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Sherwood Forest



Wollaton Park



Go Ape

The blossoms are blooming, the days are getting longer and the weather slowly but surely is getting warmer! That can only mean one thing, Spring is well and truly here!

Now is the perfect time to start getting back outdoors and enjoying some of the amazing green spaces Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have to offer!

No trip would be complete without a visit to the famous Sherwood Forest, however there are loads of other outdoor activities to pick from! If you fancy something a little more up and at 'em, there's plenty of adventure sports for visitors. And, of course Nottingham is the home of great sporting atmospheres, with more spectator sports than you can shake a stick at!

So be sure to start making the best of the lovely springtime weather and Nottinghamshire's world class green spaces, you won't regret it! Visit www.visit-nottinghamshire.co.uk for more ideas

Experience the legendary Robin Hood country with a high wire forest adventure course which takes you over 30 zip slides, scramble nets and rope bridges. Venture to Sherwood Pines and you'll find a Go Ape activity that's one of the best and most popular in the country.

If you fancy trying something a little different, within Sherwood Forest you can try your hand at mud buggies, 4x4 driving, assault courses, clay pigeon shooting, quad biking, paintball, team building events and of course archery in the home of Robin Hood.

At the Woodland Adventure Zone you can enjoy the zipline, climbing, abseiling, bushcraft, walks and so much more! This amazing venue also caters for people of all ages and abilities, with access for wheelchair users and people with disabilities. Set amongst acres of pine trees in Sherwood Forest, it is a truly unique setting for your outdoor adventure.

In the heart of Nottingham City Centre, you can try your hand at the sport of axe throwing! Axed are in found The Cornerhouse, and promise an off the wall axe throwing experience.

Over at Rufford Abbey, you can spend a whole day enjoying trying different sports. Pick up a bow and arrow at Rufford Abbey Activity Centre for a fun experience, which is all about giving people the chance to try archery in a safe environment. Try and hit the bullseye before moving onto the boating lake, adventure golf, walks, the play area and more! With excellent equipment and facilitated by skilled coaches, you are sure to have a wonderful time. They also offer tours, a cafe and tea room, ice-cream parlor and a pizza van to keep you fuelled up and entertained for the whole day!

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Nottingham's under tens amongst the first in the world to take the wheel of new electric cars...

- Driving lessons in the scaled-down EV sports car launch at Nottingham – specifically for 4-10 year olds
- Car aims to enthuse new generation of drivers about road safety and the growing importance of EVs

Nottingham will be one of the first locations in the world where drivers can get behind the wheel of an exciting new British-made electric vehicle.

But in a twist, the car is only for four to ten year olds. The all-electric Firefly Sport is packed full of British innovation and whilst it's designed to be educational, it has also been engineered to let youngsters experience some of the thrill of being in control of a vehicle.

Now four to ten year olds in the Nottingham area can try out the brand new Firefly Sport at Young Driver's Clifton South Tram Park and Ride venue. Lessons in the fully-fledged, scaled-down EV will begin on 30th April, taking place on selected weekend dates and costing just £20. The Firefly Sport, which debuted its prototype at the British Motor Show last year, is also available to purchase by private owners for £11,500.

A sister company to Young Driver – which specialises in driving lessons and experiences for those not yet of a legal driving age – Young Driver Motor Cars (YDMC) is producing the 2.1 metre-long car at a workshop in the Midlands, with a team of experts who have previously worked on brands including JLR, MG, Aston Martin, Rover and BMW. The car, which can also accommodate adult drivers or passengers, will use only UK-sourced components for series-build cars making Firefly Sport the country's first all-British EV.

Firefly Sport's speeds will be kept below 10mph for young drivers – fast enough to excite a youngster but controllable enough not to worry the adults! However, Firefly Sport also has a remote cut-off facility with a 200-metre range, as well as an automatic cut-off if it senses obstacles in its path, making it ultra-safe for first-time drivers.

Ian Mulingani, YDMC's managing director, commented: "It's hoped the car will help educate youngsters about road safety and how future motor vehicles can be an environmental force for good – as well as being a lot of fun! It's designed to be straightforward and unintimidating, but being electric and looking like a junior supercar, it also aligns with the type of vehicle that children hope to drive when they pass their test. Having seen how young people respond behind the wheel, we can't wait to let the youngsters of Nottingham give it a go. It's all helping in our mission to create a next generation of safe, responsible motorists – as well as putting smiles on faces!"

