Dudley Council says it is taking action to stop children being sexually exploited after a police report revealed gangs similar to those in Rotherham operate in the Black Country. The heavily-edited findings reveal there are ‘significant similarities’ between child sex abuse here and the scandal in Yorkshire.

Dudley town centre, Lye and Brierley Hill were highlighted as at-risk areas in the borough. The findings are revealed in a West Midlands Police report entitled Child Sexual Exploitation, which was produced in October but has only now been made public.

The 125-page report was released by West Midlands Police after a Freedom of Information request. Large sections of information have been redacted—blacked out —including a map showing where there have been ‘high concentrations’ of incidents in Dudley.

Dudley Council says a new ‘shared regional approach’ was now making it easier to tackle child sexual exploitation.

Identify

Tony Oakman, the council’s strategic director for people, said: “This is designed to ensure everyone is working in the same way and is able to share necessary information to identify children at risk as well as offenders.

“We’re currently establishing a dedicated child sexual exploitation team and also planning a multi-agency safeguarding hub for the borough which will work with our partners in order to identify children at risk as early as possible.”

“Through our regional awareness campaign, See Me, Hear Me, we have been increasing people’s understanding of child sexual exploitation and how to spot the warning signs.”

Between January and June last year, 210 children were identified by councils as having been sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation. The report compares the situation to that in Rotherham, where at least 1,400 children were identified by councils as having been ‘sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation’.

It states: “There are significant similarities to the Rotherham victim-offender and location profiles. It remains difficult for WM Police to quantify how many child abuse crimes or incidents have actually occurred within the West Midlands.”

Offenders are said to be typically of Pakistani origin, aged 17 to 40, and most victims are white females aged 13 to 18.

“Targeting of victims takes place mainly at children’s homes and schools. Offending typically takes place in private houses or hotels, often under the guise of ‘house’ parties. Offences also take place in parks.”

Other hotspots include Tipton, Smethwick and Rowley Regis.

Staff at the Black Country Living Museum will be recreating the VE Day celebrations of 1945 at the Tipton Road attraction this Saturday.

It was a momentous occasion and VE Day was celebrated up and down the land on May 8, 1945, as the nation marked Victory in Europe.

Seven decades on, the sights, sounds and celebrations of that day will come to life for the milestone 70th anniversary.

And the Black Country Living Museum is among the attractions bringing the past to life to mark the anniversary.

Staff and volunteers at the Tipton Road museum will be leading celebrations, when the war in Europe ended with victory over Nazi Germany, with an airing for Winston Churchill's victory speech and a street party for children at the attraction on Saturday.

Rationing was still in force 70 years ago, and continued for several years afterwards, so visitors will be able to sample such 40s fare as spam fritters from the museum’s chip shop.

Abby Bird, of the museum, said: “The museum will celebrate with laughter, dancing and traditional street celebrations. ‘Living history will help recreate the atmosphere of the day with visitors able to meet ‘Winston Churchill’ and listen to his electrifying Victory Speech.”

Normal admission fees will apply on the day. Places are limited for the street party.

Beacon

Other celebrations taking place in the Black Country include the lighting of a beacon on the Rowley Hills on May 8 at 9.32pm, which people will be able to see from miles around.

The next special events at the museum will be at half-term when the museum runs a range of sports activities from May 23 to 31.
Wedding wrecking cheat sent to jail

A BUSINESSWOMAN who left brides in the lurch by spending more than £30,000 of their money on gambling and a trip to Disney World has been jailed for a year.

Around 100 brides were ‘left high and dry’ by Sarah Cawthorne and her ‘A Little Bit of Bling’ business, which had promised glitzy finishing touches to their big day.

Disgruntled women were so annoyed they set up the ‘Burned Brides’ Facebook page to vent their fury about Cawthorne after they paid for her to prepare their wedding venues.

Cawthorne, of Hickersroldas Lane, Sedgley, was given a 12 month sentence for fraudulent trading at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

It is believed at least 100 brides-to-be throughout the UK were defrauded out of a total of more than £30,000 between July 2013 and September 2013.

Mr Jackson, prosecuting, on behalf of Dudley Trading Standards, said they received the first of ‘an avalanche of complaints’ about A Little Bit of Bling on August 20, 2013.

The complainant had paid upfront for items for her wedding, but despite assurances from Cawthorne, the items did not arrive. When they turned up two days after the wedding, Cawthorne refused a refund.

Mr Jackson said the council and West Midlands Police received complaint, after complaint, after complaint about A Little Bit of Bling. Cawthorne used the wedding money on a trip to Disney World and to fund online gambling.

Mr Mukhtar Uddi, defending, said the 52-year-old mother-of-two was of good character but addicted to gambling ‘which is no less crippling than an addiction to drugs or alcohol’.

Warehouse workers in cigarette theft racket

TWO men who stole more than £30,000 worth of cigarettes from the Black Country warehouse where they worked by stuffing the boxes into their cars have avoided being jailed.

Aaron Fraser, of Willenhall, and Kyle Baker from Sedgley, stole the cigarettes from ABF Blakenmore wholesalers in Willenhall.

But the pair were caught after a stock take revealed large amounts of cigarettes were missing.

Bosses secured CCTV and saw both men taking the goods on two occasions in December 2013 and January 2014.

The two also tested each other about cigarettes they had in their possession and discussed the best way to sell them on.

Fraser, aged 32, of Birmingham Street, Willenhall, and Baker, aged 24, of Richmond Road, Sedgley, were handed suspended prison sentences at Wolverhampton Crown Court after pleading guilty to conspiring to steal from an employer.

Suspicion

The court heard on Friday that suspicion fell upon Fraser after bosses learned that stock was missing from the warehouse.

Philip Brun, prosecuting, said: ‘He accepted he had taken cigarettes but said it was because he had been threatened.’

CCTV footage showed Baker slipping packets of cigarettes between cardboard which he then pretended to be clearing up.

Gurdeep Garcha, defending Baker, said their plan was not ‘partly sophisticated’.

Stephen Cudwaldr, defending Fraser, added: ‘He showed no guile, he was clocked on CCTV.’

Fraser admitted taking cigarettes to the value of £27,000, while Baker pleaded guilty to the theft of £3,000.

The court heard it was possible other people had been involved in the plot as around £15,000 worth of missing cigarettes were still unaccounted for.

Fraser was sentenced to 10-months in prison, suspended for two years, while Baker pleaded guilty to a six-month sentence also suspended for two years.

Fans of musicals will be in for a treat when songs from the world’s most well known shows are performed by a singing group.

The Ellenvale Singers will be joined by Luke Millward to perform Songs From the Shows at Brierley Hill Civic Hall on Wednesday, May 13.

The performances, which starts at 7.30pm, will feature tunes from hit musicals, including South Pacific, Showboat, Mamma Mia and Chicago.

Ann Price, a committee member of the group, said the event will be raising money for The Crystal Gateway in Dudley, which helps those with dementia, as well as the Strike Club located in Brierley Hill.

The group, which meets at St Andrew’s Hall in The Straits, Dudley, has been running for 40 years and has 19 members, including ten of the founding members. Singers come from Dudley, Kingswinford and Sedgley.

Miss Price said she hoped to raise £500 from a raffle on the night and any shortfall would be made up from the group’s funds.

She added: ‘We have worked hard for 12 months and we are all excited about it.’

The group meets every Wednesday at the hall and has held many concerts in aid of charities.

Doors will open for the concert at 7pm.

Woolworths staff among losers due to Euro ruling

THOUSANDS of workers made redundant by the closure of Woolworths have lost a long battle for compensation.

A decision by the European Court of Justice (ECJ) means that 3,200 employ- ees of Woolworths will not receive any money. The decision also affects 1,200 former staff at clothing chain Ethan Austin, which went out of business five years ago.

The workers missed out because they were hand in Woolworths stores em- ploying fewer than 20, whereas their colleagues in larger stores qualified for compensation.

Their union said they were ‘heartbroken’ by an ECJ ruling.

Singers ready to Razzle Dazzle

Road is closing for work on gas pipes

A ROAD will be shut for 12 days while work is done to improve gas lines.

School Lane in Hagley, near Stour- bridge, will close from its junction with the A466 Birmingham Road and Hall Meadow. It will be shut from Friday, May 15.
Gunman who opened fire on another man outside notorious Black Country nightclub has been jailed for 10 years. The victim, who is in his 30s, was sitting in a car which was sprayed with bullets, but miraculously was not injured.

CCTV cameras at the scene captured the short, intense foray in Brierley Hill on film and led to Taniya Beckford being caught.

The incident, of Duchess Road, Ladypool, Birmingham pleased guilty to discharge a firearm with intent to endanger life and was sentenced at Birminghram Crown Court last week.

Police carried out a search of Beckford’s home and discovered a loaded gun with 15 rounds of ammunition.

The weapon was handed over to experts at the National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS) and they found that the Hungarian-made FEG pistol had been used in the shooting on January 26, 2014.

Beckford was arrested in November 2014, charged and remanded in custody.

DI Darren Crutchley, from West Midland Police Serious and Organised Crime Unit said: “The sentence handed down demonstrates how seriously the courts take gun crime. The victim in this case could have been killed.

“We would like to thank our colleagues at NABIS for their work which assisted our case and proved that the gun found at Beckford’s address was the same weapon used in the Pulse shooting.”

Gun crime levels across the West Midlands have fallen over the last decade and we will continue to work hard to keep our communities safe.”

Last year Pulse nightclub in Dudley Road had its licence revoked by an Organised Crime Council after police said it had become a haven for notorious gangsters.

Gunman — Taniya Beckford

Second rally against Britain First’s march

A SECOND rival protest has been announced to counter a demonstration in Dudley by far-right group Britain First.

The Unity Rally will join a group of war veterans under the name of ‘I’m a UK Veteran and not a racist, and proud of it’ in the town on Saturday.

They are countering the planned demonstration being held by Britain First, who say more than 2,000 of their members will protest plans for a new mosque in the town.

Spokesman for the Unity Rally, Jerry Langford, said: “Dudley Unite Against Fascism, supported by Dudley Trades Union Council after police said it had become a haven for notorious gangs.

Spokesman James Turner said: “We have above average birth rates locally and a higher than average transmigrants.

Around Sandwell in the past two years have registered with GP surgeries and across England numbers have gone up by almost one million.

A nurse has been given a suspended sentence and a fine after lying about her qualifications.

Sandra Heanor, 57, of Droitwich, appeared at Dudley Town Court on Tuesday after pleading guilty to making a false statement to a doctor.

She said she had never been a nurse and was, in fact, a carer.

She was given a suspended sentence of 12 months and ordered to pay £200 in costs and £80 in fines.

An army bomb disposal team was called out after an unexploded Second World War hand grenade discovered in a gurn in Rowley Regis.

The incident happened in Newhall Road on Wednesday after a man, Mark Billingham, 21, was digging in the garden and discovered the device buried around 2ft down.

A cordon was set up around the house and street, but the bomb was claimed to detonate and the device was destroyed.

A £1m grant has been secured to help fund the project, which includes demolishing forming buildings on the site, including the main school building, which fronts Tiled House Lane.

There are many things to do, see and drink in the Dudley area.

Headline

Second World War grenade in garden

Onesie walkers help wildlife

The Zoo director Derek Grove (centre) and Esther Conway from 21st Century Tiger with onesie walkers.

There was only one way to raise money for two conservation charities when walkers in colourful outfits descended on Dudley Zoo for a thin trek.

The fundraisers dressed in animal onesies for the annual Dudley Zoo charity event to raise money for the zoo’s conservation projects and 21st Century Tiger, a charity supporting tigers in the wild.

Spokesman Jane Thomas estimated that between 200 and 250 people took part in the event on Saturday with a variety of age groups taking the chance to see the zoo’s exotic animals.

Conservation projects being undertaken by the zoo include the Humboldt penguin, which is listed as vulnerable to extinction by the World Conservation Union. Also the Asiatic lion, which used to roam from southern Europe to Japan, but is now found only in an Indian forest.

Mrs Thomas said she did not know how much was raised as sponsorship money was still coming in.

She added: “It should be thousands, but we don’t know exactly how much yet. It takes a couple of months for people to come back to us.”

It was a great event and there were hundreds of people in fancy dress and in their onesies walking round the zoo.

Quiz and curry night at scout hut

HANDLEY Cricket Club will host a quiz and curry night on Friday, May 15, at Hagley Scout Hut. The bar opens at 7.30pm with the quiz at 8.30pm and it runs until 1am. The venue is £10 per ticket, up to six in a team.

Maypole dancers greet new citizens

SCHOOLCHILDREN were dancing around the maypole to welcome 18 new citizens to Dudley.

A special citizenship ceremony took place today at Peace Hall, Pippins, Old Chad’s Catholic Primary and Cotwall End Primary Schools in Sedgley.

The new citizens, including people from Columbia, Spain, Thailand and China, were asked to swear or affirm an oath of allegiance to the United Kingdom and presented with a certificate of British citizenship.

Man is rescued from burning car

A MAN pulled from a burning car following a smash in Dudley.

The accident happened on a bridge near the junction of Smiths Heath and Coopers Bank Road and it happened just after 4pm on Sunday.

The man, who was in his 50s, was dragged from the car by a passerby as it began to engulf in flames.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman Jamie Arrwsmith said: “Thankfully the passenger to the grass verge, the entire car became engulfed in flames and we were quick on scene to put the fire out.”

A prototype is being launched which will be able to roam from southern Europe to Asia.

Also the Asiatic lion, which used to roam from southern Europe to Japan, but is now found only in an Indian forest.

The device was buried around 2ft down.

A £1m grant has been secured to help fund the project, which includes demolishing forming buildings on the site, including the main school building, which fronts Tiled House Lane.

Gunsman jailed for ten years after attack

We have above average birth rates locally and a higher than average transmigrants.

A nurse has been given a suspended sentence and a fine after lying about her qualifications.

Sandra Heanor, 57, of Droitwich, appeared at Dudley Town Court on Tuesday after pleading guilty to making a false statement to a doctor.

She said she had never been a nurse and was, in fact, a carer.

She was given a suspended sentence of 12 months and ordered to pay £200 in costs and £80 in fines.

An army bomb disposal team was called out after an unexploded Second World War hand grenade discovered in a gurn in Rowley Regis.

The incident happened in Newhall Road on Wednesday after a man, Mark Billingham, 21, was digging in the garden and discovered the device buried around 2ft down.

A cordon was set up around the house and street, but the bomb was claimed to detonate and the device was destroyed.

A £1m grant has been secured to help fund the project, which includes demolishing forming buildings on the site, including the main school building, which fronts Tiled House Lane.
Nightclub allowed to open until 6am

A NIGHTCLUB in Stourbridge has been allowed to stay open until 6am to deal with complaints from residents near the venue.

The licence application was made following a meeting of Dudley Council which was asked to consider extending the hours.

Tony Warner, director of the Stourbridge Nightclub, said: “We are very excited about the prospect of the nightclub staying open late at night. We believe it will bring a lot of benefits to the local community.”

The club is expected to open in the next few weeks.”

Prior to the decision being made, Dudley Council had received objections from West Midlands Police, local residents and councillors concerned that extending the hours could lead to trouble.

The club currently stays open until 2am on certain nights.

A licensing sub-committee chaired by Councillor Jackie Cowell last week approved the hours with restrictions imposed that last entry would be at 3am. Polies would be given 14 days notice before any event expected to go on until the new cut-off time.

On behalf of the management, barrister Sarah Gower, said: “These new hours simply provide flexibility for the management to be able to run events until later, it is not something they will be doing seven days a week.”

During the meeting, West Midlands Police licensing officer Amanda Baldwin said that since 2014 the Stourbridge Academy appeared on 35 police logs, but the majority of those incidents were either not reported or not directly related to the venue.

Councillor Sackville, who originally opposed the plans but after seeing how the meeting said he felt ‘reassured’ that the times would not be a problem.

HOSPITAL parking crisis led to a thousand fines

Ten years of walking with lemurs

By Andrew Turton

MORE than 1,100 parking tickets have been handed out to motorists parking illegally outside Dudley’s Russells Hall Hospital.

Roads around the hospital are regularly clapped with cars as people struggle to find a parking space at the car park, prompting Dudley Council to install parking meters.

The council will reduce the number of people parking near the site, figures released by Dudley Council show 1,184 tickets have been issued since July 2012.

The vast majority, 1,167, were given to people caught parking illegally in Fennell High Street. Fourteen were issued in Byron Street and one each in Milton Close, Allcroft Drive and Tonnymore Street.

Drivers have received fines of either £50 or £70, generating up to £82,810 for Dudley Council. If the fine is not paid within 14 days then the penalty sum is added.

HENLEY RUGBY Club is celebrating the opening of their first ever walkthrough Lemur Wood.

The one-acre paddock, where visitors come face-to-face with free-roaming lemurs, opened to the public in April 2015. A decade on, it is still the most popular exhibit on the park, with three lemurs used to come and run around visitors.

Since Lemur Wood opened, zoo staff have gone on to develop three more impressive walk-through exhibits – Monkey Falls, Wallaby Walkabout and Pangolin Bay.

Zoo director Derek Grove, who led the team which designed and built the innovative attraction, said: “Lemur Wood gave our visitors a unique close encounter with many endangered species.

During its construction we had to take a lot of height off some of the mature trees and in recent years these have spread out to create a wonderful natural exhibit which works for both the visitors and the lemurs. This very successful design has remained our most popular exhibit and we’re incredibly proud of what we’ve achieved to be one of the best in the country.”

As well as using existing trees, they have added more than 100 trees and 300 shrubs were planted in 2005. At the time Lemur Wood cost £38,000 and included a donation from Wilderness-based firm Rus- bery Owen Holdings Ltd.

Lemur Wood is home to nine ring-tailed, four black and white ruffed, two black and three collared lemur.
Police in dawn raids on suspected football yobs

18th century comedy conquest

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crisis talks over the Hippodrome

CAMPAIGNERS trying to save Dudley Hippodrome were this week holding crisis talks with councillors and officials.

Labour group leader Pete Lowe, Conservative chief Patrick Harley and Dudley UKIP boss Paul Brotherton were meeting at Dudley Council House with the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome group, including chairman Gordon Bowring.

Tuesday’s meeting came just days after an £8 million deal backed by The Black Country Group to buy and run the landmark venue collapsed.

Nearly new sale on child charity

PARENTS can get some bargains at a nearly new sale of baby and children’s clothing taking place in Dudley on Saturday.

