FAMILY’S TERROR ON SINKING BOAT

A family of six told of their terror as they fought for their lives when a pleasure boat they were on suddenly started sinking.

The Ellis family’s outing on the Yellow Duckmarine in Liverpool turned to horror film as the vessel sank with 31 people on board. The family said they feared for their lives as panic gripped the passengers.

Grandfather Bill Ellis was hailed a hero by his family as he saved dozens of fellow passengers as the boat sank at the Albert Dock in Liverpool.

Stuart and Claire Ellis, of Sedgley, had booked the amphibious boat trip as a special birthday treat for their grandson, and were on the boat at the Albert Dock in Liverpool when disaster struck.

Stuart, 37, said: "I could see we were going to die - I knew we were in trouble. I just kept telling my wife and daughter: ‘We’re going to die.’"

Bill, 80, said: "I was trying to kick the gearbox and was trying to get things moving, but nothing was happening. Then somebody screamed: ‘We’re drowning!’"

William (Bill) Ellis was hailed a hero after saving dozens of fellow passengers when the amphibious boat they were on suddenly sank.

The Ellis family, from Sedgley, were among the 31 people on board the Yellow Duckmarine when the boat sank at the Albert Dock in Liverpool.

Bill Ellis, 80, was hailed a hero after saving dozens of fellow passengers when the amphibious boat they were on suddenly sank.

"We were thrown into the water," Claire said. "We were screaming and crying. We were just grabbing at the water and panicking."

"I was just trying to keep everyone calm," said Bill. "I was telling them to stay calm and not to panic."

"We were just trying to get to the top of the boat, to get to the life-rafts," said Claire. "We were just trying to stay afloat."
The site of a demolished club in Stourbridge is making way for new homes after the approval for the new plans. Margaret Scott, chairman of the Stourbridge Town Partnership, welcomed the announcement, saying it would bring "four detached care homes for disabled people...it will develop you and show the Army can offer." The Dudley event is part of a nationwide campaign to dispel the misconception that the Army is not hiring. Brigadier Andrew Jackson, the Director of Recruiting and Training for the Army, said: "We are always looking for talented, young people to take up the challenge of a career in the Army." "No matter what your skills or background, the Army has something to offer you and an Army job provides unique opportunities to learn much more beyond military skills. It will develop you and you will use the skills you didn’t know you had."
Man, 25, sent to jail after car crash

A DRIVER who took his girlfriend’s car and slammed into another vehicle after igniting a red light, has been jailed for 12 months.

Daniel Biles, of Lodge Crescent, Netherton, took the car without permission and had a head-on collision with a family car at Dudley Magistrates Court.

He was jailed for 12 months for dangerous driving and was given a driving ban for three months for stealing an aggravated vehicle taking, to run concurrently. He was also banned from driving for two years.

Stephanie Emberton, defending, said the partner he had stolen the car from had forgiven him and he was still with her.

She added: “She has not lost out as the insurance company is not paying out.”

Festival to raise cash for church

AN appeal is being made for people to help pay for essential maintenance to The Hub, a listed building in Stourbridge – 82 years old and in need of Market Street.

A community system needs replacing, the internal redecorating, and the church hall needs renovation.

The main fundraising activity will be a three-day flower festival from June 29-30 which will be supported by MP Margot James. It will include a potter’s sale by the Stourbridge Operatic Society, cycle and dinner.

Development is one of the best

A multi-million pound housing development named as one of the top 50 in the UK.

The £250m Walsall Waterfront was one of just three housing developments in the West Midlands to be named as one of the top 50 in the UK.

The Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Wellington branch of the Company for Real Ale has chosen the winner of its annual pub of the year award.

Members were visiting the winning pub, The Old Star and Stare, in Stourbridge today (Thursday) at 8pm to make the presentation of the award.

Opera parts offer

AN operator group in Dudley has opened up its shops to the public for the first time in years.

T Toll Operatic Society is staging the amateur version of Dudley Wood Methodist Church’s ‘High Society’ and is giving free open auditions for its latest show, ‘Chopin’.

WholeSale and retail department store

The Highways Agency is warning of disruption on the M5 between junctions three and four near Halesowen and four near Lydiate Ash.

The work started on Monday and the motorway was being closed from 9.30pm to 5.30am.

Pub of the year gets its award

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Heartbroken mother Rowena Jeremy is channelling grief into action.

She has raised nearly £5,000 by running in memory of her son, who died aged eight, from an asthma attack.

Despite being asthmatic herself, Mrs Jeremy, aged 35, of Wordsley, has been inspired by her son Owen’s love of sport.

And with friends, she has started taking part in races.

So far, the Department of Work and Pensions have decided to allow councillors and officers to be present at the scrutiny of the decisions of the council.

Nicola Chowings-Thomas, Stephanie Mackenzie

Friends of Owen, his mother and father, David, have also been running to raise cash in their memory. They include David Bower, headteacher of Fairhurst Primary, other staff at the school and mothers of some of the youngster’s pals.

School friends have also raised £11,000 for an adventure playground at the school in memory of Owen, who lived with his parents in Primrose Hill.

To help Mrs Jeremy’s appeal see www.justgiving.com/rowena- jeremy

Sports fan Andy rides for his father

A DEVOTED elderly couple were found holding hands in the wreckage of a car crash which claimed their lives.

John and Betty Hodgkiss died in the smash and were found with their hands clasped together inside their badly damaged car moments after the tragedy.

Mr Hodgkiss, an 82-year-old retired bus driver and former army corporal, died at the scene of the accident last week at Worston, St Asa, on the A448 Bridgport to Steepleford road.

His 79-year-old wife was airlifted to Birmingham’s Queen Elizabeth Hospital where she died the following evening.

The couple, who had been married for 52 years, were travelling from their home in Bilton Road, Tipton, to their favourites pub near Birnbridge for a meal when their car, a Ford Mondeo, was in collision with a grey Audi A4 TDI estate.

Their son David, 47, of the Woodside estate, Dudley, said: “The most comforting thing for me is that they have gone together.

We were told that they were found holding hands in the car so they must have had time to say goodbye to each other.”

COUNCILS have been warned by Eric Pickles to stop using false legal objections to report proceedings.

Continued to refuse to allow councillors and officers to be present at the scrutiny of the decisions of the council.

Mr Hodgkiss had some time to stand up for the rights of his family and our family for being so supportive and the emergency services for what they did, and the family police liaison officer,” added David.

“I’m still devastated – I can’t believe they are gone. They were such a brilliant couple.

Next-door neighbour Philip Barkham, 54, said: “They were a lovely couple.”

Andy’s £10k target in memory of tragic son

A SPORTS fan is joining up with one of his friends to carry on to raise £10,000 for Asthma UK by the end of the year.

“I know its something Owen would never have believed his mummy could do,” said Mrs Jeremy. “I have really enjoyed it and I will be carrying on.”

Owen, who loved football and swimming, died last May when he went into cardiac arrest in Dudley’s Russells Hall Hospital after suffering an asthma attack at his school.

The Department of Community and Local Government has continued to refuse to allow councillors and officers to be present at the scrutiny of the decisions of the council.

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**THOUSANDS of council staff in the West Midlands have voted striking over a pay offer that union leaders had branded paltry.**

The Union unison asked members whether they wanted to take industrial action after local government workers were offered their first pay increase in three years.

They said the one per cent offer was lower than private sector workers who had received in recent years and that their salaries had effectively been frozen.

The union’s national bosses said they believed it was the best achievable by negotiation, and that only industrial action could achieve an improved offer. However the majority of members have voted to accept it.

In Wolverhampton the union represents 5,000 workers, where 71 per cent wanted to accept the pay rise.

In Dudley, the 4,500 members voted by three to one in favour of taking the pay.

**Attack**

In Sandwell, 69 per cent voted to take the rise, as did two thirds of the 6,590 asked in Staffordshire. Walsall figures were not available.

Unison leaders will decide what action to take when votes from across the country are in.

Dudley branch secretary Steve Beardsmore said: “I’m not surprised by the results because times are hard and people who work for councils have got husbands and wives who have also lost their jobs elsewhere.”

Shropshire branch secretary Steve Elsey said: “There has been a consistent attack on living standards of public sector workers and because of the position they find themselves in, there is no will to take this any further.”

Walsall branch secretary Adrian Turner said: “Our branch committeefelt it was important to seek the views of as many members as possible on this pay offer.”

Steve Beardsmore
Festival of music planned for park
LOUD music and guitars are once again taking over Hadley Heath Park in Cradley Heath this summer for the Library Festival music festival.

