

Your local business directory & lifestyle magazine delivered to 19,000 homes

The OneStopLocal

Mansfield, Mansfield Woodhouse, Forest Town,
Clipstone Village & Kings Clipstone

March / April 2024

Inside

Apple, Amaretti & Marzipan Crumble

Solar Power Benefits

Bulbs & Blossom

Summer In The Alps

Puzzles

Adopt Don't Shop

& More....

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Welcome to your latest issue of The One Stop Local for Mansfield, Mansfield Woodhouse, Forest Town, Kings Clipstone and Clipstone Village residents - your local business directory and handy lifestyle magazine, full of interesting and useful information.

Did you know that horology is the study of time and the art of measuring it? Have you ever wanted to learn more about clock movements but not sure how to go about it? Well look no further, as local company J A Alcock & Sons with over 20 years' experience, are now providing courses in the area, at their workshops based at the gorgeous Harley Foundation Studios at Welbeck. See page 16 for more details, and don't forget to mention that you saw them in our magazine to receive your complimentary tools for home practice!

The cost of energy is still a serious issue for many of us, and it doesn't look like the prices are going to be anything like they were a few years ago for quite some time. With this in mind, have you ever thought of solar power as a way to help reduce your energy costs? On page 28 we look at the benefits of solar panels and cover the key points, it's also worth noting that the government are currently offering grants to help with the cost of installation.

Have a go at the puzzles throughout the magazine and look out for our Stick Man and bag yourself some cash! Each issue a competition entry is chosen at random and the winner receives £25 - it could be you!

We'll be back next time with our May/June issues, until then take care and best wishes,



Michelle & Ann-Marie

WIN

£25 CASH



For your chance to win, just find this Stick Man

hidden 4 times in the magazine (not including the Stick Man on this page!). Email your entry with page

numbers, name, address & contact number to :

michelle@onestoplocal.com or post your entry to: Stick

Man Competition, One Stop Local,

PO BOX 8436, Mansfield. NG19 8WY.

Closing date: Friday 26th April 2024

Winner notified by: Friday 3rd May 2024

The winner will be chosen at random and the data will not be stored or used in any way. *Congratulations*

to our winner from our January/February 2024 issue -

Steve Dalby from Kings Clipstone....

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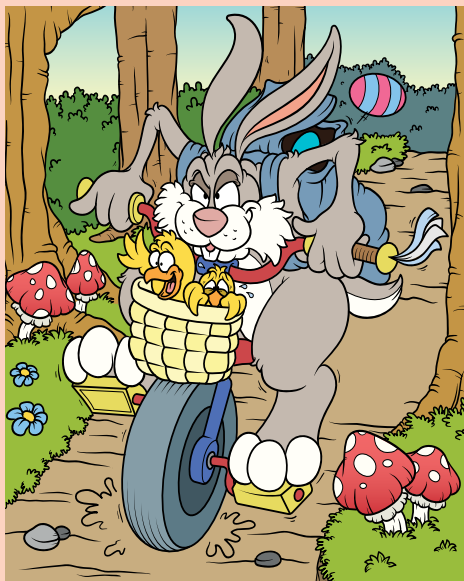
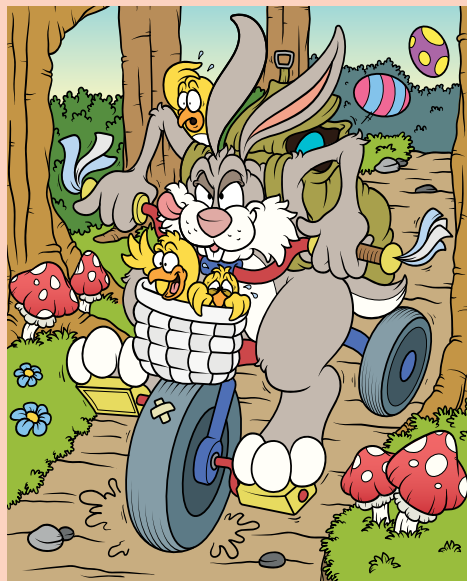
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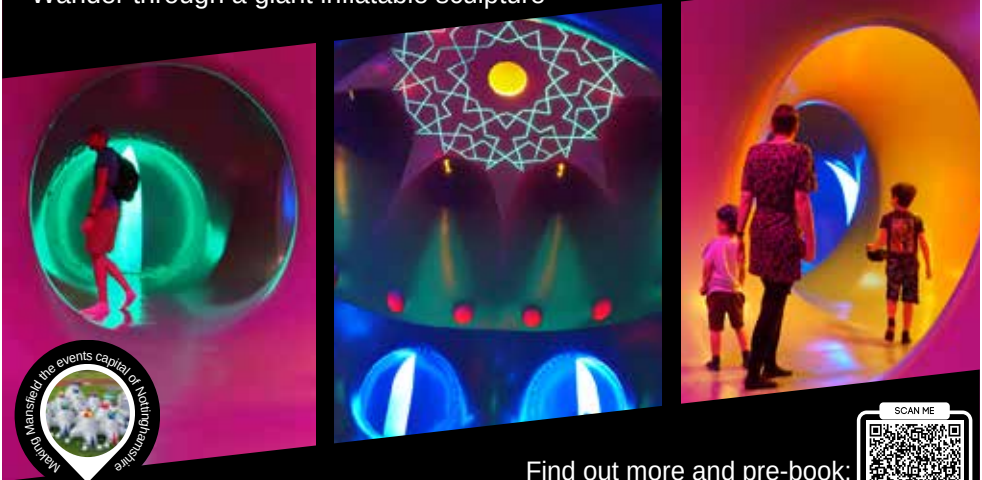
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Papaya is a 8 year old Akita cross who came to us as a stray. She is the sweetest girl with the funniest personality, she loves to play and loves a chilled cuddle equally as much. She is looking for a home who have experience of her breed who can continue with her ongoing training although she is already picking things up very quickly. Papaya is house trained and some of her favourite tricks are sit and paw as you can see from her photos. Her new family would ideally be around for most of the day but her time alone can definitely be built up once she is settled. Papaya would need to be the only dog in the home as well as the only pet as she would find small fluffy animals way too irresistible to chase. She could live with children aged 11+ pending a meet here at the centre first. Papaya cannot wait for the day she has her very own garden with fences 6 feet and over to run around in all day long.