It has been organised by the NCT Stourbridge and Halesowen Branch.

Visitors to the sale could save around 70 per cent on what items would cost new.

As well as clothes, there will be stalls selling toys and equipment at the sale, which will be held at Thomas Leisure Centre, Quarry Bank, on May 15, from 1am until 5pm, with entry at 10.30am for NCT members.

Meeting on £1m chapels project

RESTORATION plans for a grade II listed chapel buildings in the Black Country will be showcased at a meeting on on.

A £1million project to revamp Lye and Wednesbury Churches has begun.

People will be able to find out more about the scheme and the creation of a friends group at the event.

Project community facilitator Cara- lyn Goodwill will give an illustrated talk at 7.30pm on Stamberhill House, Cemetery Road, Lye.

Wizard opportunity to join The Young Ones

A YOUTH theatre group is holding auditions for people to join the cast of its spring production.

The Young Ones theatre group will be staging Underneath the Arches, in January at Netherton arts Centre, in Northfield Road.

Flights driven eight to 12 are invited to audition for roles during an evening on.

Call Chris Sykes on (01384) 895269, Chris Dodwell on (01384) 78290 or Chris Symonds on (01384) 883890.

Cider fest charity aim

A PUB will be raising help funds for a dog charity with its cider festival at the end of the month.

The festival at the Jubilee Inn in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, starts on May 15 and will feature a circus-themed family fun day on the Sunday from 2pm.

Three men were arrested during a series of dawn raids across the Black Country.

Police were frustrated in their attempts to hunt down the Wolverhampton Wanderers fans on Saturday.

A 24-year-old man from Woodside Clough in Dudley and a 19-year-old from Rowan Rise, Kingswinford, were charged and remanded in custody on Saturday.

A 41-year-old man from Waterloo, right by Molineux, was also among those arrested.

Two squads comprising a total of 20 officers were sent to hunt down the Wolves fans involved as part of Operation Mondo. Those who were captured covered their faces as they were led from their homes and into police riot vans.

A 43-year-old man from King Edward Street in Darlaston, a 27-year-old from Poolside Close in Dudley and a 18-year-old from Rowan Rise, Kingswinford, were also arrested on suspicion of affray and taking in custody at Wednesbury police station.

Five of the men will appear before Dudley Magistrates’ Court this morning, while three others have been bailed.

Two hundred council staff may get the boot from Mary Stevens Park due to constant complaints that they clog up all the parking spaces.

Council bosses have ruled out extending the car park, saying it would be too expensive.

Philip Tarrant, strategic director for resources and transformation at Dudley Council, said: “We recognise that parking at Mary Stevens Park has become an issue and we have been working closely with the local community to resolve it.”

“We are trying to balance our responsibilities in terms of use of the buildings with our parking availability for park users. As a result, we are currently looking at a number of options including reviewing which staff work from the council offices and alternative ways of working, including off-site.

“Once that review is complete we will be discussing the findings with the Ernest Stevens Trust Management Committee.”

He added: “We did fully investigate the possibility of extending the car park in the park but the significant cost of the work and the detrimental effect on the park meant we could not pursue this proposal.”

Stourbridge councillor Heather Rogers, also chairman of the Friends of Mary Stevens Park group, has been campaigning for a solution.

She said the workforce stationed in the park must be at least halved if the parking situation is to be solved.

“Unless they reduce it to 100 it obviously won’t work because there are only 130 parking spaces,” she said.

Crisis talks over the Hippodrome

CAMPAIGNERS trying to save Dudley Hippodrome were this week holding crisis talks with councillors and officials.

Labour group leader Pete Lowe, Conservative chief Patrick Harley and Dudley UKIP boss Paul Brotherton were meeting at Dudley Council House with the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome group, including chairman Gordon Bowring.

Tuesday’s meeting came just days after an £8 million deal backed by The Black Country Group to buy and run the landmark venue collapsed.

Nearly new sale on child charity

PARENTS can get some bargains at a nearly new sale of baby and children’s clothing taking place in Dudley on Saturday.

It has been organised by the NCT Stourbridge and Halesowen Branch.

Visitors to the sale could save around 70 per cent on what items would cost new.

As well as clothes, there will be stalls selling toys and equipment at the sale, which will be held at Thomas Leisure Centre, Quarry Bank, on May 15, from 1am until 5pm, with entry at 10.30am for NCT members.

Meeting on £1m chapels project

RESTORATION plans for a grade II listed chapel buildings in the Black Country will be showcased at a meeting on.

A £1million project to revamp Lye and Wednesbury Churches has begun.

People will be able to find out more about the scheme and the creation of a friends group at the event.

Project community facilitator Cara- lyn Goodwill will give an illustrated talk at 7.30pm on Stamberhill House, Cemetery Road, Lye.

Wizard opportunity to join The Young Ones

A YOUTH theatre group is holding auditions for people to join the cast of its spring production.

The Young Ones theatre group will be staging Underneath the Arches, in January at Netherton arts Centre, in Northfield Road.

Flights driven eight to 12 are invited to audition for roles during an evening on.

Call Chris Sykes on (01384) 895269, Chris Dodwell on (01384) 78290 or Chris Symonds on (01384) 883890.

Cider fest charity aim

A PUB will be raising help funds for a dog charity with its cider festival at the end of the month.

The festival at the Jubilee Inn in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, starts on May 15 and will feature a circus-themed family fun day on the Sunday from 2pm.

A2014/15

4

Call Chris Sykes on (01384) 895269, Chris Dodwell on (01384) 78290 or Chris Symonds on (01384) 883890.

Cider fest charity aim

A PUB will be raising help funds for a dog charity with its cider festival at the end of the month.

The festival at the Jubilee Inn in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, starts on May 15 and will feature a circus-themed family fun day on the Sunday from 2pm.
**IN MY VIEW**

**With Mark Andrews**

The thrashing headchache, the chewing stomach, if there ever was a real cure for a hangover its creator would make billions.

Well according to boffins at Oxford University, the ancient Egyptians thought they had it. Instead of Alka-Seltzer and ibuprofen, the ancient Egyptians believed that walking around with a piece of round near neck was the best cure that morn-

It’s an interesting thought. But I would just love to see the conversation with the copper when explaining the unusual item of clothing at three in the morning.

---

Noddy, Jim and Dave are caught on camera

---

Hangover? Just hang garland round neck

---

Slade perform Them Kinda Monkey’s Can’t Swing

---

On the road and on the water in between performances

---

The boys enjoy themselves with some water for the fans

---

PETE MADELEY takes a look at Slade’s short-lived silver screen stardom, 40 years on from their movie’s release

It has been described as ‘the Citizen Kane of British pop films’ and features one of the world’s most successful rock bands performing in a gritty expose of the darker side of the music industry.

It’s now 40 years since Slade in Flame hit cinema screens, starring Black Country glam troupe Slade playing their musicians in a made-up band.

At the time the world was awash with the image of the wave on the back of a string of number one hits including ‘Cum On Feel The Noize’, ‘Down Down’ and ‘Mama Weer All Shook Up’. But movie-goers expecting bell-bottomed hi-jinks and Vanilla White’s Holder screaming ‘It’s Christmasaaaahhh!’ every five minutes were in for a shock.

What they got was an at times bleak view of the music business, complete with unrepentant agent types and a ‘ Albania’ (Noddy Holder) to staggered by fall from grace.

**Fantasy**

Sure there’s humour – a furious Noddy singing while pulp-locked inside a coffin on stage is comedy gold – but this was not your average film about a rock band.

It was a million miles away from The Beatles ‘A Hard Day’s Night’, the rock star fantasy of the David Essex vehicle Stardust and various glam rockers’ ‘Never Too Young To Rock’. According to Slade drummer Don Pow- ell, that was precisely what the band was after.

“We had no interest in making another typical film about a rock band, that had already been done,” said Don, who lives with his family in Portsmth Southsea. “None of us really knew what we had let ourselves in for. But we ended up with a film that comes across as pretty dark.”

It’s all about the downside of the music business, with the crooks and the gangsters.

Don returned to Wolverhampton the city of his birth as guest of honour at a Slade convention at the Robin 2 club in Bilston, organised to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the iconic movie. Filmed over the course of six weeks at locations across the UK, Slade in Flame follows the fortunes of a fictitious band as they hit the road to the big time at the tail end of the swinging 60s.

In the film members from two rival bands join up to form Flame, giving them the same line up as the real-life Slade – Noddy Holder, Don Powell, Dave Hill and Jim Lea.

From then on it’s a tale full of chaos and exploitation to the point where they eventually tire of the whole business and pack it all in.

The idea for a film was hatched by Slade manager Chris Chandler, who saw it as the next logical step in the band’s successful ca-

Don’t get me wrong – if you want to know what life in a band is like, go on tour with them.

“They came to all the gigs and travelled with us – really got to know us as people. There’s a lot of square time and we would tell stories about daft things that had happened to us and other bands.”

“Andrew had a tape recorder with him all the time. Although, the film is a fraction of what you see in there actually happened in real life, although not necessarily to us.”

The early scenes of two young bands playing their trade around bingo halls and weddings certainly echo the pre-Slade band The ‘N Wee-tens. And Don’s character Charlie is shown grafting in a factory – not to his early re-

Newly available to renters in the UK, Slade in Flame clearly depicts some of the realities of the music business depicted in the film. There’s also an argument that the film may have ended up damaging Slade’s career. They never scored another number one hit single in the UK after its release, having had six between 1971 and 1972.

“But I’m glad we did it and I’m proud of the film.”
Yet more M6 money down the drain

So it appears £65 million must be spent on the M6 outramification in the West Midlands. How much more cash do they need to throw at this motorway? If one does not put any faith in a motorway with a non-running hard shoulder, very nice in bright weather, not so good in rain or dark conditions. Motorway signs on gantries help, if they work.

To me the hard shoulder is and should be for emergency only, not running vehicles. The money spent so far on upgrading this particular piece of motorway going through Junctions 9, 10, 11, together with the proposed £65m could have built M6-2 as opposed to HS2. Why not try to do a deal with the owners of the toll road, surely £65m would be welcome in their coffers? A large problem is the M5/M6 junction, the M5 should have been routed to join M6 north of Stafford where it joins traffic into the city. It just goes to show when viewing the held-up and congestion the economy is booming and the best way to send goods is by road traffic, regardless.

M Saxon
Tipton

Super hospital is not only solution

IT has become apparent to me over the past few months that whilst the new ‘Super Hospitals’ incorporate all the new equipment that cannot be put in place in all of the smaller hospitals, there is a need for more consultant hospital beds.

Here non-acute patients can receive treatment and rehabilitation by dedicated staff who have the time and expertise to help people towards discharge, that the bigger hospitals cannot provide.

This is not meant as a criticism of the front line at the super hospitals but pure common sense. This is not only my view, but that of many people with whom I have had conversations.

Our leaders would have us believe that bigger is better, but this is not the case. Patients are individuals each with individual needs and it is about time that this were recognised by those making the rules. Perhaps with smaller hospitals it may be that managers could manage more effectively, rather than it seems at present.

Perhaps the biggest insult of all though, is to read of the huge salaries and increases in salary of the chief executives whilst front line staff receive nothing. Maybe these executives should spend more time on the shop floor talking with relatives of patients who have so many complaints.

L Haes
Cradley Heath

Hedgehogs need help

As we are in Hedgehog Awareness Week, which runs from May 3 to 9, I am writing to ask your readers to ‘think hedgehog’!

Hedgehog Awareness Week is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and takes place every year. Tips can be found on our website www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

There is so much that we can do to help the hedgehog in our own garden. Offering hedgehog food or a muddy spot for food and water, especially during dry weather, can be a life saver.

Also cut back on posti-cides, cover drains or deep holes, and ensure there is an easy route out of ponds and pools – these will take five minutes to do and help immensely. With hedgehog numbers in serious decline, helping them is more important than ever.

Fay Vass
BNPS

Take pride in public toilets

I CAME to visit my grandparents who are in a home in Stourbridge and my children wanted the toilet. So I went to visit my grandparents who are in a home in Stourbridge and my children wanted the toilet. So I went.

The toilets were so dirty that I could not bring myself to use them. The tiles were stained, the floor was dirty, and the smell was overpowering.

I mentioned this to the staff, and they said that they would clean the toilets. But when I came back later that day, the toilets were still dirty.

I am writing to ask your readers to take pride in public toilets. They are an important part of our community, and they need to be kept clean.

C Cox
Dudley

Manor Way needs a crossing

THE excellent picture of cycling legend Hugh Porter campaigning to get a crossing installed outside Manor Abbey Stadium in Halesowen (Halesowen Chronicle) illustrates the difficulties of trying to cross Manor Way.

However, it is not just cyclists and athletes who need to traverse the dual carriageway here, as local residents also have to cross to get to and from the bus stops. Inevitably this involves clambering over the crash barriers.

The barriers were erected after a number of accidents in which vehicles veered over the centre reservation and collided with oncoming traffic, a ‘safety measure’ that clearly gave little consideration to the wellbeing of pedestrians.

Speeding traffic is endemic at this location with vehicles travelling at 70-80mph being by no means unusual, despite the 40mph speed limit. Residents will hope that the Athletic and Cycling Club’s campaign to get a crossing is successful.

D Fört
Halesowen

Let’s make RHS Spring and Summer special

UPVC WINDOWS • FLAT ROOFING SOLUTIONS • DOORS • CONSERVATORIES • ORANGERIES

BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN THIS SPRING AND SUMMER

UP TO 50% OFF SALE NOW ON

Proud to be one of the longest established window and conservatory installers in the West Midlands.

So why not come and visit us today and view some of our new exciting products within our showrooms.

For further information

Call Emma De Rosa on 01902 326900

Units 1-4 Planks Lane, Wombourne WV5 8EB

www.deroglass.co.uk

Step into Spring with Rydale

Windows & Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias & Soffit Boards

Massive discounts available on May installations

Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale and that’s why we have been in business for more than 30 years.

Supplied & Fitted across the Midlands

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

Open Weekdays 9am to 5.30pm
Saturday 9am to 4pm
Sunday Closed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Make the RIGHT decision this Spring and give Rydale a ring...

0800 917 6060

www.rydalewindows.co.uk
Examples of Bodgers’ art on display
Grange ‘E’ TG

The monthly meeting was held at Grange Court, Pleasant Road, Steeple Sidings on April 7.
Chairman Hazel Smith presided and gave a warm welcome to all, especially three new full members and three guests. Minutes from the previous meeting were read, accepted and signed.

Treasurer Jill Attwood gave her latest financial report.
A visit to the Rose Theatre, Kidderminster has been arranged. Marlene O’Hanlon asked members if they would like to continue the monthly Lunch Club and it was agreed with the first to be held at The Old House at Home, Blakedown, on May 11 at noon.

It was reported that donations of copper coins for Lye Old Hall were going well. For any who wish to contribute, there is a display on the sales table.

Members were given the opportunity to try their hand at the craft. Many examples of work that the Members had made were on display.

The vote of thanks was given by the chairman.
Hot cross buns and tea/coffee were then served by Committee and the raffle was drawn. Three ladies won a prize. Cakes were available on the sales table for members to purchase.

Room was given to the new members who are going well. For any ladies wishing to come along as a visitor, call Secretary Jan Williams on 01384 821839.

THE next meeting of the society takes place on Thursday, May 14 at 7.30pm in St. Andrew’s Church, Brierley Street.

The very short Annual General Meeting was followed by a presentation – ‘The Rise & Fall of the Whitehouses of Turls Hill’. Lorna Stevens has spent more than 10 years researching one of Woodsetton’s most influential families, the family home was Turls Hill House and there were strong links to All Saints Church, Sedgley and St. Peter’s Church. Many visitors were invited to come along. Individual talks cost £1.

“Improving your Quality of Life...”

STAIRLIFTS STRAIGHT & CURVED
We will beat any genuine quote

FREE! Home survey & fitting on all stairlifts
A wide range of new & used mobility scooters available
On site workshop
Rise & Recliner chairs, Wheelchairs & daily living aids in stock

Straits Mobility Services Ltd
SALES | HIRE | SERVICE | REPAIR

Come and visit our large Showroom at:
3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:

Come and visit our large Showroom at:

3 Middlepark Road, Russells Hall Estate, Dudley DY1 2LW
Open Mon-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm Closed Sunday
Tel: 01384 356 356 www.straitsmobilityservices.co.uk

“I switched and saved almost £300”

Sign up to Dudley’s Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people.
It’s free to register and there’s no obligation to switch, you can’t lose.

Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345

Register by 18 May 2015

Or, you can also register online and find out more information at www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Tel:
Mini mania as owners meet up at major show

A FORMER rally driver will be the special guest when Mini owners flock to Himley Hall for Sunday’s major show by the British Mini Club.

Paddy Hopkirk, aged 82, will get the motor running on the club’s summer programme at Himley Hall.

Mr Hopkirk, from Northern Ireland, won the 1964 Monte Carlo rally in a Mini Cooper S. Alongside Henry Liddon, he was one half of the last all-British team to win the rally.

The veteran of rallying’s golden age will be signing photos for Mini enthusiasts visiting the event.

There will also be a premier class concours competition with 12 different classes to choose from, catering for every model of Mini.

Running alongside, there will be the Mini Show ‘n’ Shine display, with sections for both classic and modern models of the iconic car.

Dave Hollis, a member of the club’s Midlands branch, said visitors would also have the opportunity to buy spare parts for from trade and auto jumble stands. There will also be the opportunity to buy Mini memorabilia.

He added: “This will be the 23rd year that we have been doing the show at Himley Hall and we have got quite a strong following over the years.

The club was established in 1992 and has since grown to welcome thousands of members. The BMC will have a membership centre situated in the heart of the show area.

There will also be the chance to buy a classic Mini at the event. Tickets will be on sale from 10am at the BMC membership centre.

Entry to the show costs are £9 per person (£7 for BMC members), while children under 12 can go free accompanied by an adult. To find out more see www.britishminiclub.co.uk.
Want to use your conservatory all year round?
Too HOT in summer?
Too COLD in winter?

Replace your existing roof with a Supalite Roof System lightweight replacement for your conservatory roof
• Choice of tiles and colours
• Save energy, conserve heat

Talented folk are coming to town

There will be some serious musical talent congregating in the Black Country this month for the Stourbridge Folk Festival.