The Opportunity Rocks festival is on Sunday July 7, between 1am and 6pm. This is the fourth year that the event in the park has been held. It gives young indie, rock and pop musicians and singers a chance to perform live in front of an audience. Cabinet member for highways and environment Cradley Heath Councillor Maria Crompton said: “The festival really has had some amazing young talent on show already. “The event is a great opportunity for youngsters to get up and perform.”

The hunt is now on for performers for the show.

As well as the live music there will also be temporary bars and children’s inflatable assault course, a burger van, and a local guitar shop will be demonstrating and showcasing their wares.

And there will be a DJ between bands.
The event is free for participants and for the audience. Councillor Crompton added: “We really want to create a festival atmosphere in the park, but hopefully without the festival mud.”

Anyone wanting more information should ring 01384 590444.

Services act to prevent risk of falls
PEOPLE in Dudley are being urged to look after their feet taken as part of a campaign to reduce the number of people falling in later life.

Manager of Dudley Council’s falls service was on the front line of that campaign by promoting its service.

The team, which provides a free service to over-65s, are urging on people how to keep their feet healthy to lower the risk of falling. The service says that every year, one in three people aged over 65 will suffer a fall.

Councillor Dave Branwood, cabinet member for adult social care said: “There are lots of simple things we can do to help avoid falls and stay healthy.”

Dudley falls service can be contacted on 01384 614149.

Royal honours for unsung community heroes
DOROTHY Clarke MBE and Jean Hughes BEM were awarded OBEs for services to the communities of Pedmore, Stourbridge and Little Cornbow, Halesowen.

Mrs Clarke, who lives in Pedmore with her husband of 63 years, Terry, has three children, five grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way.

She said being made an MBE was “absolutely amazing”.

And she added: “It’s a great honour. I thoroughly enjoy my work. So many people are lonely, they just need somewhere to meet other people, enjoy a nice lunch or some entertainment and then they leave smiling.”

Jean Hughes was awarded a British Empire Medal for services to the community through her keep fit classes, and her contribution to charity in Kingswinford.

The 77-year-old has been running exercise classes in Wordsley and the surrounding area for 42 years.

With the help of her group, she has raised more than £115,000 for good causes by staging events and holding raffles.

Mother-of-one Mrs Hughes, who lives with husband of 56 years, Ray, in Kingswinford, said: “I do my keep fit classes because I enjoy them, and the charity work because I want to help other people. “I do it all to get an award, but it is nice to receive it. “I have a good group of ladies who help me so I accept this award on behalf of my group too,” she said.
A THREE-minute film, funded by the Government, has been made for prospective Polish immigrants warning them that the streets of Britain are not paved with gold.

This charming little movie, entitled Before You Go, tells the cautionary tale of a homeless Polish immigrant who is robbed of his money and identification cards.

“Then, if that is not enough, the universe saw fit to then set alight by a bloke who looks like Pantaloon in a hoolie. Come on, it’s happened to us all at some point—having one or two, haven’t it? The Foreign Office has so far refused to reveal how many Polish immigrants have been set alight by angry doppel-gangers, but I would venture to suggest it is fairly small.

Still, at least they didn’t hire the Welsh bloke who pops up everywhere singing about car insurance. Now that would be unbearable.

Perhaps it would be better used by the British Tourist Authority. You know, something along the lines of “Come to Britain, for a blazing time,” or “Where you want a warm welcome is guaranteed”.

Or maybe it would be better to keep it simple: “The country you set out on fire you set on fire”.

Recruitment is changing.

MARISHA CYSEWSKI reports on the University of Wolverhampton’s pioneers.

WHEN Sue Higgs interviews potential nurses she looks for “kindness, a willingness to learn and above all compassion” and she should know the value of these qualities.

She is not a medical professional, but she is drawing on her first-hand experience of the NHS to help select nursing students for the University of Wolverhampton, alongside tutors and nurses from clinical practice.

Mrs Higgs, of Penn, Wolverhampton, was a carer for her husband of 43 years, John, for six years after he suffered a brain haemorrhage which left him unable to look after himself.

He was a former teacher at Colston Hills Community School; he sadly died three and a half years ago.

‘Increase’

She says: “Before John died we had some good and some not so good experiences with the NHS. I wanted to give something back for the positive experiences.

The university has 480 student nursing places this year. There has already been more than 3,700 applications.

The numbers applying to NHS-funded courses has increased considerably since the rise in tuition fees, so it is more competitive now.

Panel members will interview around 10 applicants a day, for courses starting in September and January.

Hilary Jones, aged 54, of Dudley, has suffered from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome for 10 years. She was diagnosed which left her housebound. She is receiving training to become a panel member in the School of Health and Wellbeing.

Students nurses Emma Simpson, left, and Naomi Perry helped by interviews.

She says: “It is uplifting to see the university’s commitment to make the theory they teach a reality through involving the service users. Their opinions are respected and the university is dedicated to making the courses well rounded experiences.

“I think having service users involved in the course helps the students get a better understanding of what they are letting themselves in for.”

The service users’ judgements carry weight to the views of the professionals and they are trained in areas such as equality and diversity to help with recruitment.

Head of Adult Nursing, Clare Corness-Parc, says: “The service users know what they want from nurses, they are able to spot passion, enthusiasm and other personal qualities that make a good carer in the interview process.”

Their role goes beyond the interview process to the lecture hall, where students are able to directly question them about the illnesses they suffer, in preparation for their training placements in hospitals in Burton, Walsall, Dudley, Wolverhampton and Sandwell.

Student nurse, Emma Simpson, of Colesby, aged 24, said: “I was interviewed by one of the service users. I found talking to him about his experiences really helped me to open up and show some of my qualities to the rest of the panel.

‘Nurses are there for the patients, I think getting more feedback from them is most beneficial for our development.’

Rupy Pandaal is the service user and career strategy co-ordinator and recruits the new panel members. He says: “The service users have a range of experiences from life threatening illnesses to being carers.

“They have had previous involvement with the university; others have heard through word of mouth and expressed their interest.”

Around 50 service users are involved but there are plans to increase the number as the recruited interview process is rolled out to other fields of nurses including mental health, learning disability and children’s nursing.

The Francis Report following the public inquiry into Mid Staffordshire has shaken the NHS’s foundations as it described failings leading to appalling standards of care, since this service users are becoming more involved in health care education on a national level.

The university is one of the first educational establishments to involve service users in interviews, although this process began before the report was released.

‘Improve’

The scheme was piloted last year when six service users took part in 18 interview dates, which showed they could make valuable recommendations.

The report aims to improve the standard of care for patients and has called for a selection of student nurses who have the right attitude and are able to put the welfare of others first.

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AS the row rumbles on about whether a Hungarian act should go through, it seems that the bigger question is about shadow dance productions brought us the likes of Les Dawson, Frank Carson, but you get the drift.

Dancing Dog?

Britain’s screens were packed last year?

Of Les Dawson, Frank Carson, multi-million pound productions brought us the likes of Giuseppe Gholoni died aged 77 on Friday without having made a will, his £50,000 fortune in the bank.

He was a former teacher at Colton Hills Community School; he sadly died three and a half years ago.

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Plea to keep inspiring Hippodrome

IT saddens me that members of Dudley Council think demolishing the Hippodrome is the right thing to do. I fully support The Friends of Dudley Hippodrome in their fight to restore this building and urge the council to at least let them try.

Their business plan costs the tax-payer and council nothing – despite inaccurate reports of a need for an annual subsidy.

Dudley is crying out for a proper theatre. I have recently been inside the Hippodrome and it is breathtaking – huge and inspiring and in a very good state of repair. To tear down this place would be a sin. Never will Dudley ever own such a magnificent theatre.

I like our zoo, adore the castle and appreciate the Black Country Living Museum, but for the life of me I cannot understand why the council does not have the vision to see that a high-quality night-time entertainment venue would pull in tourists to all our attractions. With a theatre people may even make a weekend of it in the Black Country.

The Friends want to make the Hippodrome a centre of excellence in education too – providing training in the arts for all ages.

What’s not to like? What’s not to support? It all fits in with the development of Castle Hill and provides a facility for locals – and some jobs too – not to mention the knock-on effect to local hotels and eateries.

Come on councillors! Give something back to us – 20,000 plus people signing the petition so far can’t be wrong!

Joanna Roden, Dudley.

Growing number of police advisors

WITH police cutting back, and without the benefit of Superman, it now seems we have Wonder Bob, or as they say in Wales, Jones the Law.

