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance No.4 on the famous Binns Organ, as well as accompanying the choirs on a number of pieces. The audience included several dignitaries, including The Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Cllr Wendy Smith, Deputy Mayor of Gedling, Cllr Julie Najuk, Cllr Christopher Barnfather and Mrs Wendy Start OBE, DL.

The concert, supporting Prostate Cancer UK, was compered by Rajiv Hasan, voice actor, impressionist and award-winning hospital radio presenter.



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Harlequin Choir

Finding Wamth this Winter

Beeston Methodist Church in Chilwell Road has launched a warm space project to help people struggling to heat their homes this winter because of rising energy costs.

Church members are running weekly sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in the Epworth Room, where anyone is assured of a warm welcome, hot drinks, a cup of soup and friendly conversation.

The scheme - started on November 15th - is liaising closely with other organisations and faith groups offering warm spaces in the area.

Anyone wanting further information can ring the church office on 0115 9431164.

HARLEQUIN TO PRESENT AUTUMN CONCERT AT BEESTON METHODIST CHURCH

Harlequin was formed in September 2008 when a group of friends, all experienced singers, decided to join together purely for the enjoyment of choral music-making. Fourteen years on, the membership of the choir may have changed significantly, but the fun still remains. The singers now possess a wide repertoire ranging from Tudor times and madrigals to modern classics, folk and pop songs and arrangements.

Under music director Andy Kettlewell the choir has developed a reputation for the quality and variety of music performed, and has established itself with concerts throughout the East Midlands and as far away as Yorkshire and Shropshire.

Harlequin has performed several times over the years at Beeston Methodist Church (and at Chilwell Road Methodist Church before that) and is familiar with the fine acoustics and the environment which the church provides.

The choir is delighted to be returning to Beeston Methodist Church on Saturday, November 19th to present an autumn concert in support of the plans to redevelop the premises.

The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are available in advance at £6 from the church office on 9431164 or from Glenda and Andy Taylor on 9135571. Tickets can also be bought on the door at £8.





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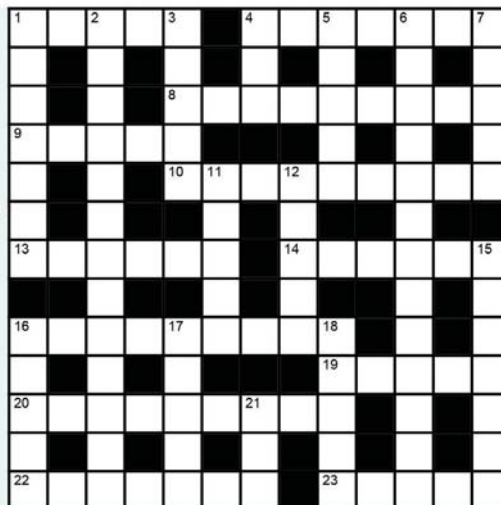
CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Ten-tentacled sea creature (5)
- 4 Helps (7)
- 8 Funds of a government (9)
- 9 Removes the rind from (5)
- 10 Craft used outside the Earth's atmosphere (9)
- 13 Beams of light (6)
- 14 Rectifies, redresses (6)
- 16 Pupa (9)
- 19 Covers the surface of (5)
- 20 Italian word for a woman loved or loving (9)
- 22 Gift (7)
- 23 Quiet (5)

Down

- 1 Exceed (7)
- 2 Framework that serves as a support for the body of a vehicle (13)
- 3 Clothing (5)
- 4 Joan of ____, French heroine (3)
- 5 Root vegetable (5)
- 6 Tropical arm of the Pacific Ocean subject to frequent typhoons (5,5,3)
- 7 Oddment (5)
- 11 Civil or military authority in Turkey (5)
- 12 Welsh breed of dog (5)
- 15 Highly seasoned meat stuffed in a casing (7)
- 16 Intelligent ape of equatorial African forests (abbr) (5)
- 17 Retail establishment (5)
- 18 Scallywag (5)
- 21 Prowess (3)



WORDSEARCH

'END' AT THE END

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.



- | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|
| ATTEND | EXTEND | SUSPEND |
| BEFRIEND | FIEND | TRANSCEND |
| CONTEND | GODSEND | TREND |
| DEPEND | INTEND | UNBEND |
| DESCEND | LEGEND | UPEND |
| DIVIDEND | PRETEND | WEND |





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