To find out more, purchase a driving lesson or to enquire about purchasing a Firefly Sport go to: www.youngdriver.com



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Having retained much of its original character and charm that has been thoughtfully combined with good quality modern fixtures and fittings throughout, this stylish and well proportioned property will appeal to a variety of potential purchasers but is considered ideal for a family looking for larger accommodation.

In brief, the contemporary and generous interior comprises: Entrance hallway, open plan kitchen/diner with feature Velux windows and bi-fold doors, snug, office, WC, utility, sitting room and dining room. Rising to the first floor is a master ensuite bedroom, three further good sized bedrooms one of which also has an en-suite and a family bathroom.

The property occupies a generous plot with a driveway to the front providing ample car standing with the integral garage beyond and a mature garden with shrubs and trees. To the rear the property has an enclosed and private garden with lawn, seating area and stocked borders.

Having been well maintained and upgraded by the current vendors, the property is ideally situated for easy access to the centres of Beeston and Nottingham, the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham University and the M1.

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beeston film festival

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Beeston Film Festival 2023 - What a blast!

By Sam Kurd

Another Beeston Film Festival has come and gone, our 9th year of bringing the best short films and music videos from around the world to Beeston's doorstep. Another weekend of highs and lows, laughter and tears, popcorn and flickering screens.

And what a weekend it was! The atmosphere was buzzing and the screenings were packed. We were honoured to play host to several of the film-makers whose work was being shown, and the positive feedback has been flooding in since!

This year saw the return of our East Midlands Focus, a showcase of some of the best films our region's home-grown talent has to offer, along with workshops and Q&As about film-making in general. And of course there was our glamorous B'Oscar Awards Ceremony, the gala event in which we presented trophies to the films that our esteemed jury had chosen as the best of the best. This year's B'Oscars went to:



Best Music: We Are The Night by PROGedia

Best Student Film: Pirouette

Best Script: Man to Man

Best Science Fiction Film: That's Our Time

Best Pride Film: Magma

Best Horror Film: Shiny New World

Best Crime Film: The Gambler

Best Animated Film: The Sprayer

Best Children's Joy Film: Free

Best Soundtrack & Sound Design: Suburban Fantasy

Best Drama Film: Voices

Best Cinematography: Mergen

Best Non-Fiction Film: Joy Uncensored

Best Comedy Film: Non-Negotiable

Best Performance: Lou Bennet in Women of Virtue

Best East Midlands Film: Fifty-Four Days

Best Direction: Stéphanie Halfon for Women of Virtue

Best Women's Voices Film: A tie! My Eyes Are Up Here and Hello, Muscles

Best in Festival: My Eyes Are Up Here

Keen-eyed readers will see a few familiar titles from being showcased in past articles in this very magazine! I know how to pick em!

If you attended the festival this year then thank you, and we hope you had an amazing time. We're proud that we're able to put on a great show for everyone and to support film-makers both local and international year after year.

Next year's festival will see some very interesting developments as we expand our remit to include... ah, but that'll have to wait for another time.

Watch this space!





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- More than 40 scientists to appear in Nottingham and Beeston watering holes, as the world's largest festival of public science talks arrives in Nottinghamshire
- Nottingham's to join hundreds of cities around the world who will be taking part in this global festival from 19th-24 May
- Tickets on sale at pintofscience.co.uk/events/Nottingham

From the 19th-24th May Pint of Science festival will bring scientists and their research out of the lab and into pubs near you. The festival has grown astronomically since its inception, and 2023 will see its tenth anniversary with events in over 25 countries and hundreds of cities around the world. The festival aims to showcase the brilliant work of scientist at both the local universities and industries that happening right on our doorsteps. Each night will provide a unique line up of talks, interactive activities and demonstrations held in a relaxed and informal environment. Events provide a platform for researchers to share their stories, and audiences an opportunity to ask their questions about science to those directly behind it. Expect talks on Young onset Dementia, Beer, Chocolate, Elephants and spiders.

Previous years all events have been hosted in Nottingham city but this year we are expanding to hold two of the six events in Beeston at the Beeston Social and The Lounge Restaurant and Bar. **Tickets are available from the Pint of Science website (pintofscience.co.uk), costing just £5 each.**

Following a resounding success at last's years festival, this year Nottingham's Creative Reaction events are bigger and better than ever before. Creative reactions is a programme where artist and scientist collaborate to inspire each other and produce incredible artworks inspired by the scientist research. This year creative reactions will be holding an Opening night performance, a free exhibition open throughout the weekend and three workshops that inspire children to get creative while discovering science. (*Workshops are free but require tickets*)

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funtopia the big day out

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Funtopia, 'The BIG Day Out for Little Kids' is coming to Long Eaton for the first time ever this May!