He now seeks to appoint not one Youth Commissioner but several since this hitherto unheard of position is too big for one person.

Youth commissioners are about to have plucked from their midst, the next hang-on, or as they say in Wales, the next hangers-on. Maybe, Bob, Garten Cop springs to mind.

Growing number of police advisors

The system has not produced any improvements in standards of education. The goalposts set by the government are continually changing, so a school can go from outstanding to just satisfactory in subsequent inspections. From my experience these schools remain excellent despite Ofsted.

It is getting ridiculous, we will soon have more commissioner than people.

Robert William White, Wordsley, Stourbridge.

Opsted has failed to raise standards

OPSTED inspectors are not experts in education. They are purely and simply ‘tickers of boxes’, the boxes being provided by the relevant government department, currently led by that other non-education expert, Michael Gove.

To be an inspector you do not have to be a qualified and experienced teacher. Virtually anyone can take the short course needed. It can, however, turn out to be a nice little earner. The facility to operate a word/statement bank is out with similar jargon.

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The system has not produced any improvements in standards in education whatsoever, in fact quite the contrary. Ofsted’s main achievements have been to demoralise and humiliate an extremely hard working group of professionals.

Ian Marcus Dyer, supply teacher and author, The Broadway, Stourbridge.

Degraded process of trying to find a job

The situation is much worse than the illuminati at Johncentre Plus will admit, there is a real paucity of jobs and casting of the JSA claimants on a total payment of £71 a week is unfair as the degrading process of signing on and seeking non-existent vacancies is soul destroying.

Advertisements jobs are usually taken to receive a deluge of applications so emails, phone calls and letters are rarely replied to.

In six months I’ve had live replies from 115 applications and three interviews. Agnosticism is also prevalent, although you cannot blame a prospective employer for considering it.

J K Glaze, Wordsley, Stourbridge.
Home improvements for older people

Make your home work for you

Homeowners aged 55 plus, living in Dudley borough can now get expert help to finance and arrange their home improvements from Dudley Home Improvement Service.

Our home improvement service offers no hassle, no worry home improvements tailored to the needs of older people.

A free support package is on offer, with all work arranged by the council for you. Along with independent financial advice and help with funding your home improvement.

Anyone struggling to improve or maintain their home due to a low income or just because the challenge is too great can ask for help.

Call us on 01384 817086
Police help get needy youngsters on the road

TWO old police bicycles, at least 20 years old but never used, are being made good as new by a charity to help hard-up families.

The bikes were in storage collecting dust when Dudley Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Omar Sharif found them. He suggested giving them to City-Cycle.

Officers have also donated £500 from a fund raised by the sale of property seized in police investigations to help the Dudley-based organisation with its work to help young people learn new skills.

PCSO Sharif said: “Our maintenance man said the bikes, although never used, would need to be serviced, and that would cost more than they were worth.”

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Group member Glen Willetts, who juggles his time as a carer, helped take bags packed full of clothes to the Halesowen branch of Cancer Research UK, in the town’s High Street.

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Fashionable additions such as orangeries are increasingly desirable, as more people look for ways to improve their home. The home improvement market is changing and the demand for more choice in colour and suitability of PVC-U doors and windows is growing.

Established since 1994, Tipton Windows & Conservatories Ltd, trading as Choices, believe that the latest trends are important, but quality products and exceptional service will always be paramount, which this family run business have proven over nearly two decades.

Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director Nathan Beddows started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today. He explains his passion: “I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install. With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 19 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

“Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services,” explains Nathan.

“For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries,” says Nathan. One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having been recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

“Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out.”

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return. “We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of,” remarked Rick.

“Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers. “Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless noted ‘National Trust’ tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white,” explains Nathan.

Fitting new PVC-U windows can be a good choice for the environment as well as for your home. Replacing dated double glazing can help save money on heating bills and reduce the carbon footprint of a residence.

“We offer A-rated energy-efficient windows and doors which can help save up to £250 from heating bills in the first year alone. They not only reflect heat back into the house, but also retain heat from solar gain,” remarks Nathan. “As a company we pride ourselves on giving old fashioned value for money and excellent service, we can undertake the majority of jobs and because we manufacture in house at our premises unlike the majority of our local competitors it enables us to have full control so we can manage your project from start to completion ensuring your experience is stress free.”

“After many years in the Double glazing business we have seen a lot of competitors come and go, unfortunately leaving many customers without any warranty, after parting with their hard earned cash. Any customer who is considering having any home improvements should choose carefully and do their homework on the company they are considering, ensure if you part with money upfront it is protected by a Fensa approved deposit indemnity scheme, ask to visit previous customers but most importantly don’t be hoodwinked by the salesman’s tactics of a tempting “sign on the night low price offer” that the double glazing industry is notorious for” advises Nathan.

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Tribute to a devoted father who died in horrific head-on crash

A TRIBUTE was paid to a keen motorcyclist and ‘much-loved’ father-of-four who died in a head-on crash on his way to work.

Michael Patton, known as Mick, was killed as he rode his Triumph Sprint 1000cc bike to work at Hartlebury trading estates, near Kidderminster.

Police say the 47-year-old was involved in the crash with a Peugeot Expert van last week.

Mr Patton lived in Brinton Crescent, Kidderminster, but was originally from the Black Country.

His wife Ann, aged 54, said the pair had fallen in love within moments of meeting in December 2003 and tied the knot in Hawaii.

She said he was devoted to his four children, Christopher, Lelia, Sam and Thomas, from two previous relationships, and enjoyed many trips away and holidays abroad. He would also be missed by his six siblings – Robert, Susan, Ann, Kathleen, David and Rita.

“Mick was a lovely, gentle man who was much loved by everyone who knew him,” said Mrs Patton. “We had such a wonderful time together. I still can’t believe he is gone.”

The couple married in November 2005 and moved moved to Wyre Forest area around eight years ago. Mr Patton, who previously lived in Stratford, had taken temporary work at Forest Garden, at the Hartlebury trading estates, in February.

Mrs Patton said her husband was a passionate motorcyclist and had completed an advanced motorcycle course.

West Mercia Police are appealing for any witnesses to contact them to help with their investigation on 101, quoting incident number 52-S-1006131.

160 walkers raise cash for charity

ABOUT 160 people joined in a walk for Diabetes UK.

It took place in Walsall Arboretum and raised more than £4,000, with more money still coming in.

The event was opened by Mayor of Walsall Councillor Mohammad Nazir, and staff from the Walsall branch of Pure Gym provided a five-minute warm-up.

The event marked Diabetes Week, which aims to raise money for research, and £20 million has already been invested in research.

Don’t be out of pocket get what you deserve

WORK to turn 30 acres into a new home for the Rowford Eagles football club in Wall Heath, near Kingswinford, is under way.

Landowners have been on site off Swanford Road, to start creating the £1.2m base for the 500 young players who train at the amateur club.

There will be 11 full-size football pitches, changing rooms, showers, toilets and car parking. It should all be ready for September 2014.

The land has been seeded – and club officials now have to wait for the grass to grow.

Lincoln Boley and Colin Worthington, who are the project leaders and main fundraisers, say they are pleased with how the work has progressed.

The club has about 500 children, a senior team and a disability senior team. It received £800,000 from the Football Foundation and £50,000 from Sport England’s Olympic Legacy Fund. Project leaders Colin Worthington and Lynn Boleyn

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Jersey

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There are also a number of attractions for you to visit including the Jersey War Tunnels, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Park, Mont Orgueil Castle and La Mare Wine Estate to name a few.

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WALL HEATH E.TG

CHAIRMAN Pat Parrott, opened the meeting and welcomed members and guest for the evening, Joyce Major, federation committee member.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer Elaine Griffiths gave the financial statement for the month.

Walks this month were led by Sheila Tremaine to the Bluebell Woods at Salfords and lunch was taken at the Stewart Crystal Cine cafe.

The craft group were still meeting making various projects.

Names were being taken for the federation lunch, which is to be held at the Mill, Abbotsford on July 28.

The National Carol Service will be held in Coventry Cathedral on December 17.

Members held a stall at the Wall Heath Community Centre Spring Fayre on Saturday May 11.

A fashion show will be held on July 11 at the community centre.

The raffle was drawn and the winner was Pat Sutton who won a fruit and vegetable hamper.

The speaker Ned Williams then gave an interesting talk on Brierley Hill, and Pat Parrott gave the vote of thanks.

Wall Heath Guild meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.

AT the AGM at St Mary’s church hall on May 15, Ray Sturdy was the speaker.