Among the names playing over the four day event are Luke Jackson and Lucy Ward. The festival which runs from May 20 to 24 is the brainchild of Stourbridge’s own Sunjay Braye and Eddy Morton who will both be playing at Katie Fitzgerald’s, 187 Enville Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.

The festival kicks off on Wednesday, May 20 with Ranagri and Eddy Morton.

Ranagri is a new venture from four musicians Donal Rogers (vocals and guitar), Eliza Marshall (flutes/ethnic whistles), Jean Kelly (electric-harp) and Tad Sargent (bodhran and bouzouki). The band fuses world folk music with contemporary songwriting and haunting melodies, interlaced with storytelling.

Founder

Eddy Morton has worked all over the UK, Ireland and the USA supporting many top acts including The Saw Doctors, Manfred Mann, Ralph McTell and Lindisfarne. He is also a founder member of the Bushbury Mountain Davedavils. Tickets for the show are £10 in advance or £15 on the night and the doors open 7.30pm.

On Thursday May 21 Lucy Ward takes to the stage supported by Bushbury band Kim Lowings & The Greenwood.

Ward is an award-winning, 24-year-old artist from Derby who plays guitar, ukulele and concertina. After winning the Horizon Award at the 2012 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, Ward’s career has gone from strength to strength. Kim Lowings & The Greenwood have established themselves on the British Folk Scene. Song writer and lyricist Kim Lowings sings with a wonderfully pure voice. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the night, doors open at 8pm. Booking is recommended.

On Friday May 22 Eddy Morton & The Bushburys are on stage supported by Sunjay.

Sunjay who runs the Stourbridge Folk Club has established himself as a respected singer and bluesman and recently finished a national tour with Steleys Span. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the night. Doors open 8pm and booking is recommended.

The next day on May 23 highly acclaimed singer/song writer Luke Jackson takes to the stage. Jackson, aged 20, is from Canterbury, Kent. In 2012 he was nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards for both the Horizon Award for Best Emerging Talent and The Young Folk Category. He has recently released a new extended EP This Family Tree.

Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the day. Doors open 1pm and booking is essential.

Then on the night Flat Stanley, with support from Danni G, will be playing in the cellar bar. This is a concert in support of the Stourbridge Foundation For Music, so entry is free and doors open 8pm.

On the final day Sunday May 24 Chris Smither is in concert with support from Sunjay.

Smither draws deeply from the blues, American folk music, modern poets and philosophers.

Tickets £13 in advance or £15 on the day. Doors open 1pm and again booking is recommended.

Organisers urge anyone planning to go to the festival should check the details for each concert as door times and ticket prices may vary, and it’s important to note there is no Wheelchair access.

Under-18s get free entry to all folk club events but the club welcomes donations.
The Ultimate Shopping Experience

Whether your taste is contemporary, traditional, modern or classical, Cousins have the answer. The choice is enormous, all beautifully displayed in truly inspirational room settings.

Put that alongside incredibly low prices on all items throughout the stores including the famous brand names, you will have the ultimate shopping experience.

LOW PRICES THROUGHOUT THE STORES

5 Years Interest free
Pay nothing for a year, then spread the cost over 48 months

THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY ONLY

That’s right! This Saturday and Sunday at Cousins you can choose from their magnificent range of brand-name furniture, carpets, beds and homewares then spread the cost interest free over 48 months without paying a single penny for the first year!

It’s true! Buy any item at Cousins this weekend and you won’t even need a deposit.

Come and browse at your leisure around 2 spacious floors of furniture, displayed in inspirational room settings.

Read what our customers say...
96% independently review our products as good/excellent

Cousins
a true family business

5 years interest free credit, pay nothing for the first year from date of order, available on all total orders over £200. For example: 3 seater sofa £480. Defer payments for 12 months then take 48 monthly payments of £10. Subject to status. Written details upon request. Offer not available on in-store concessions, clearance and web specials. See website for price promise details.
Let the outside in...

Make the most of the summer with a beautifully designed Conservatory or Orangery which will extend your home whilst adding value to it. Distinctive elegant and tailor made to your personal taste, once you have one we guarantee you’ll spend long, happy hours relaxing in the light and airy space. We are a professional, family run, local company who have over 33 years experience installing quality windows, doors, conservatories and orangeries.

Wombourne Windows
ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES
Morlock House,
Bridgnorth Road,
Wombourne,
South Staffs
WV5 0AL

For more information call us now on 01902 897000
or visit our website at www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

Showroom Opening Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-6pm, Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-3.30pm, Sunday 10am-2pm
Council staff in 22 complaints

EMPLOYEES at Dudley Council made a total of 22 complaints in one year. The grievances were raised by staff in the year to March 2014. They related to working conditions, including accusations of bullying.

Council bosses said the figure had fallen since the previous 12 months and the majority of complaints were resolved. Another 12 grievances cases from the previous year were also closed during the period.

Figures revealed that more complaints were made by women at 56 per cent. More complaints were made by people aged between 50 and 59 than any other age bracket, at 38 per cent.

The council said the number of complaints was ‘relatively low’. But Dudley councillor Ken Finch said every grievance raised is a cause for concern.

A HEROIN addict who threatened a woman with a knife and stole her handbag after a struggle has been locked up for more than four years.

Ben Wilkes struck as the 49-year-old victim was walking to a meeting at the Jehovah’s Witnesses Assembly Hall in Castle Hill, Dudley, at 8.30am on Sunday, February 22.

The 28-year-old approached the victim after she got out of her car and asked for the time.

Mr Paul Farrow, prosecuting, said Wilkes brandished a knife and stole her bag, although the plucky victim put up a struggle.

“She would not let it go at first,” said Mr Farrow. “He pulled at her scarf, which tightened around her neck, and he tried to pull her to the ground but she stayed on her feet.”

Screams

Two men heard her screams and chased Wilkes before apprehending him. During the chase, he threw the weapon over a fence in Hillcrest Road.

The victim was left with bruises and had patches of hair pulled out by Wilkes during the struggle.

Wilkes, of Bean Road, Dudley, was jailed for four years and four months. He had pleaded guilty to robbery and possession of a weapon.

Wilkes has been taking drugs since the age of 13. Mr Tim Talbot-Walsh, defending, said Wilkes had a troubled past. He had 48 previous offences and was on bail for possession of a bladed article at the time of the offence.

As he was led to the cells at Wolverhampton Crown Court, he said: “Can you tell the victim I said I am sorry for putting her through this.”

**SUMMERHILL**
Kitchens & Bathrooms
Trust the experts.
Trade Enquiries Welcome
SALE NOW ON

**FREE**
With every purchase over £750 of Montrose or Utopia furniture valued at £320 RRP

Luxury flats snapped up
MORE than three quarters of luxury apartments being created in a transformation of an office block at Brierley Hill have been bought.

Developers say just 41 flats remain available out of a 181 being built at The Landmark, formerly Point North offices — at The Waterfront. The final apartments go on sale from May 16. The work is being carried out by developers Steven Capital and contractors Colliers Tang. The apartments will be finished in November.

**FREE**
With every £750 kitchen purchase valued at £305 RRP

Astracast 1 1/2 Bowl Stainless Steel Sink
Chrome or Brushed Steel Designer Sink Tap

BRADLEY STREET PENSNETT DY5 4RJ
01384 263626
OPEN 7 DAYS 9AM-6PM MONDAY TO SATURDAY LATE ‘TIL 8’ FRIDAY 11AM - 4PM SUNDAY AMPLE FREE PARKING

Heroin addict is jailed after knife-point handbag robbery

**Duo will be rockin’ the Robin**

Black Country duo Brett Huckfield and Marie Timmins reached the final of a national contest

A MUSICAL duo from the Black Country are celebrating after being chosen to support a Canadian country singer-songwriter in concert.

Brett Huckfield, aged 46, of Oldbury, and Marie Timmins, 37, from Penallt, were last night (Wednesday) opening for former Tia McGraff at the Robin 2 in Bilston.

The pair who have been performing professionally together for 12 months are warming up for their busy summer of concerts and festival appearances.

It comes after they made it through to the final 25 in the national Open Mic contest earlier this year, beating off competition from more than 10,000 acts.

Brett said they were delighted to have struck up a friendship and Brett began teaching Marie to play the guitar.

Brett said: “It’s going very well and work is on track for completion in the middle of June.”

The centre will also replace its existing base in Quinton.

Building the centre on site off Wolverhampton Road to replace its existing base in Quinton.

The People’s Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) is of sick and injured pets is taking shape in Oldbury.

The project is expected to be completed next month when contractors are beginning to fit out the inside of the premises which will house operating theatres, a critical care ward and the latest diagnostic and surgical equipment.

More than three quarters of luxury apartments being created in a transformation of an office block at Brierley Hill have been bought.

Developer say just 41 flats remain available out of a 181 being built at The Landmark, formerly Point North offices — at The Waterfront. The final apartments go on sale from May 16. The work is being carried out by developers Steven Capital and contractors Colliers Tang. The apartments will be finished in November.

Pet hospital should be completed in June

A £8.8 million animal hospital which will treat thousands of sick and injured pets is taking shape in Oldbury.

The People’s Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) building on the site off Wolverhampton Road to replace its existing base in Quinton.

Work began in January and now contractors are beginning to fit out the inside of the premises which will house operating theatres, a critical care ward and the latest diagnostic and surgical equipment.

The project is expected to be completed next month when charity staff will be able to move in. Site manager Rob Toy said: “It’s going very well and work is on track for completion in the middle of June.”

The centre will also be a teaching hospital to develop the skills of vets. There will also be a dental theatre and six consulting rooms. A total of 20 full-time equivalent staff and cleaners will be based at the practice.

**Heroin addict is jailed after knife-point handbag robbery**
Players courting success for new tennis clubhouse

A TENNIS club in Dudley hopes an open day will prove a net gain for its bid for a new clubhouse.

Waltz Hall Tennis Club, founded in 1972, received planning permission from Dudley Council to build a new clubhouse but are struggling to find the funds.

It will replace its existing structure, which is extremely run down and does not provide disabled access.

By Becky Weaver

She added the clubhouse being replaced would be potentially safer.

“We have the kitchen, which has a hole in the ceiling that leaks everywhere,” she said.

“Unfortunately this is not something that can just be done overnight, it is going to take a lot of time, but we will get it done.

“We are trying to raise £75,000 for this clubhouse. We have held fundraisers before but we really need a big push to make this happen.

“Thanks to the open day, we managed to gain around 30 new members who got a year’s membership at a reduced rate.

“We really do welcome everyone to come and join the club and get behind us on this. “We want to be able to cater for everyone but without disabled access it is incredibly difficult.”

Club volunteer Claire Colling at the Wall Heath Tennis open day to raise money for a new clubhouse

Focus on Kingswinford and Wall Heath

Extra staff needed at repair firm

A BLACK Country car accident repair business is taking on extra staff as its experience growing demands.

BodyKraft, which was started in Kingswinford in 1990, now has three sites at Bennetts Estate, Kingswinford, Canal Street, Brierley Hill and Drayton Street, Wolverhampton.

Managing director Mike Pugh, who has 25 years experience in the accident repair market, said it was looking for three more people including panel beaters and paint preppers. “We’ve got extra work coming in across our sites and need to replace some people who have left,” he said.

BodyKraft, which has 80 staff, has West Midlands Police and Wolverhampton-based Carillion among its customers. It also carries out fleet work and light commercial vehicle repairs.

Star role for Jessie, 22

A RISING star of the stage from Wall Heath is playing a lead role in the UK tour of the dancing, current-ly on stage at Birmingham Hippodrome.

A school graduate Jessie Hart stars as Baby Houseman during the three-week run at the Hippodrome theatre, until May 23. The 22-year-old actress recently graduated from the Mountview of Theatre Arts in London and had a role in TV’s Arthur and George.

Gifts handed out to pupils

A KINGSWINFORD company is handing out pens, pencils and paper products to all schools visiting the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley during National Science Week.

Maped Helix, on the Pen and Paper stand, is providing a range of education products which was handed out to pupils of the week up until May 8.

The donations are aimed at promoting the art of handwriting among young-sters.
Borough is better than some but most homes ‘unaffordable’

In Kidderminster, Cannock and Sandwell just two in 10 homes were affordable, while in Wolverhampton and Walsall the situation was slightly better with nearly three in 10 homes affordable. In hotspots like Warwick there were just five affordable properties.

The charity says families face continued instability and high housing costs unless there is urgent action to build more homes.

Campbell Robb, chief executive of Shelter, said: “Nearly 80 per cent of homes on the market are off limits for a typical family in the West Midlands and this is nothing short of a scandal.”

Petition calling for 20mph limit

AROUND 150 people have signed a petition calling for the speed limit to be reduced further outside a primary school in Wordsley.

Campaigners want the speeds to be slashed from 30mph to 20mph to improve safety for pupils outside Belle Vue Primary School, off Lawnswood Road.

Residents are urging officials to cut the limits as soon as possible, and will table their petition to Dudley Council in coming weeks.

The are backed by ward councillor Der- rich Hemmings, who is co-ordinating the petition which could also prompt a cut in limits in other areas of the borough.

It comes after he helped launch a speed watch campaign in Wordsley where motorists’ speeds are monitored by campaigners and police using hand-held speed guns.

“Nearly 80 per cent of homes on the market are off limits for a typical family in the West Midlands and this is nothing short of a scandal.”

Shelter’s Campbell Robb

Play week target is more than 5,000

DUDLEY Council is looking to top the 5,000 people who attended its summer play week last year with events in five borough parks.

Play week — being held from August 3 to 7 — will have free activities run from noon to 4pm in the following borough parks: Wolvercote Park, Halesowen, August 3; Silver Jubilee Park, Coleley, August 4; Wollaston Park, August 5; Priory Park, Dudley, August 6; and The Dell and Fons Pool, Brierley Hill, August 7.

Activities for children will include a climbing wall, arts and crafts, face painting and an animal area.

Organisations interested in getting involved are being invited to planning meetings that are being held on June 19 and July 16 at Saltwells Education Centre, Netherton, from 7pm to noon.

They can also contact Keith Rogers on (01384) 813882.
Sailing club prepares for charity lake race

A SAILING club is gearing up for a six hour race in aid of a life-saving charity.

Members of Himley Hall Sailing Club are preparing for the race on Saturday at the lake in the grounds of Himley Hall, that will see them raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

The club has raised over £90,000 since they first ran the race in 1976 for the RNLI, who save lives at sea.

Organiser Alan Dean said: “We are hoping that the event this year will be really big. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution is such a worthy cause. If there are other sailing clubs out there who would like to enter, there’s still time. Just contact the club.”

Call Tony Sutton on 07774 813 445. The lake at Himley Hall is one of the smallest sailing lakes in the country but is highly rated. There will also be sailing taster day held on May 19.

Family use their heads to boost MS group by £1,000

THEY are sisters who say they do everything together but Steph Grif- fin and Jennifer Powers have taken things a step further with their charity head shave – their mother getting involved as well.

The trio decided to shed their locks in an attempt to raise money for father and husband Martin’s multiple sclerosis support group, based in Kingswinford.

It was mother Anne Richardson who came up with the idea of a head-shave as a way of selling the group.

After asking daughters Steph, 27, and Jennifer, 33, they agreed they would all do it together.

Martin, who lives in Kingswinford with wife Anna, visits the Dingle Community Centre in Madeley Road every week and his family say it has had a major impact on his life. The sessions are run by the MS Society to help those with MS to meet and improve their quality of life.

Steph, of Tiled House Lane, Pensusett, said: “Dad has suffered with multiple sclerosis for 22 years and mum wanted to do something to help raise some money for the group.”

Steph added: “I was expecting to raise around £400 and we’ve raised £1,000. It’s amazing.”

Staff from Blaze Hair in King- swinford did the honours by shaving their heads.
**Award for ‘on the ball’ referee trainer Walter**

‘SHOULD have gone to Specsavers’ is a familiar call from the football terraces.

So it’s not surprising that Walter Wakeman got some gentle ribbing for training football referees at an institute for the blind.

The 86-year-old, who has received an award to mark 30 years service with the Wolverhampton Referees Association, said he even made national news due to the unusual location of his training courses, with a mention on Radio 2.

He said: “The DJ Terry Wogan made a joke about it when he lightheartedly suggested that this might explain why so many referees made mistakes but we took it in the spirit with which it was meant.”

Mr Wakeman from Lodge Road, Oxley, a personnel manager and training officer, qualified as a referee in 1984 aged 56 but was so shocked that four of the 16 candidates who studied alongside him did not pass that he offered to take over the training himself.

He started the following year at an office in the Blind Institute at Sedgley which later became the Beacon Centre and continued there for six years before moving to a new site.

Mr Wakeman ran 50 courses, each comprising 10 Friday evenings and an exam day, in the 23 years he spent as the main tutor for the Wolverhampton Referees Association, the second largest in the UK, before finally hanging up his whistle at the age of 80 in 2009.

By then a total of 579 men and women had been on the courses and only 14 failed.

He is still a member and was given a.

---

**Splashing Out on a New Bathroom?**

“Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time. We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budgets of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers”

**EXEMPLARY FULL JOB FOR**

£3850.00

90x90 Quadrant Cubicle
with low level tray
15 SQM Wall Tiles
Tiled Floor
Replacement Shower
New Basin & WC

**TRADESMEN OWN & RUN THIS COMPANY**

WE DO THE LOT IN 5 DAYS

**WE WANT YOUR CHOICE TO BE YOUR CHOICE**

(Daytime & Weekend visits a pleasure)

**DUDLEY CHRONICLE Thursday, May 7, 2015**

**ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF CARPET IN THE COUNTRY**

**SALE NOW ON**

Over 200 Part Rolls

ALL LESS 50%

At STD we have the best fitters and we are NEVER undercut on price

Contract Quality
Axminster 80/20
Brintons Axminster 80/20
100% Wool Naturals
Tomkinsons
80/20 Wool Twist
Brintons Bell Twist 80/20
Heavy Duty Saxony
Stainfree Heavy Twist
Gel Back Kitchen Carpet

Normal Price sq yd
£79.95
£59.95
£19.95
£35.00
£35.00
£19.95
£18.95
£12.95

Sale Price sq yd
£29.95
£17.95
£7.95
£9.95
£12.95

**BATHROOMS**

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre,
Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH

01384 287222

Showroom also at: Lichfield Road,
Wednesfield, Wolverhampton W11 1TW

01902 861908

SHOWROOMS OPEN
9am-5pm 6 Days a Week
When town roared to victory at the Isle of Man races

They were glorious times for Wolverhampton, when the then town would send off several factory teams to the TT races on the Isle of Man, fully expecting that one or more would come back winners.