Funtopia is a fantastic fun-packed Children's Festival which is specifically designed for under 10's. Filled with role play areas, sumo suits, huge water fights, stage shows, giant inflatable games, character meet and greets, under 5's area, high energy inflatables and more! The Children's Festival has several new attractions this summer, which include:

- 'The Baby Zone' where the tiniest of visitors can learn and play
- Giant 110ft Obstacle Course (where both kids and grown ups can compete!)
- 'The Fun-Farm' a new Role Play Area where kids can run their own farm
- Stage Shows – The new stage features shows, parties and workshops throughout the day

Funtopia is All-Inclusive! All of the activities and games are included in the price of your entry. *Please note: some activities have height/age restrictions attached.*

The 2023 Summer Tour runs from April-August. The Tour shall be visiting West Park on Sunday 28th May and Wednesday 23rd August. The Funtopia Tour consists of over 60 dates between April-August. Funtopia is open daily 11:30am-5:30pm.

Full tour dates can be viewed on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/funtopiauk

After trialling Funtopia's new Autism Friendly Sessions last year, they received a positively overwhelming response. The 2023 Tour shall now feature an Autism Friendly Session at the start of EVERY Funtopia! The Autism Friendly Sessions take place 10:30am-11:30am daily. Numbers are limited and tickets can be purchased in advance via Eventbrite (<https://funtopiauk.eventbrite.com>)

With the ever-increasing costs of living, Funtopia has decided to keep the 2022 ticket prices for this summer! "Providing families with a very reasonably priced day out has always been one of our top priorities. This year we believe that it is even more important to offer all families the opportunity to enjoy a day out together" - Sarah Green, Funtopia Director. "We know how hard it can be for families to afford a day out. Most of the time the costs don't end at the entrance either, with rides, prize stalls and food sometimes costing more than the entrance fee! Therefore, this year we have decided not to feature any additional pay-per-go rides or game stalls. Once you have paid to enter Funtopia, all the activities are included in the price. For only £10 per child, visitors can enjoy a full day of fun!"

"We're pleased to be offering our popular Autism Friendly Sessions at every Funtopia this year" - Sam Harrison, Event Manager. "These sessions are specifically designed to allow children with autism the opportunity to visit Funtopia in a more relaxed and suitable setting. We've found that these children can often be forgotten and don't always get the opportunity to visit events. We hope that they will be popular with the local community".

Delicious snacks and meals are on offer throughout the day at the Fun-Food Court, which offers good food at a great price! Visitors are also welcome to bring their own food and picnics if they prefer.

All tickets are purchased on the gate (Autism Friendly Sessions can be booked online), there's no need to pre-book. Sales open at 10am every event day. Tickets are priced at:

MAIN SESSION: Under 90cm FREE Over 90cm £10 Adults £2.50

AUTISM FRIENDLY SESSION: Under 90cm FREE Over 90cm £5 Adults £2.50

Visitors can find out more about Funtopia by visiting the Facebook page www.facebook.com/funtopiauk Funtopia shall be held at West Park, Wilsthorpe Road, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4AA Event dates: Sunday 28th May and Wednesday 23rd August 2023

Autism Friendly Session
10:30am-11:30am

Main Event
11:30am-5:30pm

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SINCE
2002

New website heralded 'An Aladdin's cave for archaeologists, researchers and students', launched in Notts

Nottinghamshire County Council has launched a new Historic Environment Record (HER) website dedicated to thousands of historic sites in Nottinghamshire.

The new website, <https://her.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>, provides access to an expansive database of heritage sites, earthworks, historic buildings, and archaeological finds that make up the rich and varied historic environment of the county.

Features from the 25,000 data entries range from single chance finds, such as Roman coins, to large sites such as WWII airfields. The site contains records of designated heritage assets such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens, as well as undesignated ones such as other historic buildings and structures, archaeological sites and historic landscapes. Thousands of records are waiting to be discovered, including one of Nottinghamshire's smallest Roman forts at Scaftworth and a brand-new high-resolution laser scan of Sherwood Forest.

Using the search tools and mapping window, visitors to the website are encouraged to explore the range of sources available. This includes George Sanderson's 1835 Map of The Country Twenty Miles Around Mansfield, along with aerial satellite map, OS map, and two high-resolution lidar models. Surveys and excavation reports, plans, publications and collection of air and ground photographs are also online to explore.