Brunel – A Victorian genius talk was accompanied by superb slides.

Brunel’s father, Mark, was a great engineer and inventor and had contracts with the Navy. He was knighted by Queen Victoria.

His son, Isambard Kingdom Brunel was inspired and he too wanted to become an engineer and worked as the project manager for his father. From then on he worked on a great scale with his gigantic ships, new railways, bridges and tunnels. These works changed the way of life and many are still in use today.

It was a fascinating story and amazing to think what he achieved in his short life.

The chairman thanked Ray for his excellent talk and presentation.

Graham and Rosalie were thanked for providing coffee during the illness of Keith Jeavons.

The June 19 meeting at St Mary’s Church Hall was to be the last one of the season. The AGM will be followed by the annual dinner and a great evening.

The tearoom was opened by Mr John Quelch, who ended the evening with a buffet supper which was taking place.
Man jailed over robberies is ordered to pay back £9,000

A MAN who was jailed for 17 years for his part in a series of violent robberies in the Midlands has been ordered to pay £9,000 or face a further spell in prison.

Ryan Leigh Clarke, formerly of Farsham Road, Birmingham, and four other men, were sentenced at Wrexham Crown Court in December 2011.

The gang had plotted a series of robberies, the first in North Worcestershire at Barnt Green in April 2010 where several men tied up the occupants before escaping with firearms worth more than £200,000.

Further violent raids were carried out at Solihull in May 2010 and a week later in Lichfield. Cars, cash, jewellery and valuable pottery were among items stolen.

The judge, in sentencing Clarke and the others, said it was “professional criminality of the utmost seriousness with theer inflicted on the victim”.

Clarke admitted conspiracy to commit those robberies at homes in Barnt Green, at Hampton Lane, Solihull, and Bakewell Lane, Lichfield.

West Mercia Police, who led the investigation into the robberies, has now successfully applied for a confiscation order against Clarke for known assets of £85,000 and was ordered to pay back £9,000 representing one-fifth of the total outstanding.

Others in the gang have faced similar orders. The rest of the stolen property was recovered by the police.

“We will always seek to recover criminals’ assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act,”

Railway parking boost welcomed

RAIL campaign groups have welcomed the latest plans to create an extra 175 parking spaces at Stourbridge Junction railway station.

It is part of a £1.5 million project announced by CentreLine to expand the park and ride service.

Members of Stourbridge Line User Group said the car park extension would help to meet demand from commuters.

Chairman Rob Hebron said: “I am delighted that years of lobbying have produced a positive effect.”

“This will bring the total capacity to almost 1,000. I cannot overstate how fortunate we are in having free car parking at Stourbridge Junction and it is a major factor in raising demand for train services.

There are now 780 spaces at Stourbridge Junction – 381 on the main line – by the station buildings and 401 paid on an overflow car park off Brook Road.

But there is still a large demand for the spaces with the car park often full to capacity by the end of the morning rush hour. Nearby roads also become clogged with cars left by commuters.

Stourbridge MP James Morris has also welcomed the revamp work which is due to start in summer 2014.

Free car parking will continue for the first year of the trial, available for a limited period only. For example, 3 months for £6.25. Order payment by 12 months the rate will be £5.25 or take 24 months paid in 12 equal monthly instalments of £4.25. (£6.25 for 3 months and £4.25 for 24 months compare to the current rate of £12.50 for 3 months and £45 for 24 months).
I'm really shocked at the news of MPs taking money from businesses to use their influence and lobby ministers. I think being an MP should be a full-time job.

The idea that MPs need to take on directorships or consultancies to keep in touch with life outside Parliament is nonsensical.

I meet businesses in Dudley all the time to see what I can do to help, but I would never dream of taking money from them.

I don't need an outside job to know that people in Dudley are finding it harder to make ends meet, that we've got record numbers of people out of work.

Lots of people say all politicians are the same, are out of touch, or that voting doesn't make a difference. But I knock on doors every week listening to local people and asking for their views.

I want people to know that I'm local and in touch, working hard to help them.

I believe a local MP can change things for the better. I grew up here and I think someone to Parliament to represent their home town is a huge privilege and I work hard to keep in touch with local people to repay the trust they have in me.

I don't need an outside job to know that people in Dudley are finding it harder to make ends meet.

Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views.

"I don't need an outside job to know that people in Dudley are finding it harder to make ends meet."

Dudley Chronicle, Thursday, June 20, 2013
### Glasses raised to canal beer festival

**June Hodgetts with Ian Davies, of Kinver Brewery, and Martin Wilkins, of Black Country Ales**

**Organisers are preparing for their first real ale festival at the Dudley canal tunnels this month.**

More than 30 beers will be on offer at the Dudley Canal Trust event, which runs for three days from June 27, at Todd’s End, off Birmingham New Road.

Money raised from the event will boost trust coffers, with more Mound in Bearmore Park, featured archery, stalls, martial arts demonstrations and live music.

**The event runs 6pm to 11pm on June 27 and from 11am to 11pm on the following days. There will be around 30 ales available, and ciders and some English wines as well as soft drinks. Hot and cold food will be available.**

Plans for the Elm education, exhibition and heritage centre were unveiled last October. It will outline the Black Country’s industrial past and a lift will enable people to get to and from the towpath and visitor embarkation wharf.

The first festival could be welcomed in summer 2014.

### Concert to honour of poet Alfie

A SPECIAL concert is being held in memory of Black Country poet and entertainer, Alfie Smith.

The Public in West Bromwich will host the event on June 23.

It will feature performances from his friends and fellow entertainers including poets and musicians.

Mr Smith performed his poetry across the region. He died in March, aged 71. A plaque in his memory will be unveiled outside The Public before the concert, which is free.

Details on 0121 553 7161.

### Crowds flock to festival

**A FESTIVAL, celebrating an historic strike by women chainmakers in Cradley Heath, attracted more than 1,200 people.**

The ninth Women Chainmakers’ festival at Bearmore Mound in Bearmore Park, featured archery, stalls, martial arts demonstrations and live music.

It was organised by the Trades Union Congress and Sandwell Council and was attended by Sylvia Hoat, former MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis.

**Used car is firm to move**

A USED car business that has been in Tipton for 42 years is to move to Birchfield Park, Birleyhill.

The current site of Oak Garage in Gospel Oak Road will be demolished for a new housing development.

Owner Steve Southgate said the Tipton showroom would remain open for another two months until the whole operation was transferred to the new site.

Oak, which employs 15 people, is taking on three extra staff with the move.

### Terminally ill man, 56, used fake Bulgarian licence to ride motorbike

**A TERMINALLY ILL man used a fake Bulgarian driving licence to try to spend the summer riding a motorbike, a court heard.**

Leonard Hawthorne had a full UK driving licence but wanted to use a motorbike, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. He had had the fake licence for some time and attempted to use it to get permission to ride a motorbike included on his UK licence.

"The defendant, although in possession of a full driving licence, was not entitled to drive a motorbike. In order to get that permission he submitted a Bulgarian driving licence, which was fake," said the Tipton showroom owner Steve Southgate.

"He wished to get that endorsed on his UK licence without taking a test," said the Tipton showroom owner Steve Southgate.

Hawthorne was arrested on April 20 and later pleaded guilty to possession of identity documents with intent. His defence solicitor Andrew Wallace admitted the offence “was not a particularly bright thing to do.”

Mr Wallace added that the licence was never used or produced, because it was never obtained.

"It must have looked odd having the name Leonard Hawthorne on a Bulgarian licence," he said.

**Medical**

"It would have stuck out like a sore thumb, and was not a particularly bright thing to do. The problem is he is on licence for a very serious matter of riot." said the Tipton showroom owner Steve Southgate.

"But he’s not the same man I knew a few years ago – he’s polite, well-spoken and easy to talk to."

The court was told that Hawthorne had prostate cancer and other medical problems.

He was given a 12-month community order and told to pay £250 in costs. He was also ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

In sentencing Hawthorne, Judge Helen Hughes said she was impressed by what was said about him in his pre-sentence report and that his actions had not placed anyone in danger.

She added: “This was an offence committed without thinking things through on your part.”

### Keep thieves locked out, say police

**WEST MIDLANDS Police are urging people to keep doors and windows locked as the weather improves.**

Inspector Pete Funnell, Harm Reduction Inspector for the force said: “Always lock your doors if you go outside, even for a few moments, and close downstairs windows if you are not staying in the same room.”

The police want householders to adopt simple crime prevention measures.