The Tourist Trophy Races were then the pinnacle of motorbike racing. In the Blakenhall area especially, workers would be anxious to hear news of how ‘their’ boys had got on, and whether they would hold bragging rights for the next year.

The main contenders were usually Sunbeam and AJS, competing for the senior and junior TTs, with several wins each during the 20s and 30s.

However, the small firm of HRD was to break the mould for a short while, with wins in 1925 and 1927, and Diamond, from Sedgley Street often competed in the lightweight TT, with a best finish of seventh, and even the tiny Workers pour out of Sunbeamland, where Sunbeam bikes were made

AJS testers roaring out of the Graiseley factory (the Waitrose site) and off down the Penn Road

THEY were glorious times for Wolverhampton, when the then town would send off several factory teams to the TT races on the Isle of Man, fully expecting that one or more would come back winners.

The Tourist Trophy Races were then the pinnacle of motorbike racing. In the Blakenhall area especially, workers would be anxious to hear news of how ‘their’ boys had got on, and whether they would hold bragging rights for the next year.

The main contenders were usually Sunbeam and AJS, competing for the senior and junior TTs, with several wins each during the 20s and 30s.

However, the small firm of HRD was to break the mould for a short while, with wins in 1925 and 1927, and Diamond, from Sedgley Street often competed in the lightweight TT, with a best finish of seventh, and even the tiny

A Clyno military motorcycle combination used in the First World

The triumphant AJS team from the 1921 Isle of Man TT Races

Privately-owned Sunbeam leaving the Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre

OUTSTANDING
CONSERVATORIES/ORANGERIES

FROM £4200

FREE Advice
FREE no obligation quotation
FREE planning
No deposits required
No pushy salesman
No quibble insurance backed guarantee

6 flat white upvc A rated windows and frame one per window
£1695 Fully fitted

WHITE UPVC WINDOWS

0% FINANCE PACKAGES AVAILABLE NOW ON OFFER CALL FOR DETAILS

FREPHONE 0800 999 0909 OR TEL: 01902 662511
FREE online quotes www.dwwindows.co.uk

D.W. Windows Ltd.

Come visit our showroom at:
7 Brick Street,
Sedgley DY3 1NT

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

The triumphant AJS team from the 1921 Isle of Man TT Races

A Clyno military motorcycle combination used in the First World

Over the past twelve months we have improved the foundation of the company by attaining Construction Health & Safety Scheme accreditation (CHAS), training all of our staff in health & safety procedures and appointing an external health & safety advisor to ensure that we are working safely and competently on customers properties and performing first class installations. This has also achieved us our first major commercial contract replacing 100 properties with windows and doors for a local housing association. We have taken on new products such as the Equinox Tiled roofing system for conservatories and noticed a massive swing of customers choosing composite doors as opposed to UPVC which offer improved looks and security.

Moving forward, DW Windows Ltd have completely outgrown our local Sedgley showroom and are now near to completing a deal to secure additional larger premises. This will enable us to continue to expand our installation team, create new office space and enable us to have one of the largest showrooms in the Midlands to showcase all of our fantastic products. Although we will keep our Sedgley showroom, the new premises will allow us to create more jobs, assist the company to continue to expand whilst offering an increased product range and an even better service to our customers.

DW Windows Ltd are now starting their 9th year of trading. Since moving into our current showroom at 7 Brick Street, Sedgley in 2010, the company has expanded from two to five fitting teams with a dedicated service and maintenance engineer, who are all directly employed as opposed to using sub-contractors. The company also consists of a dedicated installations manager, surveyor, two quotation experts and five administration staff creating an additional 12 new jobs for local people.

The business is still very much family run with Company Director Dave Walters heavily involved with the everyday running of the business with five other members of staff who are family members. Dave's wife, Claire Walters has also joined the company to assist Dave with Health & Safety and HR requirements.

Our company ethos is ‘if a job is worth doing, it’s worth doing right!’ We pride ourselves on our professionalism, workmanship, quality and after-sales and this is why we have gone from strength to strength over the last 9 years of ever increasing uncertainty.

We now have approximately 4500 happy customers on our books. We took on 676 customers last year alone and 60 - 70% of those were recommendations or repeat business from existing customers having more work done. This is testament to our high levels of customer satisfaction and quality workmanship.
Immigration row couple anniversary

A COUPLE who were torn apart by an immigration ruling say they are enjoying life together again a year after winning their appeal and being reunited.

But the strain of overturning the Home Office ruling proved too much for Robert Cooper that he has temporally stepped down from his role as a church pastor.

His wife, Adna, who is from Brazil, is working full-time for a logistics firm in Halesowen, while the pair both live in a flat in Brierley Hill.

The couple, high profile campaign, received the support of former MP Chris Kelly, who recently stepped down from his Dudley South MP seat, and attracted headlines for the loving couple forced apart by red tape.

Refused

It started when Adna, aged 36, was refused a permanent entry to the UK to live with her husband Robert, 40, despite the pair marrying in Kingswinford in 2008.

They lived together for three years in the Black Country, but after the couple lived in a spell in Brazil, Adna was told she could not come back to live permanently in the UK when the couple prepared to return to the Black Country. She stayed in the UK on a tourist visa for a while but then had to leave in January last year, sparking an appeal against the Home Office decision.

In May last year the couple won their appeal following a campaign and a tribunal hearing decided Adna should be given a visa to stay.

The pair must get the stay extended next year but, after it runs for five years, she will be granted a permanent visa to remain in the UK. Robert, who gave up his job as a pastor for a Brazilian-based church in London in January, said: “It’s been a great year to be back together again.

“At one point it didn’t look we’d get it, but we did and we’re trying to enjoy everyday.

“I don’t understand still why we were refused. I agree we need tight controls on immigration but I believe they look closely at each individual case.

“The whole appeal did drain me. It took so much out of me I couldn’t continue my role as a pastor and had to get help myself. I’m now doing English tutoring, but hope to go back to being a pastor soon.”

I don’t believe it! Wilson in Lenny series

THE cast of Lenny Henry’s new TV series Danny and The Human Zoo – a fictionalised account of his life as a talented teenager in 1970s Dudley – has been announced.

Among the actors lined up for the BBC One drama, which is based on the actor and comedian’s early days including a spell working at Dudley Zoo, is One Foot in the Grave actor Richard Wilson.

Kaseion Franklin will play Danny with Lenny, playing his father Samuel and his mother Myrtle.

Arthur Darvill, of Doctor Who and Broadchurch fame, will play Danny’s manager Jonsey while Wilson will be playing the promoter James Broughton.

Rehearsals for the show, which will be shot in and around Dudley, got under way this week.

Park

Speaking about the show, Lenny, who was born near Dudley’s Boffins Park, said: “I can’t believe that we’re finally shooting my screenplay Danny and The Human Zoo.

“This is a fantasy memoir of the first two years of my career: my beginnings, working at the zoo, working in pubs and clubs and all that stuff that happened to me in the mid 70s – but crammed into 90 minutes.”

He added: “The script took about three years with the help of Nicola Shindler and Caroline Hollick at BBD Productions and now we’re going to make it in Dudley.”

Reunited - Robert and Adna Cooper, of Brierley Hill, a year on since they won their appeal to the Home Office

Skunk smoking dealer is ordered to have drug rehab

A SPLIFF cost a 39-year-old man dear after a passing police officer spotted him smoking ‘skunk’ in a Black Country park, a judge heard.

The officer saw Paul Jones and two other people acting suspiciously in Priory Park, Dudley, on December 18, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Jones realised he had been spotted and threw something to the ground that turned out to be a cannabis cigarette, said Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting.

A tin with two more of the spliffs and £30 worth of loose cannabis was found in the possession of the defendant, who also had £350 cash, the court heard.

Police searched his home in Clifton Street, Old Hill where more skunk cannabis worth up to £720 was discovered, and Mr Searle.

The defendant’s mobile phone revealed messages that indicated he had been drug dealing, the court heard.

Jones, who had previous convictions for both possession and production of cannabis, had kicked the habit only to revert back to alcohol and drug abuse when he lost his job last year, said Miss Nicolle Stevens, defending.

She added: “He did try to drown his sorrow after becoming depressed and his life spiralled out of control. He wants to start a law abiding existence.”

Jones admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply and was given a 12 month jail sentence suspended under supervision for two years, during which time he will receive drug rehabilitation treatment and do 180 hours unpaid work. The cash seized from him by police was forfeited as the proceeds of crime.

School homes agreed

A £2.2 million project to convert a former school in Coseley into 16 homes has been given the go-ahead.

The Victorian Mount Pleasant School will now be transformed under Dudley Council plans.

The school was later home of Dudley archives and local history service. Under the plans, the building will be transformed into 15 terraced houses and one detached.

The Victorian Mount Pleasant School will now be transformed under Dudley Council plans.

Dreamworld furniture

Three Piece Suites, Chairs, Beds, Carpets, Dining and Bedroom Furniture

Skunk smoking dealer is ordered to have drug rehab

A SPLIFF cost a 39-year-old man dear after a passing police officer spotted him smoking ‘skunk’ in a Black Country park, a judge heard.

The officer saw Paul Jones and two other people acting suspiciously in Priory Park, Dudley, on December 18, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Jones realised he had been spotted and threw something to the ground that turned out to be a cannabis cigarette, said Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting.

A tin with two more of the spliffs and £30 worth of loose cannabis was found in the possession of the defendant, who also had £350 cash, the court heard.

Police searched his home in Clifton Street, Old Hill where more skunk cannabis worth up to £720 was discovered, and Mr Searle.

The defendant’s mobile phone revealed messages that indicated he had been drug dealing, the court heard.

Jones, who had previous convictions for both possession and production of cannabis, had kicked the habit only to revert back to alcohol and drug abuse when he lost his job last year, said Miss Nicolle Stevens, defending.

She added: “He did try to drown his sorrow after becoming depressed and his life spiralled out of control. He wants to start a law abiding existence.”

Jones admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply and was given a 12 month jail sentence suspended under supervision for two years, during which time he will receive drug rehabilitation treatment and do 180 hours unpaid work. The cash seized from him by police was forfeited as the proceeds of crime.

School homes agreed

A £2.2 million project to convert a former school in Coseley into 16 homes has been given the go-ahead.

The Victorian Mount Pleasant School will now be transformed under Dudley Council plans.

The school was later home of Dudley archives and local history service. Under the plans, the building will be transformed into 15 terraced houses and one detached.

Skunk smoking dealer is ordered to have drug rehab

A SPLIFF cost a 39-year-old man dear after a passing police officer spotted him smoking ‘skunk’ in a Black Country park, a judge heard.

The officer saw Paul Jones and two other people acting suspiciously in Priory Park, Dudley, on December 18, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Jones realised he had been spotted and threw something to the ground that turned out to be a cannabis cigarette, said Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting.

A tin with two more of the spliffs and £30 worth of loose cannabis was found in the possession of the defendant, who also had £350 cash, the court heard.

Police searched his home in Clifton Street, Old Hill where more skunk cannabis worth up to £720 was discovered, and Mr Searle.

The defendant’s mobile phone revealed messages that indicated he had been drug dealing, the court heard.

Jones, who had previous convictions for both possession and production of cannabis, had kicked the habit only to revert back to alcohol and drug abuse when he lost his job last year, said Miss Nicolle Stevens, defending.

She added: “He did try to drown his sorrow after becoming depressed and his life spiralled out of control. He wants to start a law abiding existence.”

Jones admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply and was given a 12 month jail sentence suspended under supervision for two years, during which time he will receive drug rehabilitation treatment and do 180 hours unpaid work. The cash seized from him by police was forfeited as the proceeds of crime.

School homes agreed

A £2.2 million project to convert a former school in Coseley into 16 homes has been given the go-ahead.

The Victorian Mount Pleasant School will now be transformed under Dudley Council plans.

The school was later home of Dudley archives and local history service. Under the plans, the building will be transformed into 15 terraced houses and one detached.
**Why choice of local MP is vital**

**Daniel Wainwright**
Political Editor

I THINK focusing on voting for the party you want to see in government is a waste of time.

You don’t need me to explain how the only thing your vote counts towards is the person who represents you as your local MP.

What I do think I need to spell out is why it’s more important than ever to think locally. No-one is going to win this election unless something utterly incredible happens in the dying days of this bitter, long-winded campaign.

Deals

It doesn’t matter how much David Cameron and Ed Miliband say they’re going for an all out majority. Neither is going to get one. The next government will be formed as a result of discussions and deals done behind closed doors. It’s not the case that the party that wins the most votes also wins the most seats. It’s only been by a happy coincidence.

While the parties argue it out, while they bicker over whether or not the real winner will be Nicola Sturgeon and the SNP, the most important thing is going to be having a decent MP fighting your corner.

Nicola Sturgeon, for all the risk it’s claimed she poses to the United Kingdom, is fighting tooth and nail for the people she represents. She’ll squeeze every last drop of funding out of the Treasury for Scotland if she gets the chance and she’s not even an MP. Can we really blame her for that? She’s doing her job. What every one of us will need in Westminster will be an MP who is going to be the flea in the ear of the government, whichever party or parties form it.

Ordinarily the best sort of person to have is someone who puts the national interest first. There’s no longer any such thing.

Devolution is coming whoever wins the election. It’s going to be a mad dash for the West Midlands to get itself organised, make its bid for powers over skills, transport and health and use them to compete furiously with a rapidly rising northern powerhouse and an ever expanding south east.

We’re not all in this together anymore. Not as a nation at least. It’s going to have to be the West Midlands, with a population larger than Scotland, versus the rest in this new political order. Another absolute certainty is more cuts. Public resources will continue to be squeezed and if there is to be any money for it then it will need someone utterly and completely devoted to improving their constituency to get it.

That person might be any of the parties and that party’s policies are still vital, of course, when making the decision. They will be expected to go along with every one of those manifestos in the event their leader becomes Prime Minister.

The next government might not deliver anything like what the individual parties promise if it is formed of compromise, confidence and supply. The choice of local MP is the only thing over which the ballot paper exercises any control whatsoever.
**Black Country pupils in pioneering maths scheme**

SCHOOLS in the Black Country have been trialling a maths programme that enables teachers to monitor pupils’ progress online. A total of 24 schools across Dudley, Sandwell, Birmingham and Walsall have received £500,000 funding from the Education Endowment Foundation for the Maths Flip programme. It is a two year project working with pupils in years five and six to help them improve their skills.

The resources enables pupils to carry out ‘pre-learning’ whereby their teacher posts a Powerpoint presentation to an online site and the children then complete a task so the teacher can see how well they have done and adjust their class-room lesson accordingly. Jennifer Devaney, project manager at Shireland Collegiate Academy in Smethwick, said the course replaced the traditional pen and paper method of doing homework, and made it easier for tutors to keep track of their pupils’ work.

She said pupils reported benefits with their SATS results, while teachers felt they could shift their focus onto harder concepts and problem solving, rather than having to wait for pupils to catch up.

In total, 540 pupils are participating in the project, which could be copied at schools across the country.

**Ambulance service is named as the best in the country**

THE West Midlands Ambulance Service has been named as the best performing service in the country.

Its paramedics responded to heart attack patients faster than anywhere else and control rooms staff were quickest to answer 999 calls.

Only two services bettered its performance for reaching all other types life-threatening emergencies.

In the Department of Health figures, the service also came second for the amount of time it took for a patient-carrying vehicle to reach scenes of emergencies.

Its performance across the board during 2014/15 could not be matched by any other service.

The service’s chief executive Anthony Marsh said the results demonstrated the ‘incredibly hard work’ of ambulance staff.

Figures showed West Midlands Ambulance Service had beaten its target of reaching patients who were suffering heart attacks or severe breathing difficulties within eight minutes. That happened 77 per cent of the time, two per cent above its target and higher than any other ambulance service in the country.

The service fell one per cent short of the same target for reaching all other life-threatening emergencies but came third nationally. Emergency calls were answered in under one second on average during the 12-month period.

In total, 96 per cent of calls were answered in under five seconds, one per cent above the average and the highest in the country.

Mr Marsh said the results were the ‘testament to the hard working staff of the trust and added that the level of care given to patients was second to none’.

“There is no doubt that 2014/15 was an incredibly challenging year for all ambulance services, with rapidly rising demand and continued delays at hospitals which have a hugely adverse impact on our ability to get to patients,” he said.

“Despite that, the fact that we have done as well as testament to the incredibly hard working staff of the trust. However, getting to patients quickly is only part of the story. The level of clinical care that our staff have given to the patients they have treated is second to none. In many respects this is far more important than speed of response.”

“Whilst this is an excellent level of performance, we are in no way complacent and are the first to admit that we can make further changes to the service we deliver,” added Mr Marsh.

“We are continuing to move forward with developments that will improve speed further the way we treat and support patients.”

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

THERE will be a selection of free books on offer at the ‘Taste the Book’ event, taking place on Saturday, May 23, at the Library, Black Country Centre, High Street, Dudley. The idea is to encourage people to visit online bookstores and make use of the public library service. A selection of books for various tastes will be available to read and pick up for free. The event is being held in conjunction with the Dudley Library Service.}

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

THOUSANDS of contraband cigarettes and suspected counterfeit first class stamps were seized during raids in Dudley.

Four properties in the town were searched by trading standards officers and police following a tip off about the illegal supply of tobacco.

A total of 5,340 illicit and counterfeit cigarettes, 25 packs of tobacco and 1,873 suspected counterfeit first class stamps were seized.

An investigation has been launched by Dudley Council following the raids which took place last month.

John Miller, acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing, said: “Together with our police colleagues, we searched four properties in Dudley, following information about the illegal supply of tobacco. Investigations are ongoing and we are unable to comment further at this stage.”

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

**Ambulance service is named as the best in the country**

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

**Ambulance service is named as the best in the country**

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

**Ambulance service is named as the best in the country**

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**

**This May...Don’t Buy A New Kitchen**

(Until you’ve seen what a makeover can do!)

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

Bring your kitchen up to date quickly and save money using Replacement Doors & Drawers

Every Door is made to measure

**Authors to discuss their favourite books**

**Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized**
Blues on the move from veteran performer Steve

Seasick Steve delighted the Civic Hall crowd during his two-hour set that ended his UK tour.