Mark Walker, the County Council's Interim Service Director for Place and Communities said: "The Historic Environment Record website is an Aladdin's cave for archaeologists, researchers, students, schools and local groups wanting to find out more about the history of their local area.

"The website will be regularly updated with news on exciting archaeological and historic building projects taking place in the county along with discoveries, photos, volunteer opportunities, and stories that help to connect people to the place where they live."

"We hope people are inspired to find out more and enjoy delving into the fascinating history of our wonderful county.

"The website is not a replacement for official planning or commercial searches. These must still be conducted through the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record office."



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The gardening experts at have put together the must-do gardening jobs to help get outside space ready for late Spring and Summer.

The tasks include giving the lawn some care after the chilly months, protecting tender plants from any late frosts and adding mulch to flower beds.

For those growing their own fruit and vegetables, April is the month to plant early tomatoes, plant perennials and scented plants like lavender.

Chris Bonnett, founder of said: "April is a great month for gardening, the outdoors really starts to come to life as the Spring blooms appear, adding colour to the garden.

"It's also the perfect time to get the garden ready for the Summer especially if you plan to be hosting in your outdoor space - remember to repair your lawn and mulch any borders.

"If you enjoy growing your own vegetables then now is the time to plant tomatoes but keep an eye on the weather where you live and wait for any cold snaps to end as these will do better in warmer conditions."

continued...



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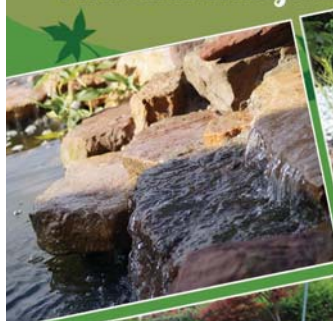
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10 gardening jobs for this month:

1. Repair the lawn

Winter weather can damage the lawn and April is the time to repair it. If you haven't given the lawn its first cut, now's the time to do it but keep the mowing height on the high side. For any bare patches, either re-turf or sow lawn seed.

2. Late frost protection

There can be the odd late frost in April, so remember to protect tender plants. This may mean wrapping them up in their winter fleece and moving (potted plants) to sunnier spots in the garden.

3. Keep an eye on the weeds

Weeds make their return during the Spring so keep an eye on these over the coming weeks. Remove the weeds by either digging them up or try creating a homemade weed killer with baking soda.

4. Clear the patio

You'll want to clear the patio in case we get the occasional sunny spell throughout April. Use a water pressure to lift tough stains and dirt. Alternatively fill a bucket with some warm water and soap, pour onto the patio and begin scrubbing with a stiff broom.

5. Plant chives

Try planting chives and other herbs and letting them germinate on a sunny window sill or in the greenhouse. Take care though to sow them sparingly, thinning them out if they become overcrowded.

6. Mulch borders

Mulching soil saves water, improves it, and most importantly, suppresses weeds. April is the best time to apply it, as the unpredictable weather means it traps moisture from rain but stops beds from drying out in the sun.

7. Plant tomatoes

Plant tomatoes in a sunny spot or in the greenhouse. You can start them off from seed and plant them out once they're around 15cm tall. Do keep an eye on the conditions and introduce them to outside temperatures slowly. They thrive in warmer weather.

8. Bird feeders

Bird feeders normally take about two to four weeks to become inhabited by birds and can make a lovely feature in the garden. Get set up now for lots of summer visits from feathered friends.

9. Plant lavender

The ground is warm enough in April for new lavender plants to flourish. Starting with a healthy plant with a pre-developed root system will help as well as planting one to three feet apart depending on the variety.

10. Plant perennials

Like Lavender, April is the best time to plant perennials due to the ground being moist enough for them to flourish. Planting now should see them bloom in a few months.

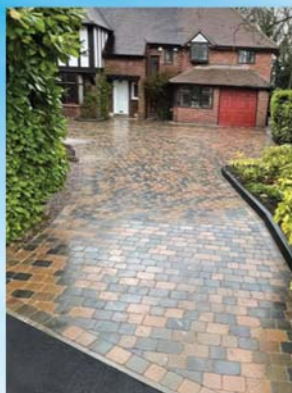
For more monthly gardening jobs visit Gardening Express' care guide.



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Music for Everyone (MfE), the Nottingham-based independent educational charity, celebrates an amazing 40 years of making and performing music in July 2023.