"It is important to make sure that your house is secure at all times, whether you are inside, or in the garden."

**Heath attracted more than 1,000 people.**

An FAESTIVAL celebrating an historic strike by women chainmakers in Cradley Heath attracted more than 1,000 people.

The event runs 6pm to 11pm on June 27 and from 11am to 11pm on the following days. There will be around 30 ales available, and ciders and some English wines as well as soft drinks. Hot and cold food will be available.

Plans for the Elm education, exhibition and heritage centre were unveiled last October. It will outline the Black Country’s industrial past and a lift will enable people to get to and from the towpath and visitor embarkation wharf.

The first festival could be welcomed in summer 2014.
Silver Bullet missed its target

by Tim Walters

Silver Bullet at Sunbeam Motors Works prepare it for shipment to the United States

Henry Segrave had reached 231mph in 1929 – breaking the 1927 record of 203mph set by the Sunbeam 1000HP, nicknamed The Shag. The Silver Bullet travelled in a specially constructed reinforced case measuring 31ft by 7ft by 7ft, and weighing about three tons which, with the 4.5 tons of the car, took the total weight over seven tons.

The packing kept a party of eight or 10 men fully occupied for about three hours on the evening of Saturday, February 22. Loading the crate onto a 12-ton, six-wheeled lorry to take it to Southampton, took a further hour or so on the Sunday.

Problems

The Silver Bullet finally left the works on the Monday, to be shipped to New York during that week on the line Benaventora, together with Kaye Don and a team of picked mechanics from the Sunbeam experimental and racing department.

Arriving in mid-March at Daytona Beach, all was ready to bring the glory to Wolverhampton, where the town was closely following the record bid. Arriving in mid-March at Daytona Beach, all was ready to bring home the glory to Wolverhampton, where the town was closely following the record bid. Immediately there were a host of problems. There were problems with the car’s supercharger. The beach also proved to be very bumpy and Don was seen being bounced and hubbed about in the cockpit ‘like a jack-in-a-box’. And the weather was bad. On three early runs, Don only made 101mph. He needed to be able to double that – and more. There were rumours about friction developing in the camp, and of a conference between Don and the designer, Mr Louis Costalen ‘during which both parties displayed some heat’.

On March 21, Don said: “The weather conditions have been awful. It has rained practically every day I have been here. It seems that conditions have been all against us, but I am still more than hopeful. Believe me, I am going to break that record. The Silver Bullet is everything I could ask for. The sands have been the trouble.”

And the Silver Bullet? It was not destined to end up shiny and polished in a museum or motoring display. It was sold on and eventually scrapped.
THE FURMANAC
£500,000 FURNITURE DISPOSAL SALE
MUST END 4PM THIS SUNDAY

All clearance goods have been transferred from storage to the salesfloors. Showroom closed Wednesday to write final price reductions.

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RIO
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
WITH RECLINER ACTIONS
IN LUXURY LEATHER
RRP £3200
YOU PAY £499

ITALIA
CORNER GROUP
MODERN DESIGN
IN QUALITY LEATHER
RRP £2995
YOU PAY £299

WARWICK
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
IN QUALITY LEATHER
RRP £2590
YOU PAY £299

MONZA
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
WITH RECLINER ACTIONS
IN QUALITY LEATHER
EX-DISPLAY MODELS
RRP £2575
YOU PAY £299

MIAMI
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
IN QUALITY LEATHER
EX-DISPLAY MODELS
RRP £2190
YOU PAY £299

HAMILTON
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
WITH RECLINER ACTIONS
IN LUXURY LEATHER
RRP £3495
YOU PAY £499

RIO
3 SEATER SOFA +
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IN QUALITY LEATHER
EX-DISPLAY MODELS
RRP £2575
YOU PAY £299

MIAMI
3 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
IN QUALITY LEATHER
EX-DISPLAY MODELS
RRP £2190
YOU PAY £299

MICHAIR WESTLAKE
LIFT & TILT CHAIR
DUAL MOTOR
IN LUXURY CHENILLE
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YOU PAY £499

ROMA
2 SEATER SOFA +
2 SEATER SOFA
WITH RECLINER ACTIONS
IN LUXURY LEATHER
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SIENNA
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WITH SOUND CONSOLE
POWER RECLINER ACTIONS
IN QUALITY LEATHER
EX-DISPLAY MODEL
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WINDSOR
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CLASSIC DESIGN
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Go-ahead for plans to relocate gas tanks

CONTROVERSIAL plans to relocate potentially explosive gas tanks from Carvers in Wolverhampton to South Staffordshire have been given the green light by the council – paving the way for redevelopment to take place in the city centre.

The move now means the transformation of the city’s canalside can go ahead. The work has been on hold until now while the gas tanks were being stored at the building supplier firm’s Littles Lane site.

The liquid petroleum gas tanks have been stored legally for many years but plans to build a fourth block of the £40 million Victoria Hall student village cannot proceed while they are there because the site falls within a blast zone around the tanks. The development of the landmark Springfield Brewery site has also been put on hold while the situation is resolved.

South Staffordshire District Council gave the go-ahead at a planning meeting for Carvers to store their tanks at Grawlwy Way in the Four Ashes area. The proposals had led to some objections, including from Silo Group chemical works.

The company said it had submitted outline proposals for its 800,000 sq ft site that had the potential to create 3,000 jobs.

But representatives told the meeting that parts of their site fell within the blast zone from the gas tanks and would jeopardise any potential investments in the site.

Summer fun ahead in line-up of free gigs

Ballot call on village homes bid

VILLAGERS packed out a meeting in Pattingham to have their say about housing plans for the area.

Around 150 residents attended a parish council meeting where they called for a village hall to be included as part of 29 new homes in Hall End Lane and Moor Lane.

Parish councillors say the development by Housing Plus would have restrictions placed on it so that the business could not support people who have had an association with the village for at least three to five years.

They have also said around 30 people have come forward to express an interest in living in one of the homes. However residents say the scheme would mean properties would be built in the green belt.

Resident Rob Lines told the meeting that residents had formed an action group to oppose the development as it was felt that the council “was not supporting the views of the majority of the village”. He also queried a survey carried out to assess the housing need in the village, saying it was flawed.

Councillors are to seek legal advice as to whether a ballot can be held over the plans.

Helping women to build for future

AN organisation helping female professionals network and develop their careers has held its first ever event in the Black Country.

The Midlands branch of the Association of Women in Property met at the offices of First City, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton. The group’s organisers hope to help increase the proportion of women working in property and construction, which is around 15 per cent currently.

Alex-Jayne Lowe, who helps organise the event said the association regularly visited schools to tell girls about career opportunities, successfully setting them on their way through its national student awards and pairs mentors with people working in the industry.

Universities hit by cuts to overseas students

A CRACKDOWN on the number of students coming to Britain from overseas is losing the Black Country £5 million to £10m a year, an MP and university chief have said.

Adrian Bailey said immigration rules governing the right of students from Britain meant that 500 fewer overseas students a year were coming to the University of Wolverhampton from India and Sri Lanka than it could accommodate.

Foreign students pay around £10,000 a year for their education and also spend money on shops, businesses and local services while they are here, Mr Bailey told a group of MPs during a debate he organised in the House of Commons.

It comes as the government wants to curb the number of visas issued to people who claim to be coming to study but are actually using their student status as a back door to Britain.

Opportunity

The number of students who are entering Britain from overseas has fallen by around 40,000 last year.

Mr Bailey, MP for West Bromwich West, said, “Universities are struggling for finances. The government is in those hard times they cannot bear the cost of a £5 milli

“Recruitment of international students presents an opportunity for them to bring in extra money that unfortunately they cannot get from the Government because of the current financial problems.”

“My local university, Wolverhampton, currently recruits 800 international students each year, but it estimates that with a fair and consistent visa process it could take another 500 a year from India and Sri Lanka alone.

If they contribute £10,000 a year, which is a fairly minimal estimate, that would amount to £5 million more a year going into the local university and, above all, into the Black Country economy.”

Summer fun ahead in line-up of free gigs

A SUMMER of free music has been announced as venues in the West Midlands get set to host a series of gigs.

A total of 330 free ‘big gigs’ will be held across England, under Government plans recently announced.

Venues including Baggeridge Country Park, in Sedgley; Walsall Arboretum and Deansfield Community School in the West Midlands get set to host a series of gigs.

Wolverhampton are all due to take part.

The concerts are free and aim to encourage people to listen to home-grown talent and continue the spirit left behind by the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee.