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Milo is a Husky cross Labrador, he is 1 years and 6 months old. He is a bubbly bouncy boy who loves to meet everyone and say hello! He is looking for a home who have experience of his breed. He can be left alone for up to 2 hours but this would need to be built up slowly once he is settled. He is house trained and he is a super clever boy who loves to learn new things! He could live with children aged 14 and above pending a successful meet at the centre where we are sure he will have a new bestie! He would need to be the only pet in the home as he gets far too excited about small fluffy animals! He can be a little bit worried around dogs so he needs to be the only dog in the home too. Milo would love a garden with fences 6 foot or over so he can do his big boy zoomies for you to see! Milo absolutely loves his toys (especially the squeaky ones).



re Center on 01623 792886 or you can email them at notts@jerrygreendogs.org.uk.

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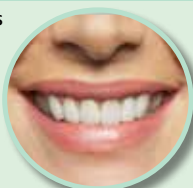


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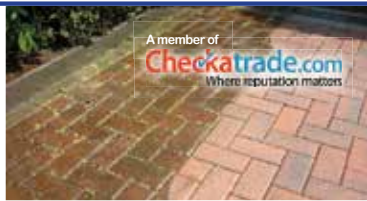
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Here comes the sun: why now is the time to get solar power

If you've watched your energy bill soar in recent years, we have some good news: you can reduce your bills considerably by adding solar power to your home energy mix, and the technology is both better and cheaper than ever.

According to the Energy Saving Trust, a typical home with a 3.5 kilowatt-peak system can expect to save between £160 and £420 per year at current price cap rates. Those caps keep going up, so the savings are likely to be even bigger in the years to come.

How much do solar panels cost?

Every home is different, of course, but according to Money Saving Expert, a 3.5 kilowatt-peak system would cost £7,000. However, there are grants available for many homeowners which will reduce the cost considerably.

Can I store the solar energy for nighttime?

Standard solar systems are designed to transmit your unused energy to the national grid. The energy firms will pay you for this, so if you don't use electricity while the sun's shining, you can sell it, albeit for a much lower rate than your energy company charges you for normal electricity.

Adding a solar battery adds expense – typically £1,000 to £4,500 – but it means that you can use your solar energy at night. If you have a big family and/or an electric car, that could mean significant savings in your electricity bills even on the dullest days. That's because solar batteries don't just store energy from your solar panels. You can also charge them during cheaper electricity times – like late at night – and then use that energy from the battery during peak demand times when you'd normally pay more for your power.