When it comes to touring, veteran bluesman Seasick Steve saves the best for last.

He told a packed Civic Hall that he planned to end his UK tour at Wolverhampton because he knew “it would rock.”

And the 74-year-old Californian came across as a genuine, humble guy as he thanked his employers, the fans, for giving him a steady job.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience with blasts of bluesy boogie, hillbilly stomps and punk-like thrashes.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

In a two-hour set, Steve told the audience that his hi-tech effects came from sticking a thimble on his finger with a plaster and then ringing the hell out of his washday dudley bow.

Wearing his familiar plaid shirt and long, beardy singer-guitarist, the 74-year-old created a crowd with his homespun charm, rambling stories and bizarre homemade guitars.

These included a cigar box based model, the famous one made from two hubcaps and, best of all, the one-string washtub bass guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.

Having earned his nickname on discovering the washtub guitar. The latter once led to him nicknaming himself Seasick Steve.
Opportunity to share views on social care

People can share their views on adult social care during an event in Brierley Hill. The People’s Network event, hosted by Healthwatch Dudley and Dudley Council, is on Wednesday, May 13, at Brierley Hill Methodist Church.

It provides residents the chance to learn more about ways to maintain their independence and will also look at ways services can be improved.

Matt Bowsher, chief officer for adult social care, said: “The People’s Network is a brand new way in which the people of Dudley are setting their own agenda and telling us what we should focus on in adult social care. These events will happen every two months. We hope that the network will become a new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.”

People can book their free place by calling 03000 111 001 or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk for further information.

£750k invested to improve fleet

A GROWING Lychee haulage business is investing £750,000 in improving its fleet.

Managing director of Andyfreight, Andrew Pountney, said that the investment included 15 new 13.5-metre long trailers from Lawrence David. “We have had six delivered so far and another nine are to come,” he explained.

Andyfreight is also recruiting a new fleet manager and up to three more class ones and two HGV drivers.

“We have also taken delivery of one new Scania and two new Mercedes trucks and have a MAN on order,” added Mr Pountney.

Finding Nemo’s is going to be a whole lot easier after a network will become an new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.

“People can share their views on adult social care during an event in Brierley Hill. The People’s Network event, hosted by Healthwatch Dudley and Dudley Council, is on Wednesday, May 13, at Brierley Hill Methodist Church.”

It provides residents the chance to learn more about ways to maintain their independence and will also look at ways services can be improved.

Matt Bowsher, chief officer for adult social care, said: “The People’s Network is a brand new way in which the people of Dudley are setting their own agenda and telling us what we should focus on in adult social care. These events will happen every two months. We hope that the network will become a new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.”

People can book their free place by calling 03000 111 001 or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk for further information.

Man admits fake clothing con using famous names

A MAN has admitted involvement in a fake clothing racket that could have cost major firms thousands of pounds in lost trade.

Ian Guy pleaded guilty to seven charges linked to a counterfeit T-shirt business run from the garage of his home that sold worldwide.

Called Guys Tees, it is understood to have dealt with up to £260,000 worth of fake garments between 2010 and 2012. The racket was uncovered during an investigation spearheaded by Dudley Trading Standards that concluded with the appearance of 37-year-old Guy at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

He admitted knowingly carrying on a business for the fraudulent production, sale and supply of counterfeit goods and their packaging.

Guy, from John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, further pleaded guilty to using signs identical to, or likely to be mistaken for, the registered trademark of the Beatles, the Ramones and Jack Daniels on T-shirts and packaging.

He also pleaded guilty to using the trademark of Porsche and Yamaha Motor Europe to advertise goods for sale on eBay. The final charge involved an admission of having Fast T-Jet 2 and DTG K3 garment printers attached to computer equipment designed or adapted for the making of fake trademarks on goods or packaging.

Guy was remanded on bail until May 27 when he is expected to be sentenced.

Fry’s the limit for Midlands’ top chippy

A FAMOUSLY Award Winner chippy in Lake Street, Lower Gornal, has been given the award by Fry Magazine.

Staff at Nemo’s were put under close scrutiny before it was deemed worthy of being named among the top 50 fish and chip shops in the country.

And after all that, the judges from Fry Magazine were so impressed they felt the Lower Gornal chippy was worthy of being given the award by Fry Magazine.

It represents a major achievement for the husband and wife duo who run the family business, Jazz and Jeevan Johal, who have only been in the business for eight years.

Before that, Jazz worked for car firm Rover and wife Jeevan for Tata steel. Mrs Johal said: “We were already five-star healthy premises.”

Mr Johal with father, Jazz Johal, at top chip shop Nemo’s

The People’s Network is a brand new way in which the people of Dudley are setting their own agenda and telling us what we should focus on in adult social care. These events will happen every two months. We hope that the network will become a new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.”

People can book their free place by calling 03000 111 001 or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk for further information.

£750k invested to improve fleet

A GROWING Lychee haulage business is investing £750,000 in improving its fleet.

Managing director of Andyfreight, Andrew Pountney, said that the investment included 15 new 13.5-metre long trailers from Lawrence David. “We have had six delivered so far and another nine are to come,” he explained.

Andyfreight is also recruiting a new fleet manager and up to three more class ones and two HGV drivers.

“We have also taken delivery of one new Scania and two new Mercedes trucks and have a MAN on order,” added Mr Pountney.

Man admits fake clothing con using famous names

A MAN has admitted involvement in a fake clothing racket that could have cost major firms thousands of pounds in lost trade.

Ian Guy pleaded guilty to seven charges linked to a counterfeit T-shirt business run from the garage of his home that sold worldwide.

Called Guys Tees, it is understood to have dealt with up to £260,000 worth of fake garments between 2010 and 2012. The racket was uncovered during an investigation spearheaded by Dudley Trading Standards that concluded with the appearance of 37-year-old Guy at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

He admitted knowingly carrying on a business for the fraudulent production, sale and supply of counterfeit goods and their packaging.

Guy, from John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, further pleaded guilty to using signs identical to, or likely to be mistaken for, the registered trademark of the Beatles, the Ramones and Jack Daniels on T-shirts and packaging.

He also pleaded guilty to using the trademark of Porsche and Yamaha Motor Europe to advertise goods for sale on eBay. The final charge involved an admission of having Fast T-Jet 2 and DTG K3 garment printers attached to computer equipment designed or adapted for the making of fake trademarks on goods or packaging.

Guy was remanded on bail until May 27 when he is expected to be sentenced.

Fry’s the limit for Midlands’ top chippy

A FAMOUSLY Award Winner chippy in Lake Street, Lower Gornal, has been given the award by Fry Magazine.

Staff at Nemo’s were put under close scrutiny before it was deemed worthy of being named among the top 50 fish and chip shops in the country.

And after all that, the judges from Fry Magazine were so impressed they felt the Lower Gornal chippy was worthy of being given the award by Fry Magazine.

It represents a major achievement for the husband and wife duo who run the family business, Jazz and Jeevan Johal, who have only been in the business for eight years.

Before that, Jazz worked for car firm Rover and wife Jeevan for Tata steel. Mrs Johal said: “We were already five-star healthy premises.”

Mr Johal with father, Jazz Johal, at top chip shop Nemo’s

The People’s Network is a brand new way in which the people of Dudley are setting their own agenda and telling us what we should focus on in adult social care. These events will happen every two months. We hope that the network will become a new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.”

People can book their free place by calling 03000 111 001 or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk for further information.

£750k invested to improve fleet

A GROWING Lychee haulage business is investing £750,000 in improving its fleet.

Managing director of Andyfreight, Andrew Pountney, said that the investment included 15 new 13.5-metre long trailers from Lawrence David. “We have had six delivered so far and another nine are to come,” he explained.

Andyfreight is also recruiting a new fleet manager and up to three more class ones and two HGV drivers.

“We have also taken delivery of one new Scania and two new Mercedes trucks and have a MAN on order,” added Mr Pountney.

Man admits fake clothing con using famous names

A MAN has admitted involvement in a fake clothing racket that could have cost major firms thousands of pounds in lost trade.

Ian Guy pleaded guilty to seven charges linked to a counterfeit T-shirt business run from the garage of his home that sold worldwide.

Called Guys Tees, it is understood to have dealt with up to £260,000 worth of fake garments between 2010 and 2012. The racket was uncovered during an investigation spearheaded by Dudley Trading Standards that concluded with the appearance of 37-year-old Guy at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

He admitted knowingly carrying on a business for the fraudulent production, sale and supply of counterfeit goods and their packaging.

Guy, from John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, further pleaded guilty to using signs identical to, or likely to be mistaken for, the registered trademark of the Beatles, the Ramones and Jack Daniels on T-shirts and packaging.

He also pleaded guilty to using the trademark of Porsche and Yamaha Motor Europe to advertise goods for sale on eBay. The final charge involved an admission of having Fast T-Jet 2 and DTG K3 garment printers attached to computer equipment designed or adapted for the making of fake trademarks on goods or packaging.

Guy was remanded on bail until May 27 when he is expected to be sentenced.

Fry’s the limit for Midlands’ top chippy

A FAMOUSLY Award Winner chippy in Lake Street, Lower Gornal, has been given the award by Fry Magazine.

Staff at Nemo’s were put under close scrutiny before it was deemed worthy of being named among the top 50 fish and chip shops in the country.

And after all that, the judges from Fry Magazine were so impressed they felt the Lower Gornal chippy was worthy of being given the award by Fry Magazine.

It represents a major achievement for the husband and wife duo who run the family business, Jazz and Jeevan Johal, who have only been in the business for eight years.

Before that, Jazz worked for car firm Rover and wife Jeevan for Tata steel. Mrs Johal said: “We were already five-star healthy premises.”

Mr Johal with father, Jazz Johal, at top chip shop Nemo’s

The People’s Network is a brand new way in which the people of Dudley are setting their own agenda and telling us what we should focus on in adult social care. These events will happen every two months. We hope that the network will become a new place for people to share their stories and meet new people.”

People can book their free place by calling 03000 111 001 or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk for further information.

£750k invested to improve fleet

A GROWING Lychee haulage business is investing £750,000 in improving its fleet.

Managing director of Andyfreight, Andrew Pountney, said that the investment included 15 new 13.5-metre long trailers from Lawrence David. “We have had six delivered so far and another nine are to come,” he explained.

Andyfreight is also recruiting a new fleet manager and up to three more class ones and two HGV drivers.

“We have also taken delivery of one new Scania and two new Mercedes trucks and have a MAN on order,” added Mr Pountney.
## Alcoholic stabbed pair of sisters in a frenzied attack

A MAN who stabbed two Stourbridge sisters with a kitchen knife after pushing their 88-year-old grandmother to the floor has been jailed for ten and a half years.

John Loveridge left Amy Brookes and his former partner Jessica Brookes needing surgery after lashing out with the foot long weapon in the horrific attack on October 31 in Oldswinford.

The 48-year-old then used the knife to slash his own throat and it was only the intervention of two police officers that saved his life, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Judge Nicholas Webb told Loveridge it was clear he posed a serious risk of future harm to the public and he ruled he would only be allowed back onto the streets when he was considered safe by the parole board.

He extended the licence of Loveridge on his release from prison by a further five years and made a restraining order forbidding him from any future contact with the sisters or their grandmother.

He had attacked all three victims inside their own home in Oldswinford.

Loveridge stabbed Amy Brookes three times in the neck, arm and chest and she suffered a collapsed lung in the attack. Jessica Brookes, the mother of his child, sustained a stab wound to the throat and also received a serious hand injury as she tried to defend herself.

“You have a history of alcohol abuse,” the Judge told Loveridge, who carried out the attack after a two-day drinking session.

“It is clear to me you are dangerous. A report says there is a chance of repeated offending by you and it is a report I agree with.”

Loveridge of The Steps, Harvington, Yonge-sham, admitted wounding Jessica and Amy Brookes with intent to cause them both grievous bodily harm. He further admitted assaulting their grandmother and possessing an offensive weapon.

Mr Duncan Craig, prosecuting, said Loveridge forced his way into the family home, pushed the grandmother to the floor and stabbed the sisters.

Mr Christopher O’Gorman, defending, said Loveridge was full of remorse for what he did.

## Borough bucks trend for whooping cough

CASES of whooping cough in the West Midlands have almost doubled during the past two years, new figures reveal. But the number of people diagnosed has fallen in Dudley.

Whooping cough — a bacterial infection of the lungs and airways — affects all ages but newborns and infants under three months of age are most at risk.

During 2014 there have been 115 cases in the West Midlands — 39 of them in the Black Country and Staffordshire. This is up by 42 per cent compared with 2013 figures, when there were a total of 95 cases.

Health chiefs have urged pregnant women to have a vaccination to protect themselves and their unborn babies. It protects the baby in the first weeks of life as the mother passes immunity on to her child, protecting the younger until they receive their first vaccination at two months old.

The number of people being diagnosed has fallen in Dudley from ten cases to four.

## Cost of missed appointments

MORE than 166,000 health appointments were missed across the Black Country in a year.

Tens of thousands of outpatients failed to turn up at hospital and community clinics in 2014, wasting millions of pounds.

Figures released under the Freedom of Information Act show there were 58,400 occasions where patients failed to turn up or cancelled at Wolverhampton’s New Cross Hospital from January 1 to December 31, 2014.

At Walsall Manor there were 44,655 times where people did not attend and 40,719 missed appointments at Russells Hall in Dudley during the same period.

At Sandwell there were 22,993 did not attend bookings recorded by the health trust during 2014.

A failure to attend an appointment means those appointments could have been lost to another patient who could have been at least £12 million in the Black Country.

## Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during Armed Forces Day.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.

### Dudley Chronicle Thursday May 7, 2015

### Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream

Vince Trapani hands stilt walker Sophie Hubble an ice cream during the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Himley Hall.

### Himley Hall and Park is one of the biggest events of the year which attracts thousands of people including current and ex-service men and women.
INTRODUCING NEW PLATINUM TOURS
A range of new and exciting weekend, midweek and continental breaks - all accommodated at quality hotels!

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURES

LONDON & ROYAL WINDSOR
A full weekend including visits to Windsor, London, Petticoat Lane & Thames River Cruise.
PRICE INCLUDES:
Modern Coach Travel
2 Nights Hilton Hotel
Breakfasts & Dinner both Evenings
Visit to Windsor & Central London
Visit to Petticoat Lane & Thames River Cruise
DATES
Friday 26 June
Saturday 19 September
PRICES
£159.00
£159.00

CHESTER & LIVERPOOL
The charming City of Chester and Liverpool!
PRICE INCLUDES:
Modern Coach Travel
1 Night – Novotel Hotel with Breakfast Included
Visit to Chester
Free Day in Liverpool
DATES
Sunday 26 July
Sunday 23 August
PRICES
£89.00
£89.00

NOW PICKING UP AT DUDLEY, WALSALL & WOLVERHAMPTON!
CALL: 01902 207100
VISIT WWW.LEONSHOLIDAYS.CO.UK
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURES

WEEKENDS
– Cotswolds & Stratford
– Cardiff & Gloucester
– Hilton Waldorf
– Harrogate, Durham & Beamish
– Royal Ascot & Windsor
– Hilton Waldorf
– London – BBC Studios & London Eye

MIDWEEKS
– Solent Waves & The New Forest
– Paignton
– Scenic Snowdonia

CONTINENTAL
– Kilimanjaro & The Ring of Kerry
– Bruges, Ypres & Ypern
– Brussels, Ypres, Oudenaarde & Xanten
Take That relish their threedom

AND then there were three... the new trio version of Take That promises a spectacular series of shows at the Genting Arena, starting on Monday.

Gary Barlow, Mark Owen and Howard Donald will play a total of seven concerts at the mega venue near Birmingham, also including Tuesday, Thursday, next Friday and Saturday, before returning on June 22 and 23.

Take That are the UK’s most successful live act ever. They have had eight number one albums, 15 number one singles, sold over 30 million albums, won six Ivor Novello awards, eight BRITs and sold over seven million concert tickets.

Minus Jason Orange and Robbie Williams, the band has dropped with aptly-titled new album III and the hit These Days. They are embarking on a 24-date tour, four years after their last album Progress in 2011,iloved their fans.

It will be worth turning up in time to catch support act, the BRIT-nominated Ella Henderson, who hit the number one spot with her debut album Chapter One and had hits with the singles Ghost and Glow.

Thea haunted by her songs

IT will surely one day be a Trivial Pursuit question: Name the UK artist who first hit the top four with her 14th album? It was Thea Gilmore with her 2015 release Regardless.

Thea’s slow burning career has seen her garner more and more fans since she first emerged as an 18-year-old with her debut Burning Dorothy.

Now 17 years on, album number 15 Ghosts & Graffiti is a compilation of four new songs, alongside six newly-recorded versions of previous favourites and her recent run of radio hits.

The album features collaborations with fantasy writer Neil Gaiman, cult New York singer-songwriter Joan ACollie, folk-rockers The Waterboys, folk legend Joan Baez, punk poet John Cooper Clarke, singer-songwriter King Creosote (Kenny Anderson) and acclaimed Manchester band I Am Kloot.

In General Election year, she also nails her political beliefs to the mast with My Voice, performed with Billy Bragg.

Thea, who starts her UK tour at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday, said: “I didn’t set out to make so many albums. I had things to say so I found a way to say them.”

Tickets cost £24.50 with fees. For further details see www.tha.on.co.uk website.

Little Voice will be heard again at Rep

Two of Britain’s favourite soap actors are in a new production of Jim Cartwright’s popular play The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice, at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from May 15 to 20.

The Olivier award-winning play about the sky but hugely talented Little Voice stars Coronation Street’s Vicky Entwistle and Chris Gascoyne, who played Janice Battersby and Peter Barlow.

In the demanding role of LV is Nancy Sullivan from the West End production of Les Miserables. Vicky Entwistle plays her blowsy mum and Chris Gascoyne is agent Ray Say, who wants to cash in on LV’s impersonations of such divas as Judy Garland and Shirley Bassey.

Ray patched up to play new date

American soft rock specialist Dr Hook, featuring iconic eyepatch wearing frontman Ray Sawyer, return to live work following Ray’s bad stint that postponed the band’s March Hooked on Hits tour. The 70-year-old broke his arm in a fall.

One of the headlining shows includes the Wulfrun Ball, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 14. The new solo Denis Leorriere was the main vocalist for most of the band’s hits, but Ray Sawyer—who lost an eye in a car accident in 1967—also contributed vocals, most memorably on Cover Of The Rolling Stone. Expect to hear all the hits, including Sylvia’s Mother.