Dudley Community School, in Icknield Road, Wolverhampton, is getting involved with a visit from Zip Theatre Group on July 11 from 4pm to 6pm, where people will get to try their hand at a musical instrument.

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HELPING women to network – Chontell Buchanan from First City, Alex-Jayne Lowe from George Green and Elizabeth Flowith, of Midlands Women in Property

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Afternoon Session - 12 noon - 3:10 pm - £10.00
After School Full Session - 3:10 - 5:45 pm - £8.00
Up to 1 1/2 hours half session after school - £5.25
Full Day Cost - 8:00 am - 5:45 pm - £31.50

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Playscheme will be running from Thursday 29th July to Friday 9th August. We are offering a range of fun art and craft and physical activities with an individual theme for each day.

We are open from 8.00 am until 5.45 pm and our session costs are:

3 hours - £14.00
6 hours - £22.00

If you would like to book your child’s place on to our summer playscheme or find out more about Brook Buddies Childcare then please phone Buddies direct line on 01384 818839
Fairy tale fun is on offer at libraries

Dudley borough libraries will be celebrating National Bookstart week with a theme of traditional fairy tales.

The campaign, which runs for a week from June 24 offers free books to all children before they start school.

Children and families will be dressing up as characters such as Cinderella and Puss in Boots and enjoying fairy stories at all Dudley Council libraries’ Battle and Rhyme and story time sessions.

Library staff will be attending Merry Hill’s Mummy Morning on June 25.

There will also be a special bedtime story session at Kingswinford Library on the same day from 5.30-6.30pm.

On June 27, storyteller Sally Troup will entertain at Stourbridge Library from 9.30-10.30am, Brierley Hill Library from 11.15am-12.15pm and Dudley Library from 1.30-2.30pm.

At Himley under-Dews fun day on June 28, staff will give out a free copy of The Ugly Duckling.

Hotel ceremony

A TOPPING-OUT ceremony marked the end of the construction of a £3.5million Premier Inn hotel in Dudley.

The 83-bedroom Premier Inn will open at the end of next month in the Castlegate Business Park, creating 35 new jobs.

CAMPIONGERS have won a fight to have public toilets reopened in Netherton after councillors agreed to a £7,000 revamp project.

Traders had called for the toilet block, in Halesowen Road, to be opened again saying they were much-needed and improved the experience for shoppers.

Eight toilet blocks were closed in Dudley borough, including Netherton, two years ago. It came as part of a bid to find £150,000 annual savings by council officers. The council said they were outdated, under-used and some had also been targeted by vandals.

But the move was unpopular with communities including Netherton where people have campaigned for the facilities to be reopened. Last week it was announced the Netherton toilets would reopen this summer following refurbishment.

Promised

Councillor Zada said: “We promised that we would reinstate the toilets and I am delighted that we have delivered on our promise.”

“I’d like to thank the local residents and businesses for their patience and support.”

The cash for reinstating the toilets will go through cabinet on June 20.

Built block is situated on Flood Street, Dudley; Castle Street, Coseley; Bank Road, Lower Gornal; Lawnswood Road, Wordsley; The Cross, Kingswinford; Enville Road, Wall Heath and Cottage Street, Brierley Hill. But residents have agreed to reopen the facili-

CRICKET fans are being urged to pitch in and support the Mayor of Dudley’s charities at an annual match.

A team of Dudley Council officers will be taking on a team of members in a 20-over a side match for the Mayor of Dudley’s charities.

The teams will go head to head at Steepling Cricket Club on June 28 at 6pm.

All proceeds will go to White House Cancer Support, Dudley, and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Councillor Alan Parry, Mayor of Dudley, said: “It will be great entertainment and hopefully we can raise some much needed money for two very worthwhile causes. I hope to see lots of people there on the night cheering the teams on.”

The event will include a raffle with top prizes up for grabs as part of the fundraiser.

The council set up Team Dudley last year, which encourages council officers to join together to raise money for the Mayor’s charities in a range of sporting events.

Rubbish blaze

RUBBISH caught fire in an empty Steepling Cricket Club at Kingswinford earlier this week.

Police and firefighters were called just after 8am on Monday to reports of fire at the Cox Hire building on Birmingham Street.

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Councillors Tracy Wood, centre, and Qadar Zada, right, with residents who won their campaign to reopen the toilets
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FOOTBALL

Hawbush FC preparing for the kick-off

With the help of Trinity Property, Hawbush FC are preparing for the first campaign since the club was formed in 2002. Trinity Property directors Paul Westwood, Nic Burrows and Eric Morse-Brown with the team

Mr Morse-Brown, who is based at Trinity Property in Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, said: “It’s great to be able to help these lads get kick off.”

Simon Ashby, Hawbush Project director, added: “When we began on the estate a decade ago we had a group of nine and 10-year-olds who played football with us.

“We used to joke that one day they’d be a proper adult team, play in a league and win trophies.

“In 2012 the same lads came to us and asked if we could form an adult side, and here we are today – with a group of 24 16-to-25-year-olds as Hawbush FC preparing for the kick-off in the third division of the West Midlands Christian Football League.”

He added the Hawbush area was hugely deprived, with such issues as family breakdowns, substance abuse and anti-social behaviour.

The estate is also in the bottom 1.3 per cent of the country for its education and in the bottom 10 per cent for deprivation.

“Football plays a massive role in helping to address issues on the estate. It provides a weekly focal point where we can encourage these guys to be socially responsible and find out how best we can meet their needs,” added Simon.

Mr Morse-Brown said: “The programme has been fantastic for the boys and girls alike, as it’s given them a place to go where they can build friendships and improve their lives.”

The rides run from the mainline station in Dudley and are open to everyone. To see the rides available, visit the website www.goskyride.com/Dudley

For more info call 01384 246011 or email: info@goskyride.com

People in Dudley are being encouraged to get on their bike as part of a national campaign.

The rides run from Tuesday and range from easy to challenging. Each is led by a guide and has about 30 places.

Councillor Tracy Wood, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: “The programme with its friendly, experienced ride leaders is a great way to get out, get fit and see the beautiful borough.

“Dudley borough already has a keen and growing cycling population with groups and clubs cycling regularly as well as individual cyclists.

“We hope that this programme will appeal to everyone and promote cycling as a whole.”

To see the rides available, visit the website www.goskyride.com/Dudley

P R O P E R T Y

A property company has saved aspiring footballers at a Brierley Hill housing estate from an embarrassing identity crisis.

As part of the Hawbush Project – a social help enterprise run by Ambleside Christian Centre in Bredfield Lane – a team was formed, but the players had no strip.

When church members and property company directors Eric Morse-Brown, Nic Burrows and Paul Westwood heard of the dilemma, they stepped in to help, providing sponsorship with 24 strips for the team.
Prestigious award won by Baggies’ chef
WEST Bromwich Albion’s executive chef Michael Bullard has picked up a top accolade at the Craft Guild of Chefs Awards.

The 28-year-old won the bouquet- ing and event chef award in the company of former GBBO contestant Brian Turner, Albert Roux, Marco Pierre White, Raymond Blanc, Pierre Koffmann and James Martin in the ceremony on Monday in London.

The ceremony, which took place at Mayfair’s Grosvenor Hotel, honoured the country’s culinary experts in its different categories.

Michael said: “It’s great to have received such a prestigious award.”

1,100 sign protest petition to save threatened TA unit
MORE than 1,100 people have now signed a petition rallied against plans to save a threatened Territorial Army regiment, which has a base in Dudley.

Deliberate ministers are considering proposals to split up The Royal Mercian and Lancastrian Yeomanry.

The regiment, which has a squadron base in Year Street, Dudley,

Report by Heather Large

should be split up to allow for the creation of a Scottish Yeomanry.

But campaigners battling to save the regiment argue that Dudley’s A Squadron – the only remaining TA Royal Armoured Corps Squadron to be based in the West Midlands – plays a vital role.

They say the move would be a blow to the town which holds the regiment in high regard.

Soldiers from the regiment were last year bestowed with the honour of the Freedom of the Borough of Dudley.

A petition against the axing of the Royal Mercian and Lancastrian Yeomanry has been set up by soldier’s wife Hannah Bragg.

It has attracted more than 1,130 signatures.

Mother-of-three Mrs Bragg, whose husband Major Tom Bragg leads A Squadron, has taken up the fight to petition Government ministers in Whitehall.

Mrs Bragg, aged 38, who lives in Buckinghamshire, said it would be a “tragedy” if the regiment was disbanded.