How much will I save?

If you're in the south of the UK you'll repay your investment more quickly than if you live in the north and the more energy you use, the more quickly you'll recoup your investment.

Can any house go solar?

Many but not all homes are solar-friendly. Your roof needs to be in good shape, and you need a decent-sized roof: solar panels are typically around two square metres apiece, so you'll need enough room for a few of them. South-facing roofs are best for maximum savings, but you can have solar on south-west or west-facing roofs and still get reasonable savings.

Do I need planning permission?

In most cases, no: you're covered by permitted development rules unless you have a flat roof, a listed property or live in a conservation area.

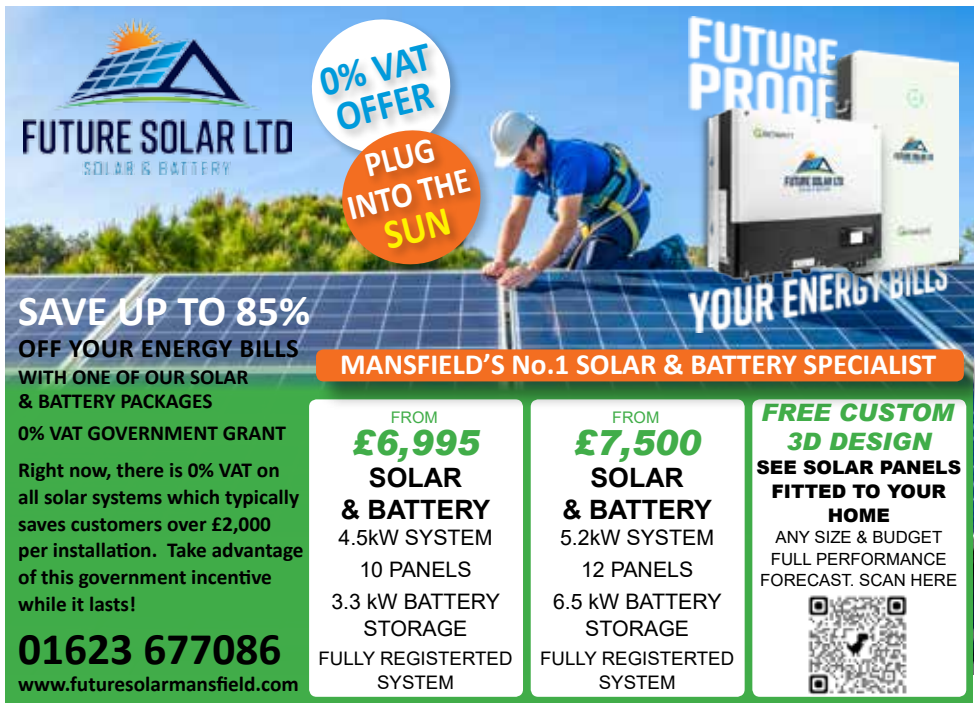
Do solar panels break or wear out?

Solar panels are very reliable and very low maintenance: you can expect to have to replace a component called an inverter after around ten years, but that's about it. If you're unlucky and suffer damage from something like a storm, your home insurance should cover you.

How do I find out more?

Check out the Energy Saving Trust guide to solar power at <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/solar-panels/>.





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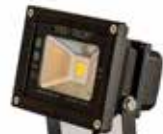
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Apple, amaretti & marzipan crumble with amaretto custard

Serves 6 Preparation time 25 minutes Cooking time 1 hour 10 minutes

A crumble for almond aficionados, this can be made in individual dishes for a dinner party and in one large one for a family supper. To get ahead, the crumble mix also freezes well for up to three months.

Ingredients

- 200g plain flour
- 50g ground almonds
- 1½ tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp fine salt
- 150g unsalted butter, diced
- 100g marzipan, diced into 1cm pieces
- 125g light muscovado sugar
- 50g amaretti biscuits, roughly crumbled
- 50g flaked almonds
- 800g Bramley apples, peeled, cored and roughly chopped (4 medium apples)
- 600g crisp eating apples, peeled, quartered, cored and sliced
- Finely grated zest and juice of a lemon

For the marzipan custard

- 500ml best-quality, bought fresh custard
- 50g marzipan, chopped
- 2 tbsp amaretto
- Vanilla ice cream or Greek yoghurt, to serve