Angela Kay

What began in 1983, with Angela Kay MBE, as the Nottingham Choral Trust, to promote weekend choral courses and concerts for singers from all walks of life, has grown into Music for Everyone, an organisation with eleven performing groups, both adult and youth, choral and instrumental, involving over one thousand participants. "It is quite astonishing what has and is still being achieved," says John Hess, Chairman of MfE's Trustees. "Our numbers of participants and different groups are growing as people recognise the value of music in their lives. We believe music participation should be on social prescription."

MfE - Making a Difference

Donna Fox, who joined MfE last year as its Director said: "We are committed to making a difference to people's lives through the creativity and enjoyment of music. MfE is an open, welcoming, inclusive and collaborative organisation and we build a sense of community and belonging through the high quality music and concerts provided for participants and audiences."

MfE also works throughout the year developing education programmes with local schools. Additionally it has an auditioned Nottingham Chamber Choir which performs regularly in Nottinghamshire.

The regular vocal, orchestral and open voices groups operate across the city and county from Hucknall, to Beeston, Sherwood, Wollaton and West Bridgford and in Loughborough. Recent additions have been the Lullaby Bank for mothers and babies and new steel pan and drumming groups.

As well as having a small and dedicated staff, MfE has over 400 subscribing members who regularly take part in core parts of its programme, 200 friends who support the organisation within their communities and through financial assistance and about 200 volunteers who do a huge range of work for the organisation from running vital parts of the programme to assisting at events.

The 40th anniversary is already underway with a series of events and new music initiatives which will culminate in A Musical Celebration on Sunday 2 July at the Albert Hall, Nottingham. This will feature MfE's Daytime Voices, the Nottingham Festival Chorus, with the Daytime Orchestra and Afternoon music singing groups.... and Birthday cake of course. Also there will be surprise special guests. The 40th anniversary season has recently been awarded over £25,000 by The Arts Council.

MfE cannot operate without the considerable help and input of its members, volunteers, supporters and partners such as Inspire, the Nottinghamshire Music Hub, Nottingham Trent University and significant financial contributions from Bookwise through its three Nottinghamshire-based charity book shops.

Becoming A Member

If you would like to learn more of how to become a singing/playing Member or supporter please see the Music for Everyone web-site at www.music-for-everyone.org. MfE has its offices at 10 Goose Gate in Nottingham's Cultural Quarter.



Donna Fox



John Hess



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The May meeting of the Wollaton Natural History Society will take place on Wednesday, 17th May at 7.30pm.

The Talk is entitled 'Tanzania' by Peter Jones and Susan Wilson of Wildwatch Tours. The renowned photographer and naturalist takes us to Tanzania to see the big game.

We meet at St. Leonard's Community Centre, Bramcote Lane, Wollaton (opposite the library) NG8 2ND at 7.30pm. Free to members, visitors welcome £3 on the door. For more information visit our website www.spanglefish.com/WollatonNaturalHistory Find us on Facebook or telephone our Chairman Nigel Downes on 0115 9444671.

Rotary Club of Church Wilne, Opens an invitation to the "Coronation Tea Dance".

The Rotary Club of Church Wilne are inviting Senior Citizen's living in Borrowwash, Breaston, Draycott or Ockbrook to this year's Coronation Tea Dance. The event is FREE, being paid for with funds from the Santa Collations. If you, or someone you know would benefit from an afternoon out with likeminded people please get in touch.

Church Wilne Rotary, c/o 26 Station Road, Draycott Derbyshire DE72 3QB Tel: 01332 875350

The Coronation Tea Dance will be held on Saturday, 3rd June, from 12:00 to 16:00. at Spondon Village Hall, Sitwell St, Spondon, Derby DE21 7FG.

For more information about our club and its activities or you can email the Secretary at: rccw1200@gmail.com

Or visit our website at - <https://www.churchwilnerotary.org.uk/index.html>

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- Some masking fluid or 50p for a small amount of mine.
- An old brush or plastic applicator for the masking fluid - it will gum up any brush you use.
- A couple of cotton buds.
- A clean, old cotton cloth to rub the masking fluid off if you don't want to use your hands.
- Some watercolour paper of your choice - preferably stretched ready on a board or pre-gummed pad. Stretched paper can expand and contract with water whilst also drying out again flat - ready and easy to work on. You can use a pad of paper, but it just may buckle a little.
- A hair dryer to speed up the drying process.
- I will supply some china and fabric items for still life - but you could also bring any still life items you wish to paint that are colourful (contrasting or harmonious colour palettes) including fabrics and papers, fruit and flowers.