The petition is available for people to sign at petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/49480expresssandstar.co.uk

Wedding advice is available at landmark hall
COPLES looking to tie the knot can plan their special day at the historic Himley Hall and Park near Dudley with two open evenings next month.

Dudley Council is throwing open the doors of the landmark house on July 2 and 3 between 6pm and 9pm.

Couples will be able to tour the grand rooms at Himley Hall, which will be dressed as it is for wedding days, and take in the views of the gardens.

Himley Hall’s wedding co-ordinators and catering team will be on hand to discuss how weddings can be tailored to the couple’s needs.

For details call 01384 817817.

Fundraisers, including at the front, Cathy Edwell as Batgirl and John Cumiskey as Captain America

CAPTAIN America, Superman, Batgirl and Lara Croft turned heads as they took part in a charity walk.

Fundraisers from Wombourne Funeral Directors dressed up for the eight-mile trek around Himley, helping to raise around £1,000.

Roping off at pubs, shops and a church fair, the staff shook their buckets and donations came flying in.

The money will go toward the company’s annual fundraising pot, which will be split between Midland air ambulance and young adults’ charity High Fliers.

Fundraisers in recent years we looked to do something eye-catching, the superheroes walk seemed brilliant and it worked very well. Not only did we have lots of fun, but people seemed to enjoy seeing us as well,” said John Cumiskey – Captain America – said the event was a huge success, and added: “After many different charity fundraisers in recent years we looked to do something eye-catching, the superheroes walk seemed brilliant and it worked very well. Not only did we have lots of fun, but people seemed to enjoy seeing us as well.”

The route started at the Dudley Arms pub in Himley before going through Himley Park, stopping at Baggeridge Cafe, the Red Lion in Wombourne and then heading back through the Park to the pub.

Partnership launched to offer care choices
A PARTNERSHIP has been set up in Dudley to offer residents more information, choices and control over care choices and options.

Dudley Council is working with independent organisation Safe and Settled. They will offer an advice and support service for people who need care but are not considered to have high priority needs. They will also help people who are paying for their own care or who wish to make their own arrangements.

Councillor Dave Braund, cabinet member for adult and community services said: “We want to help residents make the right care choices, helping them to retain control over their own lives.

For advice, information or support with social care, contact Dudley Council’s access team on 0300 555 0055.

Staying put

COUNCILS across the West Midlands are making plans for people with learning disabilities to stay in their own homes as part of a council’s move to axe care homes.

A new £17m care package will be set up in Dudley, a £2m care package in Sandwell and £12m in Walsall.

The council’s care and support teams will support people to live independently, with the aim to keep people out of care homes.

The new care package will mean people can continue to live in their own homes and be looked after by Dudley Council.

Councillor Julie Searle, cabinet member for community wellbeing, said: “We’re really pleased with how this new care package is working. Staff are working closely with people to ensure they get the care they need in the way that is right for them.

For more information please contact Dudley Council on 01384 817817.

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For Motability details and eligibility visit: www.motability.co.uk
Disastrous farce is really a clever comedy success

WEST End farce Noises Off has hit the road, just like the bickering, accident-prone theatre company portrayed in this revival of Michael Frayn’s backstage comedy, being staged at Birmingham’s New Alexandra Theatre.

Noises Off was the most successful show ever staged by London’s acclaimed Old Vic.

The show is a farce—a farce about a travelling troupe’s attempts to stage an apparently unfinnely funny farce which turns into a catalogue of disasters and backstage squabbles.

Chaotic

It is done in three acts, starting with last-minute rehearsals, then a backstage view of the action and the lead charact’s performance of Nothing On. If you liked One Man, Two-Guerrillas, this will be worth catching at the Alex between Monday and Saturday.

In another play within a play, a stage muddle turns real in Murder In Play, starring from Tuesday to Saturday.

Before that CBeebies hit Grandpa in my Pocket will be on from Tuesday to Saturday.

Not just any old Irons at film concert

BRITISH star of stage and screen Brian Irons will be film critic Mark Kermode’s special guest when the bequiffed movie expert holds his 50th birthday concert in Birmingham next month.

Academy Award winner Irons will share anecdotes with Kermode during the event on July 9 at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, during a programme of film music performed by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

Music will range from Mary Poppins to The Exorcist, directed by Robert Zemeckis, tickets start from £12.50 to £40. Call 0121780 4349.

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**BBC1**

6.00 Breakfast, 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live, 11.20 Night Shift’s Simple Supper, (R) 17.30 BBC One: Escape to the Country. (R) 20.00 Live Aid Anniversary

6.05 BBC News Regional, News, Weather

6.20 Pointless Celebrities, Soap Special, with Linda Lavin, Wendi Peters and Matt LeBlanc. (R)

7.15 The Voice UK: The Live Final, the four remaining contestants perform a song together before the coaches The Voice UK: Live 2013 is announced. Plus, a performance by Michael Buble. Last of the series.

9.20 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draw, All-important winning numbers are revealed.

9.30 Casualty, Fentanyl handout in the ambulance with Ollie and Jeff for the day, but a bit of a laugh at the end of the shift.

9.45 Drama, A man loses his woman as he loses his in the war.


20.40 Match of the Day, v Brazil and Japan v Mexico. Highlights of the final Confederation Cup game and the first half of the Brazil vs Japan World Cup game. Plus, Ross Kemp in Brazil and Ross Noble. (R)

9.00 Film, Calendar Girls, (R) 9.30 Cold Feet, (R) 10.00 EastEnders, (R) 10.30 Casualty, (R) 10.45 Russell T Davies’ Queer As Folk.

9.00 Film, Calendar Girls, (R) 9.30 Cold Feet, (R) 10.00 EastEnders, (R) 10.30 Casualty, (R) 10.45 Russell T Davies’ Queer As Folk.

8.00 The Million Pound Drop Live, Devon McCall presents The Million Pound Drop Live 2013, as 200 contestants are challenged to place large quantities of the cash left unchanged as they face a series of questions.

9.00 Film, Saturday Night Fever and Saturday Night Fever (R)

10.00 Film, Midsummer Night’s Dream.

10.30 Film, Terminator 2: Judgment Day, (R) 11.00 Sky Sports, (R) 11.30 South by Southwest (1997)

11.00 Film, The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift.

11.30 Film, The Thirteenth Floor, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

12.00 The Morning Live, (R) 12.30 The Saturday Kitchen Live, (R) 1.00 Burns Night Live, (R) 1.30 EastEnders, (R) 2.00 Casualty, (R) 2.30 Cold Feet, (R) 3.00 Russell T Davies’ Queer As Folk.

12.00 Film, The National Lottery Saturday Night Draw, All-important winning numbers are revealed.

Day At The Races, (R) 12.30 Film, Wolf Creek.

12.45 Tennis from Eastbourne.

2.00 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draw, All-important winning numbers are revealed.

2.25 Film, The Inbetweeners, (R)

3.00 Film, The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. (R)

3.50 Film: Angelic Recess, (R) 4.00 Film: Wolf Creek.

4.20 Film, The Mindy Project.

4.50 Film, The Mindy Project.

5.20 Film, The Mindy Project. (R)

6.00 Film, The Mindy Project. (R)

6.30 Film: Halo 4.

6.35 Film: Halo 4.

6.50 Film: Halo 4.

7.00 World’s Weirdest Weather.

7.20 Film: Halo 4.

7.30 Film: Halo 4.

7.35 Film: Halo 4.

7.45 Film: Halo 4.

8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.

8.15 Film: Halo 4.

8.30 Film: Halo 4.

8.45 Film: Halo 4.

9.00 Film, The Right Stuff. (R)

9.15 Film: Halo 4.

9.30 Film: Halo 4.

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14.45 Film: Halo 4.

14.50 Film: Halo 4.

Andy Murray: The Man

Andy Murray – a British champion since 2013 – continues to make his mark on the tennis scene. After winning the men’s final at the US Open in 2013, he also won the men’s singles at the Australian Open and the French Open, becoming the first British champion since 1936.

Andy Murray’s rise to prominence has been nothing short of remarkable. From a young talent on the junior circuit, he has transformed himself into a dominant force in men’s tennis. His success has not only brought glory to Britain but has also encapsulated the spirit of resilience and determination that is synonymous with the British character.

The impact of Andy Murray’s achievement has been far-reaching. Not only has he inspired the next generation of British tennis players, but his success has also helped to boost the popularity of the sport in the UK. His story is one of dedication, hard work, and a never-say-die attitude.