1. Combine the flour, ground almonds, cinnamon and salt in a mixing bowl. Rub in the diced butter by hand until the mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs. Rub in the marzipan, taking less care to break it down – some larger pieces can remain. Stir in 50g of the muscovado sugar with the crumbled amaretti biscuits, flaked almonds and lemon zest.
2. Alternatively, pulse the flour, ground almonds, cinnamon, salt and butter together in the small bowl of a food processor, adding 50g sugar for a final few pulses once the mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs and stirring in the marzipan, amaretti, flaked almonds and lemon zest at the end. Either way, cover and chill the crumble mix for 20 minutes or up to 2 days.
3. Preheat the oven to 170°C, fan 150°C, gas mark 3. Combine the apples with the lemon juice to prevent browning. Tumble in the remaining muscovado sugar, distributing the two apple types evenly. Transfer to a medium-sized baking dish about 23cm diameter if round or about 20x25cm if not. Scatter the crumble over the fruit to cover completely.
4. Bake in the preheated oven for about 1 hour 10 minutes until golden, crisp and bubbling at the edges.
5. To flavour the custard, put it in a blender with the chopped marzipan and the Amaretto. Blend for a couple of minutes (this needs to be thorough), then, if your blender isn't supercharged, pass through a sieve to remove any small marzipan pieces.
6. Leave the crumble to settle for 10 minutes before serving with the marzipan custard (gently warmed through or cold) and vanilla ice cream, or with chilled Greek yoghurt as a simpler option.

Recipe extracted from Repertoire: The Best Vegetarian Recipes to Build a Modern Cook's Collection by Alice Hart, published by OH Editions, priced £27, with photography by Emma Lee.





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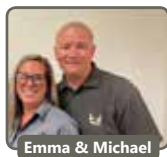
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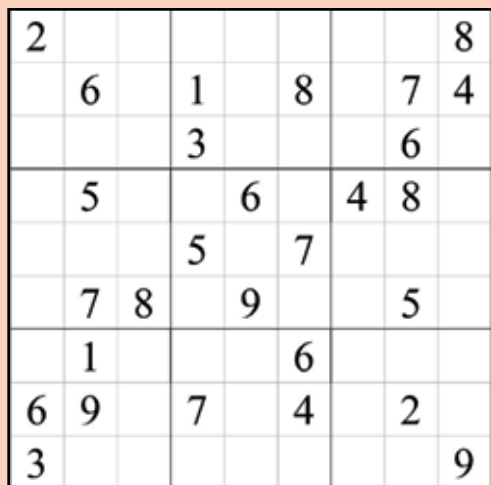
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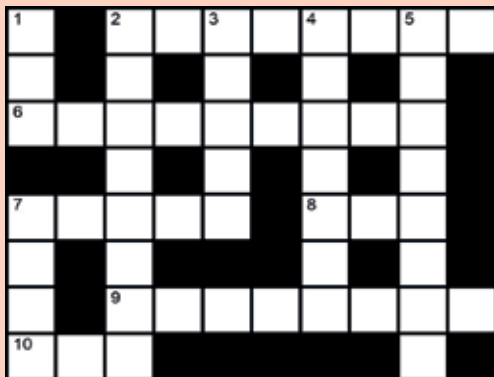
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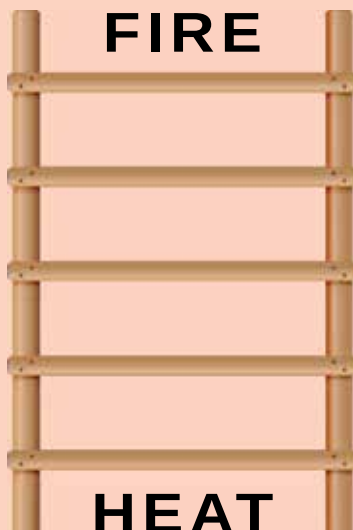
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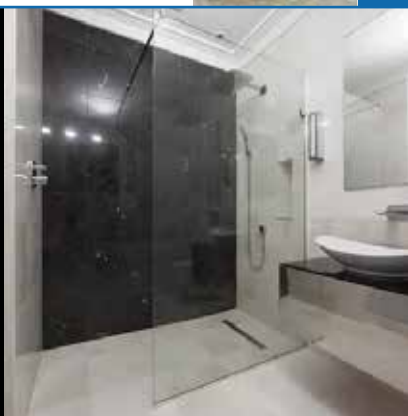
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A time for looking up and looking down

by Caroline Knight

It's a great month for gardeners and there's no time to waste now that things are stirring underfoot. But before you make haste towards the greenhouse, the kitchen garden or the garden shed, don't forget to stop and stare before the spring flowers fade away.