Cabaret festival at pub theatre

BIRMINGHAM’S first cabaret festival is going to take place during the second half of May.

The Old Joint Stock theatre pub on Sampford Street in the city centre is the venue for acts ranging from cabaret to circus via music, drag and burlesque.

It kicks off with Edinburgh Fringe hit Boris and Bertrix’s Vaudevillician Adventure, an adult only poptop show, on May 15. Other highlights include gentlemen juggler Matt Ricardo on May 16, Mr B The Gentleman Rhymer on May 22 and The Weatherman by Kiki Levechil on May 27. For full line up see www.oldjointstock.co.uk website.

Everything Changes — Take That soar over the heads of their fans in a spectacular concert, picture by Andrew Whilton

Top quality bedding plants

The bedding plant sale you have waited for is nearly here.

1st Sedgley Scouts Annual Sale starts Saturday 9th May at 9.00am

Top quality plants direct from the nursery.

Come early to avoid disappointment.

Ladies Walk, Sedgley (rear of Co-Op Car Park)

07912 886745
Silk appeal firmly rooted in word of mouth on this handy eatery

By Mark Shipp

The restaurant is also set out to allow privacy for its diners, with spaces across the road in addition to the restaurant’s own car park.

The restaurant can be accessed via the restaurant’s own car park.

There are 10 combination dishes to choose from, with a mixture of lamb, chicken, and vegetarian options.
Diversity and the Strictly actors including Adrian Lester, Bonnie Langford, Deborah Kara Unger and James Young are to be featured in a special episode of Strictly Come Dancing, which will be filmed by viewers in this special edition.

8.00 Neja Warrior UK. Competitors from around the world test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge hosted by Ben Shephard. Richelle Harris and Amanda Byram. Those who make it to the end of the challenge will have their names engraved in the Neja Warrior UK trophy for the title of Neja Warrior UK.

6.30 You’ve Been Framed. Bonnie Langford and James Young are the hosts of this new series, which features an epic new take on the familiar soaperside when he revisits a favourite gag to the camera. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News. For the Love of Cars. Philip Pullman and Andrew Marr join forces with a panel of classic car fans to discuss their passion for iconic vehicles.

7.00 News at Ten. The Jeremy Kyle Show. Tom O’Connor and Matthew Kelly, Tom D’Olive and James Powell. Manchester City v Burnley at the KC Stadium; and Matthew Kelly, Tom D’Olive and James Powell. Manchester City v Burnley at the KC Stadium.


7.05 The nightmare neighbour next door. (R) The American TV series, which is set in a small US town, follows a family who installs surveillance cameras who installs surveillance cameras before he moves in. While the cameras prove useful in capturing a series of crimes, they also trigger a series of events that lead to the family’s ultimate downfall.

6.30 Dino Dan: Trek’s Adventures. (R) Join Dino Dan on an epic adventure, starring Russell Crowe. The series is based on the popular children’s show, which follows a young boy and his dinosaur friends as they explore the prehistoric world.

8.00 Britain’s Got Talent. Ant and Dec host the latest round of the nationwide talent search, a wide variety of acts from comedians to.coaches, players to compiles to jugents, and a range of talented act on the stage. (R)

9.00 The world’s most dangerous jobs. (R) The series explores the most dangerous jobs on the planet, including the Panama Canal and the Congo River, where water右边的rivers to test their endurance.

6.00 Ninja Turtles. (R) An animated series based on the popular movie franchise, which follows Leonardo, Raphael, Donatello, and Michelangelo as they time travel and save the world.

6.25 Can’t Pay? We’ll Take It Away. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who are unable to pay their debts, who are then offered the chance to work off their debt and become debt-free.

5.30 Storage. (R) The TV show, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

5.10 Britain’s Got Talent. (R) The popular talent competition, which features a range of acts from magicians to singers, is back for its latest series.

4.25 Britain’s Got Talent. (R) The popular talent competition, which features a range of acts from magicians to singers, is back for its latest series.

3.15 Live at the Apollo. (R) The popular comedy show, which features a range of comedians, is back for its latest series.

2.45 Teleshopping. (R) The popular TV show, which features a range of products for sale, is back for its latest series.

1.20 ITV4. (R) The popular TV show, which features a range of products for sale, is back for its latest series.

1.00 The shopping channel. (R) The popular TV show, which features a range of products for sale, is back for its latest series.

11.00 Live at the Apollo. (R) The popular comedy show, which features a range of comedians, is back for its latest series.

10.00 Britain’s Got Talent. (R) The popular talent competition, which features a range of acts from magicians to singers, is back for its latest series.

9.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

8.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

7.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

6.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

5.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

4.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

3.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

2.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.

1.00 Storage. (R) The reality TV series, which follows people who have stored items in a self-storage facility, and who are then forced to retrieve their belongings in order to pay off their debt.
Honouring the best in British television

MONDAY

Death Sentence, Channel 5, 10.55pm

Mid-mannered executive Nick Humbie's perfect peaceful life is destroyed when his oldest son is killed by a street gang. Humbie determines to see those responsible pay for their crimes, gaining the sympathy and support of a homicide detective working on the case. However, she begins to question his position as Humbie's methods of retribution become increasingly violent. Thriller, starring Kevin Bacon, Kelly Preston and Garrett Hedlund. (2007)

WEDNESDAY

Margot Calvi, BBC1, 11.15pm

A bitter executive is dismissed from an investment bank, but plans his revenge by handing secret information on the company's fortunes to a junior analyst. When the information is decoded, it reveals that the company is on the brink of a devastating financial crisis, a revelation that is soon spreading throughout the workplace. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Paul Bettany and Jeremy Irons. (2011)

FRIDAY

Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch, Tuesday, Channel 5, 9pm

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

31

Many looks back on his 500-day-long relationship with the woman he loves, remembering events in a random order. Romantic comedy, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel. (2009)

Can the TV Baftas outline their cinematic counterparts? Well, yes. If you're adding a little movie glamour to the proceedings, Benedict Cumberbatch, who is now in a serious bid for the Best Actor award, is the one to watch. He's up against James Nesbitt for The Missing, and two extraordinary performances as real-life people from the past, present and future in Big Brother's hands. I in fact, BB is going to start playing with the very concept of time itself – and not just by making viewers think they'll just tune in for a few minutes to check out the latest antics, only to later realise they've been gripped for two hours. Emma Willis takes charge this evening, as she introduces us to Big Brother's class of 2015.

TUESDAY

Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch Channel 5, 9pm

It's back – and it's going to be a blast. As if sharing a house with a group of complete strangers, all with very big, very public personalities, wasn't tricky enough, this year we're promised that the reality show is going to be extra mishmash, as the contestants place their past, present and future in Big Brother's hands.

THURSDAY

Fraud Squad, TV 5

The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FRIDAY

Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites BBC2, 8pm

New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing gulas cheese and shakshuka with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – authoritative guide to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded “I’ve finally done something cool!”

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

Cape Fear, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

Cape Fear

A psychopathic rapist is released from prison after 14 years and plots revenge on the defence attorney who abandons him. By a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques fromthousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Missing, Channel 4, 9pm

2009

Thursdays: Tyne Bridge, shortly after number for Gwendolyn Howard. (2009)

Innocent Woman). But then the big guns come out. Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

THURSDAY

Fraud Squad, TV 5

The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FRIDAY

Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites BBC2, 8pm

New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing gulas cheese and shakshuka with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – authoritative guide to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded “I’ve finally done something cool!”

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

Cape Fear, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

Cape Fear

A psychopathic rapist is released from prison after 14 years and plots revenge on the defence attorney who abandons him. By a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques fromthousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Missing, Channel 4, 9pm

2009

Thursdays: Tyne Bridge, shortly after number for Gwendolyn Howard. (2009)

Innocent Woman). But then the big guns come out. Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

THURSDAY

Fraud Squad, TV 5

The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FRIDAY

Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites BBC2, 8pm

New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing gulas cheese and shakshuka with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – authoritative guide to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded “I’ve finally done something cool!”

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

Cape Fear, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

Cape Fear

A psychopathic rapist is released from prison after 14 years and plots revenge on the defence attorney who abandons him. By a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques fromthousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Missing, Channel 4, 9pm

2009

Thursdays: Tyne Bridge, shortly after number for Gwendolyn Howard. (2009)

Innocent Woman). But then the big guns come out. Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.

THURSDAY

Fraud Squad, TV 5

The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an arm of music to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ring leader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FRIDAY

Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites BBC2, 8pm

New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing gulas cheese and shakshuka with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – authoritative guide to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded “I’ve finally done something cool!”

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV’s great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty-handed.
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:
Across
1. Not in top form? (6-6)
2. Also the last of 20 (2)
10. Capital changes are inappropriate here (4-6)
11. Took measured steps, perhaps (6)
13. Scrap it off when letter comes (7)
14. Very small amount of time (6)
15. Worse than Cind- erella’s sisters? (6)
16. Slept as far down as possible (7)
19. Sounds a tiny thing, but the power’s there? (5)
20. Winter worker is fly (8)
22. There are no features in production of the best assassins- tic, apparently (8-6)

Down
1. This motley has considerable effort (8)
2. She is absolutely crazy before noon! (3-7)
3. Where part of the footprints? (3)

Quick Clues:
Across
1. Origami (11)
2. Place (3)
3. Couldn’t (5)
4. Fairly king (8)
5. Performer (7)
6. Installed as bishop (9)
7. Diplomats (11)
8. Unnameable (6,3,4)
9. Fairly king (6)
10. Recognise (7)
11. Determine (7)
12. Frighten (3,4,3)
13. Agreement (5)
14. Place (3)
15. One of the 9 (4)
16. Scarecrow (9)
17. Niner (3)
18. First (3)
19. Dogmatic (11)
20. Watch (7)
21. A fuel (3)
22. Eternal (5-4)

Down
1. Place (3)
2. Encounter (3)
3. Encouraged (5)
4. King (8)
5. Performer (7)
6. Installed as bishop (9)
7. Diplomats (11)
8. Prime example (6,3,4)
9. Fairy king (6)
10. Frighten (3,4,3)
11. Agreement (5)
12. Place (3)
13. One of the 9 (4)
14. Camel (9)
15. Dogmatic (11)
16. Watch (7)
17. Scarecrow (9)
18. First (3)
19. Dogmatic (11)
20. Watch (7)
21. A fuel (3)
22. Eternal (5-4)

Solutions to no.322:
Codeword:

1. In Greek mythology who was the sister and wife of Zeus?
2. When did Queen Victoria succeed to the throne?
3. Jomo Kenyatta was prime minister of which country?
4. Who wrote the Palliser novels?
5. In which American state is Fort Knox?
6. Which element has the symbol A?
7. Successful spiritualist and wife of Zeus?
8. Who wrote the Palliser novels?
9. What was the first James Bond film?
10. Which Shakespeare play features the character Polonius?

Sudoku:

Thinking space

PUZZLES

Codeword: Cryptic - Across: 6 Beams; 7 Forms; 9 First; 10 Cabinet; 11 Intramural; 14 Sandman; 16 Flapped; 20 Brith; 21 Guts; 22 Oaths; Down: 1 Right; 2 Pass; 3 En; 4 Salva; 5 Empire; 6 antenn.; 7 Good; 9 Plain; 10 Autumn; 11 Banquet; 13 Doleful; 14 Intermezzo; 16 Exodus; 17 Right; 20 Art.

Cryptic - Across: 6 Bizarre; 7 Forms; 9 First; 10 Cabinet; 11 Intramural; 14 Sandman; 16 Flapped; 20 Brith; 21 Guts; 22 Oaths; Down: 1 Right; 2 Pass; 3 En; 4 Salva; 5 Empire; 6 antenn.; 7 Good; 9 Plain; 10 Autumn; 11 Banquet; 13 Doleful; 14 Intermezzo; 16 Exodus; 17 Right; 20 Art.

Solutions to no.322:
Codeword:
Niner: FORESIGHT

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

145 = gives a rodent.
3678 = gives a wild animal.
9243 = gives an aquatic mammal.

Thinking space

PUZZLES


Sudoku:

Thinking space

PUZZLES


Sudoku:

See the Difference at dwh.co.uk or call 08448 11 33 22

MIXED: Q=2, R=6, V=9, S=8, T=7, E=5, I=1, O=4, N=3, U=1, M=4, A=9, K=8, C=6, F=3, L=7, H=2, P=5, D=1, B=0

PUZZLES


Sudoku:

Thinking space

PUZZLES


Sudoku:
Stylish Sedgley home is priced at £294,950

HOLLY Tree Cottage in Sandfields Road, Sedgley is a residence of style and elegance. It is for sale through Rodens at £294,950.

- Large lounge
- Separate dining room
- Kitchen extension
- Three bedrooms
- Shower room
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing

Further details and contact: swashauctions@btconnect.com or (01902) 710626.
This delightful two-bedroomed cottage in High Street, Belfronton, near Stourbridge, is directly opposite the village green in a conservation area.

It is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £229,500.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has two bedrooms, a stylish re-fitted shower room and lounge with a multi-fuel stove, tiled floor an open plan dining kitchen area with cream units, dishwasher, oven, hob, fridge/freezer and washer/dryer.

The courtyard garden is decorated with pots and is a lovely place to sit in the sun.

For further information contact The Lee Shaw Partnership on 01562 888111 or visit www.leeshaw.com website.

www.jonstanier.co.uk-sales@jonstanier.co.uk

Over 30 years of local experience
HALESOWEN

**New**

**Talbot Street**

Briefly comprising: dining room, lounge, breakfast kitchen with built in oven and hob, cellar, landing with loft access, two bedrooms and a family bathroom. To the rear of the property is a fully enclosed garden laid to lawn and a chipped patio area. This property is offered with NO CHAIN. EPC - E.

£99,950

WILLenhall

**New**

**Waite Road**

A three bedroom detached house located with easy access to all motorway networks and within walking distance to local amenities, schools and public transport. The property briefly comprises of lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, driveway to the front and garden to the rear. Viewing is essential to appreciate the size of accommodation on offer. EPC - Ordered.

£124,950

 Dudley

**New**

**Myrtle Road**

LARGE DETACHED GARAGE! Also benefiting from three generous size bedrooms, with a downstairs wet room and upstairs WC, lounge, kitchen/dining room, conservatory, front and rear gardens and off road parking. No upward chain. EPC - D.

£199,950

STOURBRIDGE

**New**

**Churchill Drive**

WOW FACTOR KITCHEN!!! Beautifully presented and offering generous accommodation this property has a lot to offer! Briefly comprising: entrance hall, lounge, conservatory, modern fitted kitchen, utility room, inner hallway offering storage space, downstairs bathroom, upstairs shower room with WC, PRIVATE rear garden, driveway and side storage. EPC - E.

£110,000

 COLLEY GATE

**New**

**Colley Lane**

A well presented three bedroom mid terraced house located in this popular location. The property briefly comprises of entrance porch, lounge, dining area, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, driveway to the front and good sized garden to the rear. There are local shops, schools and amenities and excellent links to M5/M6 motorway network. EPC - D.

£109,950

 NETHERTON

**New**

**Cradley Road**

A purpose built ground floor flat which has been maintained to a high standard by the current owner. Benefitting from secure entrance doors and allocated parking and on request a car port. Briefly comprising: lounge, family bathroom, access to garage. EPC - C.

£75,000

 DUDLEY

**New**

**Nightingale Drive**

Well presented first floor 1 bed flat in a desirable location. Central heating & double glazing and lift furnished. Available for long term let. Fitted kitchen with white goods and cooker. One double bedroom with fitted wardrobe WC and shower room. EPC - C. 

£475 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**Westley Street**

A modern three bedroom property. Modern fitted kitchen/dining room, lounge, master bedroom with en-suite and family bathroom. Off road parking and garage. Private rear garden. Must Be Viewed. EPC - C. 

£650 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**Kent Place**

Three bedroom semi detached property briefly comprising through lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, utility downstairs WC and shower room, house bathroom. EPC - D.

£575 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**St James’s Road**

This apartment is in a first floor apartment in a purpose built block, with lift access and double glazing. There is an open plan living/dining/kitchen. Family bathroom, two further wcs on the ground floor, two bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite and en-suite bathroom, with a further WC on the first floor. Gas central heating, recently available for long term. EPC - B.

£540 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**Pages Croft**

A modern two bedroom flat located on the first floor apartment with off road parking. Modern fitted kitchen/diner with lounge area. Two good sized bedrooms, family bathroom. Double glazing, allocated parking. Available to view now. No DSS. No Pets. EPC - B.

£535 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**St James’s Road**

A brand new, spacious two bedroom apartment on the first floor apartment with off road parking. Modern fitted kitchen/diner with lounge area. Two good sized bedrooms, en-suite bathroom with shower over the bath. Viewing highly recommended. No pets or DSS accepted. EPC - C.

£510 PCM • Fees

 DUDLEY

**New**

**Wycherley Way**

A modern second floor two bedroom apartment. Briefly comprising fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, bathroom and allocated parking. EPC - E.

£450 PCM • Fees

www.trinityproperty.net

Offering honest, friendly advice for selling and renting your property

Energy Performance Certificates from £45

Fixed fee sales with No Sale No Fees

All aspects of property management including Guaranteed Rent

**Opening all the right doors**

01384 213395

21 Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 1DB

STOURBRIDGE, Butterfly Mews

This BUNGALOW with 3 bedrooms, NO UPWARD CHAIN to VEND, all upstaged by a SUPERB SPECIFICATION and formerly part of a larger and exclusive development by David Alexander Homes.