Claire's website: www.claireleggett.co.uk

To book please contact the Bookings Secretary:

Janet Waters. Email: janetwaters32@gmail.com. To become a Member of the Spotted Dog Art Group it is only £15 for the year. For further information contact: Gwynneth Johnson (Membership Secretary). Email: gwynneth2011@hotmail.co.uk. Website: www.spotteddogart.org.uk Facebook: SD Art Group Nottingham.

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Spring Sale / Spring Clean...

With the weather starting to look a little better our sights turn to summer, those sunny evenings and weekends and bike rides along the canal or to work or just keeping fit in the great outdoors.

Now is a great time to pull the bike out and give it a spruce up ready to enjoy again. **The Bike Lounge on Wollaton Road, Beeston** have now been open three years and have found that a lot of people wait until it's a sunny day before discovering their bike has a flat tyre or has gone rusty over winter and then longer lead times cause people to miss out on enjoying those sunny bike rides.

They're urging everyone to get their bikes out now and give them a check over and take them down for an inspection now to not only give you a faster turnaround but also ensure you don't miss out on those early summer sunny rides.

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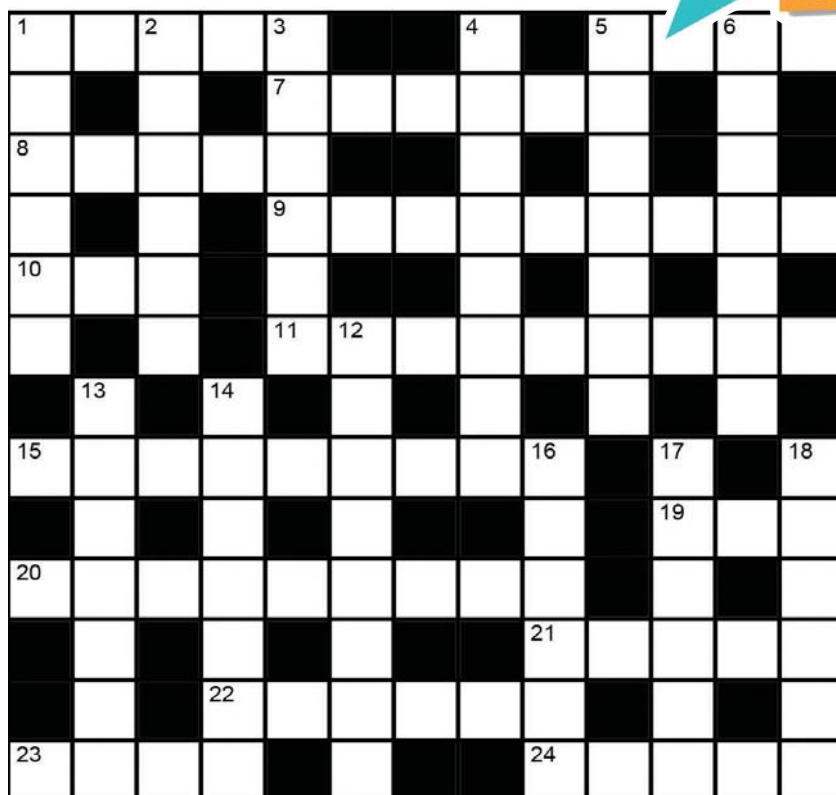
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breeze puzzle

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CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Garden bush (5)
- 5 Thin strip of wood or metal (4)
- 7 Old Testament book (6)
- 8 Public announcement of a proposed marriage (5)
- 9 Infectious liver disease (9)
- 10 Shortened forename of US president Lincoln (3)
- 11 Boundary (9)
- 15 Roomy (9)
- 19 Astern (3)
- 20 Tool used to press clothes (5,4)
- 21 Japanese dish (5)
- 22 Type of cloth (6)
- 23 Attention (4)
- 24 Piece of poetry (5)

Down

- 1 Underground passage (6)
- 2 Sprinter (6)
- 3 Chess piece (6)
- 4 Italian sponge cake, coffee and brandy dessert (8)
- 5 Wither, especially due to loss of moisture (7)
- 6 Fan, supporter (7)
- 12 Entitled, qualified (8)
- 13 Musical setting for a religious text (7)
- 14 Counterweight (7)
- 16 Detection device (6)
- 17 Quaggy (6)
- 18 Tap forcefully (6)



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