Bulbs

The UK is home to more than half of the world's bluebells. They favour ancient woods, but you can plant them in your garden, too. Give them a slightly shady spot in moist but well-draining soil and be sure to choose the native *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* variety rather than the rather invasive Spanish bluebell, *Hyacinthoides hispanica*.

Keep your eyes peeled for wood anemones too. *Anemone nemorosa* enjoys growing in the shade and shelter of deciduous trees, where their pure white, low-blooming flowers with golden anthers are as beautiful as just about any bloom you could wish to see.

Cultivated bulbs, including tulips, provide magnificent colours, from the purest of whites to the darkest purple. Not all tulips will come back each year, and they are often treated as an annual. If you want to leave them in situ, give them feed and mulch, and leave the foliage to die down naturally after flowering so that the bulb energy stores are replenished.

The spring flower that most people would never be without is the daffodil. They light up the month like sunshine. They all belong to the *Narcissus* genus, but we generally refer to those with larger trumpets as daffodils and the slightly smaller flowers as narcissi. Then there is the jonquil, which has clusters of small, fragrant daffodil-like flowers.

Flowering cherry blossom

Look up towards the treetops to enjoy the delights of flowering cherries this month. Some are covered in blousy blossom during April, whilst others celebrate the season more subtly. *Prunus* 'Kanzan' displays pink fluffy clouds of double blossom, while P. 'Pink Perfection' is slightly smaller, and its delectable candyfloss flowers last slightly longer than most. Some regard ornamental cherries as 'one-trick-ponies' as the blossom is fleeting – but what a trick to have up your sleeve!

If you are considering planting a flowering cherry, bear in mind that the spread of most *Prunus* varieties is almost equal to the height. You need to give it room to grow naturally because if you prune it too much, the shape will be distorted. Far better to consider one of the upright, fastigate varieties such as *Prunus* 'Amanogawa', suitable for small gardens because of its upright shape. Expect it to grow to a height of up to seven metres but with a spread of only two or three.

If you look at your spring garden and feel it is bereft of colour, this is the perfect time to remedy the problem so that you'll have something much more joyful next year. Gardening is all about thinking ahead whilst enjoying the moment. Just remember that any trees or shrubs you plant now will need watering throughout the drier months ahead.



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3 letters: 14 4 letters: 8 5 letters: 4 6 letters: 1

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Spot

- 1. Easter egg missing
- 2. Rucksack different colour
- 3. Tricycle back wheel missing
- 4. Basket on front different colour
- 5. Toadstools facing opposite way
- 6. Buckle on bag missing
- 7. Tassels on handlebar missing
- 8. Bunny tongue missing
- 9. Plaster on front wheel missing
- 10. Chick on shoulder missing

Minicross



Across: 2 COMPARED, 6 CONFIDENT, 7 JOINT, 8 INN, 9 MISTAKES, 10 YES.
Down: 1 ARC, 2 CONFIRMS, 3 MOIST, 4 AMERICA, 5 EXTENDED, 7 JURY.

Pictograms

- 1. Second Fiddle
- 2. Whole Wide World
- 3. Season's Greetings

Apr 24 Sudoku Easy

2	3	4	6	7	5	1	9	8
5	6	9	1	2	8	3	7	4
7	8	1	3	4	9	5	6	2
9	5	3	2	6	1	4	8	7
4	2	6	5	8	7	9	3	1
1	7	8	4	9	3	2	5	6
8	1	2	9	3	6	7	4	5
6	9	5	7	1	4	8	2	3
3	4	7	8	5	2	6	1	9

Wordladder

FIRE
hire
here
herd
head
HEAT

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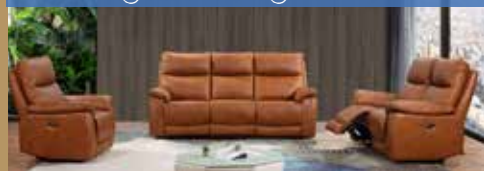


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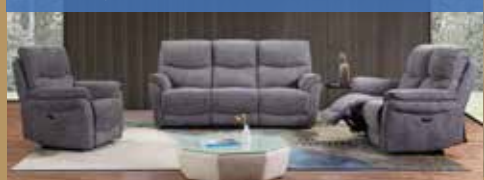
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