NETHERTON, Yew Tree Hills

This EXTENDED gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed semi detached for IMPROVEMENT; hall, living/dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, integral garage, EPC: E. SEDGLEY EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE

COSELEY, Pemberton Road

This STYLISHLY PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME, briefly comprises; hall, attractive sitting room, dining room, modern kitchen, three bathrooms, large gardens. EPC: D. SEDGLEY Offers in the region of £114,950

UPPER GORNAL, Harvest Close

This TRADITIONAL & CHARMING, DETACHED COTTAGE offers a RARE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE A UNIQUE FAMILY PROPERTY. Comprising; entrance hall, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, garage & driveway, EPC: C. SEDGLEY

No upward chain

Offers in the Region Of £245,000

SEDGELEY, Rowena Gardens, Northway

ENLARGED gas centrally heated UPVC, double glazed detached with hall, cloaks, 18 ft living/dining room, kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom, car port, garage, extensice parking. Stunning garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

NEW

£159,500

New price

£125,000

NEW

£160,950

NORTHWOOD, Haslingden Crescent

EXTREMELY WELL PRESENTED, spacious, detached property situated in popular neighbourhood of Lower Gornal benefitting from double glazing, gas central heating and composite, hall, ground floor living room, guest, w/c, large kitchen. THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS all en suite to master bedroom, family bathroom. Garage, driveway, and private rear garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY Offers in the region of £229,995

WORCESTER, Brierley Hill Road

A VERY INDIVIDUAL, DISTINCTIVE AND SUBSTANTIAL DETACHED DOUBLE FRONTED DORMER BUNGALOW within its established address, offering an exceptionally large THREE BEDROOM family home, providing POTENTIAL With a large frontage including a DRIVEWAY with approach to the GARAGE and enjoying a level, south facing rear garden which forms a natural sun trap. EPC: D

SEDGELEY, Brierley Hill Road

EXTENSIVE REAR GARDEN with private rear aspect. EPC D

£179,950

New

£159,500

NEW

£160,950

LOWER GORNAL, Haslingden Crescent

EXTREMELY WELL PRESENTED, spacious, detached property situated in popular neighbourhood of Lower Gornal benefitting from double glazing, gas central heating and composite, hall, ground floor living room, guest, w/c, large kitchen. THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS all en suite to master bedroom, family bathroom. Garage, driveway, and private rear garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY Offers in the region of £217,500

NEW

£159,500

NEW

£179,950

LOWER GORNAL, Haslingden Crescent

EXTREMELY WELL PRESENTED, spacious, detached property situated in popular neighbourhood of Lower Gornal benefitting from double glazing, gas central heating and composite, hall, ground floor living room, guest, w/c, large kitchen. THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS all en suite to master bedroom, family bathroom. Garage, driveway, and private rear garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY Offers in the region of £217,500

Freehold

Offers in the region of £229,995

NEW

£179,950

NEW

£179,950

NEW

£159,500

NEW

£159,500

NEW

£179,950

NEW
SEDGLEY, Sunningdale Road, Northway

ENVIIABLE LOCATION! Backing onto fields and with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS (backing on to fields) requiring some sympathetic updating, and briefly comprising: reception hall, two double bedrooms (both with wardrobes), 1/2 living dining room (with patio doors out to the garden), kitchen, garage, delightful sheltered garden. EPC: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE

Offers in the Region of £209,950

WODSETTEN, Westerdale Close (Off Brook Street)

ENVIIABLE SITUATED, gas centrally heated, primarily uPVC double glazed detached bungalow (backing on to fields) requiring some sympathetic updating, and briefly comprising: reception hall, two double bedrooms (both with wardrobes), 1/2 living dining room (with patio doors out to the garden), kitchen. Garage. EPC: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE

Offers in the region of £190,000

DUDLEY, Dibdale Road

Beautifully presented, gas centrally heated & double glazed, extended family home which offers spacious accommodation over 3/4 receiving rooms comprising: lounge, kitchen with central heating, cloakroom w/c, utility, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS with en suite shower/bedroom two, bathroom, shower room. Garage, driveway to front and fantastic enclosed rear garden. EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £189,950
01384 591215
Units 1, 12 & 14, Mount Pleasant, Quarry Bank DY5 2YS
Email cartecgarages@hotmail.com

FAST FIT CLUTCH & BRAKE CENTRE
• CAR & LIGHT COMMERCIALS • SERVICING & REPAIRS

- FULL DIAGNOSTICS
- ALL MAKES & MODELS
- ECU, ABS, AIRBAGS, CAM BELT CHANGES
- NEW & PART WORN TYRES
- TRACKING - BALANCING

MOT’s £39.99
Servicing tailored to your needs and budget

01384 591215
Units 11, 12 & 14 Mount Pleasant, Quarry Bank DY5 2YS

Email cartecgarages@hotmail.com

Revolutionary step for Audi

Already at the forefront of diesel technology with its current production cars, Audi is claiming a revolutionary step towards carbon-neutral cars after creating a new type of diesel from water and carbon dioxide. Using renewable energy sources such as wind, wave and solar power, the water is split into oxygen and hydrogen. The hydrogen is then mixed with carbon monoxide, harvested from carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and under high pressure and temperatures the two react to create crude.

This can then be refined and mixed with conventional diesel or used on its own. According to test results, it is also more efficient than conventional diesel, with 70 per cent of its stored energy available.

The fuel is being produced by Sunfire in Dresden in collaboration with Audi, the only downside being that only 160 litres are being produced per day. However there are plans for a larger factory and once viable production levels have been achieved it could sell to the public for less than the current cost of regular diesel fuel.

Fuel consumption figures for the Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 80.7 (3.5), Combined 76.3 (3.7). CO₂ emissions: 117 g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes only and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Quality Used Cars At Great Prices

FINANCE AVAILABLE • PART EXCHANGE
WARRANTIES AVAILABLE • WE BUY CARS

www.halesowenautos.co.uk
1 CROSS STREET, HALESOEN 86 4RT
Tel: 0121 501 3840

Better
The new Civic.

Sleeker
New sportier design with rear spoiler.

Further
Up to 76.3mpg.

The brand new Civic range from £15,975 to £25,860.
Flexible finance, 5 Years’ complimentary servicing.

BRINDLEY HONDA
With sites in Cannock, Halesowen, West Bromwich & Wolverhampton.
Call: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk

Hotel: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk

The Civic model range

BRINDLEY HONDA
With sites in Cannock, Halesowen, West Bromwich & Wolverhampton.
Call: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk

Hotel: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk

The Civic model range

BRINDLEY HONDA
With sites in Cannock, Halesowen, West Bromwich & Wolverhampton.
Call: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk

Hotel: 03337 773277 or visit: www.brindley-honda.co.uk
Honda’s new HR-V looking on line to be ultra efficient

By James Parker
Honda says its all-new HR-V will be one of the most efficient cars in its class and have an unmatched combination of sought-after attributes when it arrives in showrooms across the UK this summer.

As well as dynamic styling, class-leading interior space and versatility, and advanced infotainment and safety technologies, the new HR-V will deliver fuel economy and emissions among the best in its class.

It will be offered from launch with a choice of 1.0 litre i-VTEC petrol and 1.5 litre i-VTEC petrol engines, both from Honda’s advanced Earth Dreams Technology range.

“The Honda HR-V created this fast growing market segment back in 1999 and for 2015 the all new HR-V will offer a class leading ownership proposition, refinement, sleek styling, a quality feel as well as being packed to the roof with safety and technology features.”

“We are confident that the HR-V will perform favourably against its main competitors in this segment, such as the current market leading Nissan Qashqai,” said Leon Brennan, Head of Cars, Honda UK.

Combining the 1.0 litre i-VTEC diesel pair with a newly-engineered six-speed manual transmission, Honda’s new subcompact SUV will return fuel economy figures from 71mpg, with CO2 emissions starting from just 104g/km.

HR-V customers won’t find performance compromised by the car’s frugality, however, with 118bhp powering the new HR-V from 0-62mph in 10.1 seconds.

Petrol buyers can select a 130 PS 1.5 litre i-VTEC engine, achieving combined fuel economy of 54.2mpg and CO2 emissions from 120g/km when they opt for the CVT automatic transmission.

Economy
When matched with the standard six-speed manual, the new petrol-powered HR-V delivers fuel economy of 55mpg and CO2 emissions at a highly competitive 130 g/km.

Sprightly performance is assured with 62mph reached from standstill in just 10.3 seconds with the manual and 10.9 seconds when equipped with the optional CVT.

The new HR-V’s efficient performance credentials are aided by its design and class-leading aerodynamics, with underbody panels optimising airflow. In profile, the HR-V portrays a characterful poise, with the distinctive, sleek styling, a quality feel as well as being packed to the roof with safety and technology features.

Inside, the new HR-V will offer class-leading boot space: 433 litres with the rear seats up and 1,028 litres with the rear seats down.

Thanks to innovative packaging, the Honda HR-V’s best in-class interior space is exceptionally versatile and incorporates Honda’s highly practical Magic Seats system.

Premium quality materials and sophisticated cabin design are blended with the feel of a sporty, enveloping cockpit.

Specification highlights include the advanced Honda Connect in-car infotainment system, and a wide range of safety aids employing radar and camera technologies to scan the road ahead.

Further details including pricing will be available closer to the new HR-V’s summer launch.

VOTE DMC THIS WEEK AND VOTE WITH YOUR HARD EARNED MONEY!!!

12 MTHS MOT WITH EVERY CAR!!
6 MTHS WARRANTY WITH EVERY CAR!!
ALL CARS WILL BE SERVICED!!
ALL CARS WILL BE TAXED!!
The ultimate hatchback

By Sharon Walters

Feast your eyes on the ultimate 308. Peugeot has unveiled a stunning new version of the award-winning compact family hatchback – with a combined 500bhp and four-wheel drive.

Badged the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid, it has been developed by Peugeot Sport, the brand’s in-house engineering and racing division, which last year unveiled the critically acclaimed RCZ R.

The car’s plug-in petrol hybrid powertrain pushes the boundaries of sporting prowess in the segment, offering an extraordinary performance. The car is capable of hitting 62mph in four seconds, yet still has low CO2 emissions of 70g/km. “Peugeot Sport’s expertise applies an uncompromising approach to meeting targets. With our experience in hybrid vehicles developed with the Peugeot 908, the high-performance hybrid powertrain fitted to the 308 gives a glimpse of the potential for ultra-sports models in the future,” said Bruno Famin, director at Peugeot Sport.

The contemporary style and sporting prowess of the 308 – the car of the Year 2014 – remain clearly visible. However, the 308 R HYbrid also re-images design cues explored on the Quartz concept, seen most recently at March’s Geneva Motor Show. It has front and rear tracks widened by 80mm and riding on 235/35 R19 tyres with front end styling that is dynamic and imposing. The grille features a chaufered pattern which allows air to cool the 500hp powertrain. The side scoops are home to the sequential LED indicators, while the central scoop sports the 308 R HYbrid signature.

Cloaked in an intense blue and developed using fluorescent pigments and glass particles, this colour saturates both the hybrid powertrain and the shade historically reserved for French competition vehicles. On the rear doors, the blue is matched with a matt black, giving a new interpretation of the car’s clean lines. At the rear, the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid is undertaken, with a narrow spoiler at the top of the tailgate. The bumper’s twin air scoops help keep the battery temperature down by drawing out the hot air; whilst the lower section is embellished with a touch of white emphasising the car’s dynamic character.

Peugeot 1.6 HYbrid4 instrumentation means the interior is familiar, but that’s where similarities to the standard 308 end. Four individual sports seats create a dramatic interior which point to the sole aim of Peugeot 308 R HYbrid – world-class performance. The upper fittings and roof lining are slate grey and dark grey, plus two electric motors – each with power of 85kW/115hp – mounted close on each axle. The front one is linked to the six-speed gearbox. The result is a family hatchback which is capable of super performance. The Peugeot 308 R HYbrid can hit 62mph (100km/h) from a standing start in only 4.0 seconds, with top speed electronically limited to 155mph. In spite of this performance, CO2 emissions are just 70g/km.

The all-wheel drive system of the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid makes for formidable handling, especially when coming out of the corners.

Keep up with the latest news at #PEUGEOT308RHYbrid

Our Low Mileage Selection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Mitsubishi Colt C22 1.3 Auto Blue Only 3400 Miles</td>
<td>£6,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Astra 1.4 Exclusive Brown Only 3900 Miles</td>
<td>£9,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Focus 1.6 Zetec 125 Auto Gold Only 5000 Miles</td>
<td>£10,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Meriva 1.4 Exclusive Red Only 6000 Miles</td>
<td>£8,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Astra 1.6 Exclusive Blue Only 8000 Miles</td>
<td>£8,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 C Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue Only 8000 Miles</td>
<td>£7,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 Kangoo 1.6 Express Red Only 9700 Miles</td>
<td>£6,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Gr Scenic 1.6 Dyn Tomtom Black Only 10000 Miles</td>
<td>£8,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 C Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Silver Only 10000 Miles</td>
<td>£11,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 C Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue Only 11000 Miles</td>
<td>£10,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 308 1.6 HDI Active Silver Only 12000 Miles</td>
<td>£9,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58 Fiat Doblo 1.9 D Dynamic Silver 41k</td>
<td>£4,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58 Toyota Yaris 1.4 TR D-4D 5/Auto Silver 20k</td>
<td>£6,795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citroen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61 C 1.4 VTR+ Blue 15k</td>
<td>£6,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 C Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Grey 14k</td>
<td>£8,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 DS 1.6 Dsytle Auto Yellow 16k</td>
<td>£9,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 DS 2.0 HDI Dsylfe Grey 31k</td>
<td>£12,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ford

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06 Fiesta 1.2 Style Silver 52k</td>
<td>£3,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Silver 18k</td>
<td>£7,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Fiesta 1.6 Titanium Red 41k</td>
<td>£6,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 Focus 1.6 Zetec Blue 60k</td>
<td>£5,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57 Mondeo 2.0 TDCI Titanium Silver 56k</td>
<td>£5,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nissan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59 Micra 1.4 Tekna Auto Red 21k</td>
<td>£5,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58 Note 1.4 Acenta Blue 47k</td>
<td>£4,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Note 1.6 N Tech+ Auto Blue 18k</td>
<td>£8,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 Note 1.6 Tekna Orange 43k</td>
<td>£4,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Note 1.6 SE Auto Silver 52k</td>
<td>£3,795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peugeot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61 207 1.6 HDI Active 3dr Silver 20k</td>
<td>£5,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 3008 1.6 HDI Exclusive Black 15k</td>
<td>£10,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62 3008 1.6 HDI Active II EGC Vapour Grey 20k</td>
<td>£10,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 3008 1.6 HDI Active II EGC Red 24k</td>
<td>£8,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vauxhall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Corsa 1.4 SE Auto Silver 13k</td>
<td>£7,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57 Astra 1.4 Club Silver 73k</td>
<td>£9,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Zafira 1.6 Design Red 20k</td>
<td>£8,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62 Zafira 1.7 CDTI Design Silver 18k</td>
<td>£9,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 Insignia 2.0 CDTI SRI Auto Silver 28k</td>
<td>£9,295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specialists In One Owner, Full Service History, Ex Molatability Vehicles

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage, Full Service History, Ex Molatability Vehicles

This Weeks Low Mileage Specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 DESIGN 3-door.</td>
<td>£7995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORD KA CONVERTIBLE Silver, Full Leather, PAS, AC, £1799</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIC Alloys, PAS, AC, £2699</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIC Full Power Roof, CD, EW, AC, £2699</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi GHIA 5-door, Silver, PAS, AC, £2499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 LIFE Met Grey, 7 seats, PAS, £1999</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOYOTA CELICA 1.8 190 BHP Gold, Full Leather,Alloys, PAS, Sunroof, £2199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEAT LEON 2.0 TDI EST Silver, Roofbars, PAS, £3499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RENAULT CLIO 2.0 RSC, 5-door, Silver, AC, £2499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SXI 5-door, Black, PAS, EW, £1999</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIA SEDONA 2.9 DIESEL Silver, Alloys, PAS, AC, £2499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.8 LIFE Est Silver, PAS, £2499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

£7995

Colt C22 1.3 Auto 2012

Only 12000 Miles From New

£6995

Only 3000 Miles From New

£3999

£4299

£2999

£2499

£2499

£1999

£2499

£3499

£2999

£2499

£2999

£2499

£1999

£2199

£3499

£2499

£1999

£2499

£1999

£2499

£1999

£2499
funeral directors
J.R. JONES
Lower Gornal 01902 880040
DANNY & DOWLING
Dudley 01384 352722
Independent family run
Funeral Directors
24 hour service
www.newdannings.co.uk

family
elderly & disabled
FULL CHANCERY TREATMENT
J.Greenhalgh & Son
14-16 High St
Stourbridge
01384 272732
01902 786041 or 07790 321337.
MOVILTY SCOOTERS from £50
Call Mark, Sandwell 01384 263097
www.richpanel.co.uk
Call Jeff now on
07904 538015 or 0121 7621321

family caravan
for sale
On a stunning Coastal Park in North Wales, 5 min walk to the Beach. Great facilities including large indoor heated Pool with Flume, 4-6 b 1 bed paid for 500 savings. Winter Packages can be arranged with a small deposit.
17 & Caryn.
Call Jeff now on
07904 538015 or 0121 7621321

league caravan
near always
spacious
investment
01902 763051

STATIC CARAVAN
28 x 12, 4 bedrooms, 6 berth, 2006 stock, in excellent condition, mid way between Lomond and Uphills All for £5500. Call now or text 07710 395122.

Swift Challenger 500SE
2007 caravan in very good condition including awning, full awning, trailer / hitch £8000. Ready to go. 01384 381479

Swift Challenger
Excellent condition. Motor mover, 4 berth, en suite, full bedding, fridge/freezer. Upholstery and carpets immaculate. £6000 ono.

Bargain
All Caravans Wanted Any Age or Condition "CASH WAITING" Immediate collection Bill on 07825 325913

boots £5-50
07538 842842

Caravans / motorhomes
ABBEY VOYAGE £20 2 berth + 1 car seat, just serviced, motor mover, excellent condition.
£7000
07929 205737.

ACECOACHER 2012/2013
Class A Motorhome, excellent condition. Sleeps 7.0
Fitted from only £169
01902 38469

 sucking & electric beds
MATERIAL MEASURES FRANTIC
OBSOLETE FURNITURE
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
SINGLE ELECTRIC bed £160.
Call Amanda on 01902 38469
WREKIN STAIRLIFTS secondhand.
Free quotes. Amanda on 01902 38469
01902 453794/07710 000931

education & tuition
DUDLEY TUTORS Est. 1992
West Midlands Premier Instructors
Home individual tutoring LOCAL QUALIFIED TUTORS
Offering tutoring in all subjects. Well qualified, experienced and fully checked Friday, 14-2465
Secondary GCSE, A & A+ etc.
0121 212 4465
01902 671683

NEW TUTORS WELCOME
25H ENGLISH, MATHS, Sciences, all levels.
Free Quotes: Amanda on 01902 38469

Car boot sales
NARROWBOAT 50FT 2015, 4 berth, CH, log burner, recently converted into b & b condition, just completed, out of water for any inspection, Wombourne area.
01902 38469 /01902 250737.

Ashwood Car Boot Sunday open every Sunday plus Bank Holidays at Ridley Bypass, B4178
Ring Coat: 07973 900695
www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk
OPEN ALL YEAR

boats & water sports
citroen relay motorhome
2 berth, new conversion, 12v fridge, blow air heating, cooker, LED lighting, shower, toilet/saflower, 750L, 57,000 miles, August 2008, £7950.

01902 38469

01902 250737.

elodie's lux liver caravan
Immaculate condition, top spec, end bed, mover too much for time reason. £6300 ono.
01902 764007

07702 011256

Col's car boot & market
Open every Sunday plus Bank Holidays at Ridley Bypass, B4178
Ring Coat: 07973 900695
www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk
OPEN ALL YEAR

in person
At your local Express & Star Office. Cancel/adam, call before 1.00pm Monday - Friday for the next day's advertisement or before 3.00pm Friday for Monday's advertisement.
WE PAY 100% of purchase price

We buy any house

- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.

CALL ON 01902 628060
0800 389 6788

We also buy land

commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots.

Call Stavan on
0800 999 999 6
or 01902 628047 247
www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!
I pay 100% of purchase price

Call now for the best price on your house

- Guaranteed offer
- Any condition
- No fees
- Repossessions stopped

One phone call, your house sold.

01902 628047
0800 500 3109
www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk

NO STRINGS
Local Investor pays
you more

Call any time
0800 633 5226
01922 689023

NO OBLIGATION FREE CONSULTATION

0800 092 5743
01902 489 500
YellowSpringbok.co.uk

** orchestra's only £1.00, no guns, pets or livestock. Free ads are published within 7 days of receipt, in paper and online and are limited to 3 lines maximum.

*Advertise any item FREE up to the value of £250 go to:
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

Simply click the FreeAds.com

IT'S FREE
IT'S EASY
SELLING YOUR CAR?

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as £19.50 for 6 nights plus 6 nights free if you do not sell.

CALL 01902 317878

**Classified Ads**

**8 Motoring**

**ADVERTISERS REMARKED**

The business Advertisements (Display Orders) Act 1977 requires that advertisements be clearly differentiated between Private and Trade.

**Antiques & Collectables**

Call Alan Now 07832 323562

**BMA A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000**

Open every day, Full MOT’s on 01902 490555. Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JF

**Weed Control & Pest Control**

07983 680337

**FORD FOCUS 1.6 GHIA**

Metallic

1977 requires that advertise-
ments be clearly differentiated bet-
ween Private and Trade.

**MINI ONE 1.6**

Private sale

07879 073702

**BOUVILLE 250 Spyders, 6S, 2.6**

Scooters & Motor Cycles

1000’s of parts available at times

MONMORE RD, WV1 2TU

**10 PERSONALS**

**PREFACE**

For convenience you may tax any advertising

requirements to:

01902 713146

expresssprinters.co.uk

Remember to include the name/number for
certificated according to current regulations

of parts available at times

of all types of Carpet & Floor Coverings

and energy efficient glazing

with a new or second hand car.

Full and part Rewires /Fuse Boards

Upgrades /Showers /Extra Sockets

HOMER’s

Multi £300 fsh, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue,

MEREHEIM

£1,195.

Private sale

07717 295019.

**FORD MONDEO 1.6 GHIA**

Black, 11 months MoT, good condi-

tion. £1,450. 01562 753457.

**MINI ONE 1.6**

Private sale

07791 424718.

**RENAULT SCENIC DCi**

£2,500.

Private sale

079702 00066 /0 1922 780250

**FORD TRANSIT**

Diesel, 3 berth. Extremely low mileage,

FSh, 6 months MoT, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition,

interior, sat nav, multi CD player,

**WOLVERHAMPTON GUY 54**

Slim, fit, single, own house and car,

wants a car, seeks non

smoking Female company for

friendship and company.

Box Number P19801, Express and Star,

Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**Sell Local**

We don’t have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges

reach over half a million people*.

**FORD TRANSIT HIGH TOP**

**Selling Your Car**

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as £19.50 for 6 nights plus 6 nights free if you do not sell. **CALL 01902 317878**

**Volkswagen Polo**

2004, 5 door, Black, 11 months MoT, certificated according to current regulations

of all types of Carpet & Floor Coverings

and energy efficient glazing

with a new or second hand car.

Full and part Rewires /Fuse Boards

Upgrades /Showers /Extra Sockets

HOMER’s

Multi £300 fsh, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue,

MEREHEIM

£1,195.

Private sale

07791 424718.

**RENAULT SCENIC DCi**

£2,500.

Private sale

079702 00066 /0 1922 780250

**FORD TRANSIT**

Diesel, 3 berth. Extremely low mileage,

FSh, 6 months MoT, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition,

interior, sat nav, multi CD player,

**WOLVERHAMPTON GUY 54**

Slim, fit, single, own house and car,

wants a car, seeks non

smoking Female company for

friendship and company.

Box Number P19801, Express and Star,

Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**Sell Local**

We don’t have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges

reach over half a million people*.

**FORD TRANSIT HIGH TOP**

**Selling Your Car**

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as £19.50 for 6 nights plus 6 nights free if you do not sell. **CALL 01902 317878**

**Volkswagen Polo**

2004, 5 door, Black, 11 months MoT, certificated according to current regulations

of all types of Carpet & Floor Coverings

and energy efficient glazing

with a new or second hand car.

Full and part Rewires /Fuse Boards

Upgrades /Showers /Extra Sockets

HOMER’s

Multi £300 fsh, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue,

MEREHEIM

£1,195.

Private sale

07791 424718.

**RENAULT SCENIC DCi**

£2,500.

Private sale

079702 00066 /0 1922 780250

**FORD TRANSIT**

Diesel, 3 berth. Extremely low mileage,

FSh, 6 months MoT, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition,

interior, sat nav, multi CD player,

**WOLVERHAMPTON GUY 54**

Slim, fit, single, own house and car,

wants a car, seeks non

smoking Female company for

friendship and company.

Box Number P19801, Express and Star,

Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**Sell Local**

We don’t have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges

reach over half a million people*.

**FORD TRANSIT HIGH TOP**

**Selling Your Car**

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as £19.50 for 6 nights plus 6 nights free if you do not sell. **CALL 01902 317878**

**Volkswagen Polo**

2004, 5 door, Black, 11 months MoT, certificated according to current regulations

of all types of Carpet & Floor Coverings

and energy efficient glazing

with a new or second hand car.

Full and part Rewires /Fuse Boards

Upgrades /Showers /Extra Sockets

HOMER’s

Multi £300 fsh, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue,

MEREHEIM

£1,195.

Private sale

07791 424718.

**RENAULT SCENIC DCi**

£2,500.

Private sale

079702 00066 /0 1922 780250

**FORD TRANSIT**

Diesel, 3 berth. Extremely low mileage,

FSh, 6 months MoT, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition,

interior, sat nav, multi CD player,

**WOLVERHAMPTON GUY 54**

Slim, fit, single, own house and car,

wants a car, seeks non

smoking Female company for

friendship and company.

Box Number P19801, Express and Star,

Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**Sell Local**

We don’t have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges

reach over half a million people*.

**FORD TRANSIT HIGH TOP**

**Selling Your Car**

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as £19.50 for 6 nights plus 6 nights free if you do not sell. **CALL 01902 317878**

**Volkswagen Polo**

2004, 5 door, Black, 11 months MoT, certificated according to current regulations

of all types of Carpet & Floor Coverings

and energy efficient glazing

with a new or second hand car.

Full and part Rewires /Fuse Boards

Upgrades /Showers /Extra Sockets

HOMER’s

Multi £300 fsh, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue,

MEREHEIM

£1,195.

Private sale

07791 424718.

**RENAULT SCENIC DCi**

£2,500.

Private sale

079702 00066 /0 1922 780250

**FORD TRANSIT**

Diesel, 3 berth. Extremely low mileage,

FSh, 6 months MoT, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition,

interior, sat nav, multi CD player,
Interiors

Jedg

RoProperty Maintenance

Turfing

Tree Felling

q

Plastering

Tree Services

Scrap Vehicles

Showers

Fencing

Elites

LAPWOOD

SHEDS & FENCING

All Types Of Shed & Fencing Supplied

And Fitted with Quality Workmanship

Call now for consideration

SPRING DISCOUNTS

For Free Quotes

Call 0776 117222

01384 261651

www.lapwoodshe...
Lake Como, St Moritz and the Bernina Express

Explore one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, plus some stunning sights of northern Italy and Switzerland.

The delights of Lake Como are many and varied. One of the highlights will be a private boat trip and tour of the beautiful 18th century Villa del Balbianello, one of the finest villas surrounding the lake. This is followed by a visit to the exclusive resort of Bellagio, often described as the most beautiful town in Italy.

Enjoy a contrasting day of spectacular scenery and Swiss engineering. Firstly ascend to Tirano to board the Bernina Express, one of the slowest express trains in the world, travelling to the summit at Ospizio Bernina before descending to the chic resort of St Moritz, where there is time for a spot of window shopping or to explore at leisure.

A guided tour of the old town is included at Bergamo in northern Italy. Centred around the Piazza Vecchia, it’s main square is a wonderful collection of medieval and Renaissance buildings and the cobbled streets are lined with a wealth of traditional shops.

Nearby Lake Maggiore’s most attractive lakeside town Stresa is visited. Take a stroll along its impressive palm-lined promenade and enjoy the lovely views across the lake to the Borromean islands.

The town of Lugano in Switzerland is also a delight to explore. It’s centred around the cafe-lined main square – ideal for people watching. Alternatively stroll around the twisting lanes of the old town or network of shops.

Yorkshire Cruise and Steam

Three days departing August 14

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Journey on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway
- Cruise on the Leeds Liverpool Canal
- Tour of the Yorkshire Dales
- Visits to Holmfirth, Skipton, Grassington and Haworth
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W60552)

Isle of Wight and Osborne House

Four days departing August 28

- Return coach travel and ferry crossings
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Osborne House
- Visits to Ryde, Godshill, Yarmouth and The Needles Park at Alum Bay
- Tour and wine tasting at the Rosemary Vineyard
- Entrance to Ventnor Botanic Gardens and a cream tea
- Free time in Cowes
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W60552)

Norfolk Gardens and The Lavender Harvest

Three days departing July 3

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Sandringham House and Gardens
- Entrance to Blickling Gardens
- Visit to Cambridge
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V4782)

Elvis Exhibition at The O2 London

Two days departing August 22

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to the Elvis exhibition at the O2
- Free time in central London
- Visit to Greenwich
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W60552)

Saturday Night Theatre by rail

Two days departs most weekends

- Return standard class rail travel to London (postage paid offer)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Tickets for the Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show

Organised by Omega Events (ABTA V5500X)

London Summer Days

Five days departing August 17

- Return coach travel
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation at the four-star Tower Guoman hotel
- Excursion to Windsor
- Optional excursion to Hampton Court Palace and Richmond
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

Jersey

Four to eight days

Departures June to December

- Return flights
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Mayfair or Metropole hotel in St Helier
- Option to upgrade to half-board for a supplement
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V5101, ATOL 0752)

Buckingham Palace

Day trip departing August 9 and Sept 13

- Return coach travel
- Entrance to Buckingham Palace

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W60552)

Normandy by Eurostar

Five days various departure dates

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour of Rouen
- Visits to the Bayeux Tapestry, Benedictine Palace and the port of Honfleur
- Visit to Arromanches and the second World War D-Day beaches
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies
- Certain entrance fees payable locally

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744)

Sicily

Eight days various departure dates

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation in four-star hotels
- Guided tours of Valley of the Temples, Piazza Armerina and Monreale’s medieval cathedral
- Visits to Palermo, Taormina, Mount Etna and Siracusa
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3436)

Iceland Reykjavik and the Northern Lights

Four days various departure dates November 2015 to March 2016

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation in a choice of hotels
- City tour of Reykjavik
- Search for the Northern Lights tour*
- Optional excursions offered
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

*Please note the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed

Organised by Nearest Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999 (Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to expresssandstar.com/starextragray
**Yeltz aim to cash in on Albion £50 price rise**

HALESOWEN TOWN has slashed season ticket prices – in an attempt to entice disinterested Albion fans who are facing a hike in the cost of watching their team and hopefully boost their attendances at matches.

The Yeltz, who start their second campaign in the Northern Premier League in August, are offering an early-bird price of £150 which is down from the original price of £190 for adults – until May 1.

The move comes as Albion revelations it is increasing its own adult season tickets by £50, meaning that they will range from £698 up to £748.90 for the 2015-16 season.

Yeltz commercial manager Chris Lambert said: “This is not only to reward fans’ loyalty this season but also to attract a new ever increasing fan base.

“Albion fans have seen their tickets price go up by £50 so we are appealing to them or anyone who they could entice to watch affordable competitive football.”

They believe that they are deciding to increase ticket prices with the amount of TV money coming in from the Premier League this season, added Mr Lambert.

Yeltz senior and student season tickets are prices at £100, while for under-11s it’s £50 and for the under-12s are free providing they are with a paying adult or senior.

Match prices at The Grove have also been frozen for next year.

The ticket prices will remain at £15 for adults, £7 for seniors and students, £3 for under-16s, and £1 for under-12s providing they are attending with a paying adult or senior.

**The baggies relish taking Utd’s scalp**

Luke Paskin side footed past the keeper.

Tony Pulis’s Hawthorns reign might have very little in common with the one in September 2013 – in fact the sense of joy at the final whistle was the only thing that felt the same.

Because from a position of feeling safe from relegation on next season and declared his organisation, an iron will and some tremendous

But the goalkeeper’s heroics merely typified a day afternoon, the Baggies arrived at kick-off on Saturday evening at Old Trafford with a huge deflection off Olsson’s calf taking the ball past a helpless De Gea.

At the final whistle, the only thing that felt the same. McAuley is among players out of contract in the summer but Brunt believes everyone has a point to prove over the final four games, against of Pulis’ first summer at the Hawthorns, adding: “The new gaffer here I’m sure he will have a big say in what goes on over the summer,” explained the 30-year-old.

“Regardless of what anybody thinks about whether we’re safe or not, everybody has still got something sorted. McAuley is among players out of contract in the summer but Brunt believes everyone has a point to prove over the final four games, against of Pulis’ first summer at the Hawthorns, adding: “The new gaffer here I’m sure he will have a big say in what goes on over the summer,” explained the 30-year-old.

“Regardless of what anybody thinks about whether we’re safe or not, everybody has still got something sorted.”

**Wrens move into fourth slot in league**

Wrens Nest 3 St Martins 2. Wrens Nest have now moved up to fourth place in West Midlands League Division 1 with a great start to the new campaign under new manager Burham.”

Wrens Nest defeated the rest of the Wrens Nest future and promising young group of players who started the match in second place over the last few weeks of the season, whether they want to stay or want to leave, it’s in everybody’s best interests to play out the season to the city of their ability and try to get points for West Brom.”

**McAuley deal is a ‘no-brainer’**

CHRIS Brunt believes offering Gareth McAuley a new deal this summer should be ‘no-brainer’. McAuley endured a frustrated first half to the season but Brunt believes his fellow Northern Irishman still has plenty to offer the Baggles.

The 35-year-old defender’s contract expires in the summer but Brunt believes his fellow Northern Irishman still has plenty to offer the Baggles. McAuley had very little in common with the one in September 2013 – in fact the sense of joy at the final whistle was the only thing that felt the same.

Because from a position of feeling safe from relegation on next season and declared his organisation, an iron will and some tremendous

But the goalkeeper’s heroics merely typified a day afternoon, the Baggies arrived at kick-off on Saturday evening at Old Trafford with a huge deflection off Olsson’s calf taking the ball past a helpless De Gea.

At the final whistle, the only thing that felt the same. McAuley is among players out of contract in the summer but Brunt believes everyone has a point to prove over the final four games, against of Pulis’ first summer at the Hawthorns, adding: “The new gaffer here I’m sure he will have a big say in what goes on over the summer,” explained the 30-year-old.

“Regardless of what anybody thinks about whether we’re safe or not, everybody has still got something sorted. McAuley is among players out of contract in the summer but Brunt believes everyone has a point to prove over the final four games, against of Pulis’ first summer at the Hawthorns, adding: “The new gaffer here I’m sure he will have a big say in what goes on over the summer,” explained the 30-year-old.

“Regardless of what anybody thinks about whether we’re safe or not, everybody has still got something sorted.”
SPORTS DESK 01902 319531 CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

Skipper stays philosophical about losing

FASAL Shahid was philosophical in defeat after his Halowens sidemiss out at the weekend.

They went down to Penkridge by three wickets despite getting Shahid's side to a total of 246/9.

Shahid said: “Good knocks from Ben Stebbings, when we needed to rebuild after the loss of two early wickets, and then especially Will Barrett and Wes Griffiths when we were looking to set a competitive total got us past 240 when one stage getting past 200 looked like it would be difficult.”

Stebbings, making his first appearance for the club, set about rebuilding the innings after a poor start alongside Hassan Qaumi and the pair had put on 112 for the third wicket when Stebbings fell for 84.

With wickets still in hand Will Barrett (66) and Wes Griffiths (56) set about posting a competitive total and some fine batting took them past 240 and securing the extra batting point.

Barrett finally fell to a good catch in the deep by Smith, again off Mahur. The innings closed with Halowens posting a very competitive 246/9.

The Halowens bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

Welborn ready to defend his title on four-some bill

A four-mile-and-a-half run of bowling at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown’s at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

Jason Welborn’s defence at light middle weight, light welter, light middle and super middle on one night, writes Craig Birch.

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

Welborn ready to defend his title on four-some bill

A four-mile-and-a-half run of bowling at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown’s at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

Welborn ready to defend his title on four-some bill

A four-mile-and-a-half run of bowling at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown’s at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

Welborn ready to defend his title on four-some bill

A four-mile-and-a-half run of bowling at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown’s at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

Welborn ready to defend his title on four-some bill

A four-mile-and-a-half run of bowling at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown’s at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp off the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 112 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halowens had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win despite setting a useful total of 307 runs. They continued to fail the runs flowed from Atiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was able backed up by Heewczuk (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.