Andy Murray’s journey to the top has been a testament to his talent and resilience. From a promising junior to a world-class player, his rise to the pinnacle of his sport has been nothing short of remarkable. His achievements have not only brought荣耀 to himself but also to his country, making him a true national icon.

In the wake of his success, Andy Murray has become a role model for aspiring tennis players, demonstrating the importance of hard work and dedication. His story is a shining example of how perseverance can lead to greatness.

Andy Murray is much more than just a tennis player. He is a symbol of British sporting achievement, embodying the spirit of determination and resilience. With continued success and dedication, there is no doubt that Andy Murray will continue to make his mark on the global stage.
A resurgent Murray aims to make history

Andy Murray features in Wimbledon 2013, Monday, BBC2, 5.15pm

Best of the Rest

Monday

EastEnders BBC1, 8pm

Lauren might be the one with the debilitating drink problem, but Ali is the one who can end up feeling sorry for herself on her poor baby, the poor laa. Yes, the soap opera that has been running for over two decades has had a few ups and downs, but one thing is for sure: the end is nigh.

The Apprentice BBC1, 8pm

Gary Lineker presents the second semi-final of the Costa del Sol Cup, held at the Estadio Carlos in Feria, Lanzarote, where the winners of Group B take on the Group A runners-up. Arguably the biggest shock of the tournament took place at this stage when the competition was last played in 2009, with Euro 2008 winners Spain losing 2-1 to the USA. It was a one of few setbacks for Spain in recent years, as they went on to lift the World Cup in 2010 and defend their European title last year, and it would be a major surprise if they have not reached this stage once again.

Tuesday

Child Genius Channel 4, 8pm

Could your child be the next big thing? Well, you're in luck! The series follows the lives of some of the UK's brightest young minds as they face the ultimate test: a national talent show. It's not just about clever kids, though – it's also about talented kids who just happen to be smarter than average.

Wednesday

The Apprentice BBC1, 8pm

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Thursday

Eye Spy Channel 4, 10pm

If we tell you that Stephen Fry is narrating this new hidden-camera show about what exactly is going on in the dogs' world, then you're in for a treat! This week, we take a look at how dogs interact with each other and with their owners, and we find out what goes on behind closed doors.

Film Choices

Monday

Journey to the Center of the Earth, Channel 4, 4.15am

A gruff former mini-league baseball player agrees to coach a team of young problem children. However, he is shocked by how hopelessly hopeless the would-be sports heroes really are. Getting his teeth, he vows to do his best, with the help of an old girlfriend's talented daughter, and a grim-faced banker,comedy, starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal. (1975)

Tuesday

Journey to the Center of the Earth, Channel 4, 4.15am

A gruff former mini-league baseball player agrees to coach a team of young problem children. However, he is shocked by how hopelessly hopeless the would-be sports heroes really are. Getting his teeth, he vows to do his best, with the help of an old girlfriend's talented daughter, and a grim-faced banker,comedy, starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal. (1975)

Wednesday

The Bad News Bears, Channel 4, 1.45am

A gruff former mini-league baseball player agrees to coach a team of young problem children. However, he is shocked by how hopelessly hopeless the would-be sports heroes really are. Getting his teeth, he vows to do his best, with the help of an old girlfriend's talented daughter, and a grim-faced banker,comedy, starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal. (1975)
**London Theatre Breaks**

**Choose your show, price band* and how you want to travel**

**Coach inclusive breaks – Two days**

Selected weekend departures

- **Saturday Night from £129.**
- **Dine and Dance from £139.**

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing. For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and disco (conditions apply). For the Saturday Night option you will see the evening performance. For both breaks the price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options). Pick ups offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There’s a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance. Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

**Theatre Showstopper from £189.**
**Theatre Weekend from £189.**

These popular theatre packages to the West End depart from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening. Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade. Two nights stay at a three or four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply) and a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance for the Theatre Showstopper package or choose your price band for the Saturday evening performance with the Theatre Weekend package.

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.*

**Single room supplements apply.**

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**Codeword**

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

**Double Crossword**

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

**Cryptic Clues:**

Across
1. Full of life, but secretly abducted (8)
2. Among those who give the verdict for damage (6)
3. Some of the elderly cardinals hold the measure back (4)
4. Men’s tips badly used (8)
5. Oars used by the cutter (8)
6. A tough piece of wood giving a negative result, one hears (4)
7. Got in and changed to acting as a benefactor (8)
8. Altered the size of the shot (8)
9. Moves conceitfully - members taking the street (8)
10. Harry the underground worker has a short way for traffic (8)
11. Soft reality - two in fact (4)
12. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)

Down
1. Concern (8)
2. Severe (6)
3. Lazy (4)
4. Divert (8)
5. Horrified (6)
6. Labour (4)
7. Petition (6)
8. Conquer (8)
9. Salad-plant (6)
10. Way in (8)
11. Urge forward (4)
12. Tried (6)
13. Conquer (8)
14. Roadway (6)
15. Conquer (8)
16. Labour (4)
17. Petition (6)
18. Way in (8)
19. Urge forward (4)
20. Soft reality (8)
21. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)
22. Soft reality (8)
23. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)

**Quick Clues:**

Across
1. G. Britain and N. Ireland (6,7)
2. Tacitum (8)
3. Competent (4)
4. Mild (6)
5. Deed (6)
6. Roadway (6)
7. Tried (6)
8. Urge forward (4)
9. Way in (8)
10. Petition (6)
11. Urge forward (4)
12. Roadway (6)
13. Petition (6)
14. Soft reality (8)
15. Salad-plant (6)
16. Way in (8)
17. Urge forward (4)
18. Soft reality (8)
19. Salad-plant (6)
20. Soft reality (8)
21. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)
22. Soft reality (8)
23. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)

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**Sudoku**

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

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**Cryptic Clues:**

Across
1. Draw (8)
2. Expatriate (8)
3. Shipmate (8)
4. Castle (8)
5. Flower-beds (8)
6. Castle (8)
7. Stye (8)
8. Mediocre (8)
9. Conquer (8)
10. Need (8)
11. Cattle-show (8)
12. Eyebrows (8)
13. Desert (8)
14. Minute (8)
15. Shell (8)
16. Back (8)
17. Castle (8)
18. Gear (8)
19. Spotless (8)
20. Shipmate (8)
21. Jog (4)
22. Town (8)

Down
1. Concern (8)
2. Severe (6)
3. Lazy (4)
4. Divert (8)
5. Horrified (6)
6. Labour (4)
7. Petition (6)
8. Conquer (8)
9. Salad-plant (6)
10. Way in (8)
11. Urge forward (4)
12. Tried (6)
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17. Urge forward (4)
18. Soft reality (8)
19. Salad-plant (6)
20. Soft reality (8)
21. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)
22. Soft reality (8)
23. Lily shows a certain spirit (4)
A breakfast kitchen with central island and granite worksurfaces is a good feature

A large rear garden has a vast expanse of lawn, raised beds and many maturing trees

Large detached nestled on a plot of two thirds of an acre

AN individual detached house set in splendid grounds approaching two thirds of an acre is for sale priced at £575,000.

With extensive parking and secluded gardens, the property – The Firs, Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster – has four bedrooms and two bathrooms, a Charles Yorke fitted breakfast kitchen, lounge, separate dining room, games room, two garages and extensive range of workshop/store rooms.

The house is on the Beredyd side of the town, set well back from the road behind an extensive block paved frontage with parking for several vehicles and space for a boat, caravan or motor home.

The interior has been upgraded by the present owners, most notably the new breakfast kitchen with a comprehensive range of cream units with a central island and granite work surface. It features a range of high-end appliances including self cleaning electric double oven, induction hob and island mounted fully retractable concealed extractor, dishwasher, American style refrigerator and freezer and wine chiller.

With double doors leading out to the garden and separate utility room leading off, the kitchen creates a fabulous hub of the home.

There is also a newly refitted guest cloakroom, dining room with double doors to the garden and a games/skittle room with full height picture windows.

On the first floor the master bedroom suite includes a newly fitted range of wardrobes with a dressing area and en suite bathroom, with three more bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Outside the rear gardens are laid mainly to lawn with raised beds, paved patio terrace and well stocked shrubbery borders to all sides.

Call Allan Morris & Jones on 01562 747755 for details.

Bathroom with corner bath on the ground floor

Love Your Postcode is handling the sale of this house

A SPLASHING three-bedroom semi-detached property in Kidderminster is for sale priced at £174,950.

The house in Dog Kennel Lane has a reception hall, two reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, downstairs WC and bathroom, three bedrooms and bathroom, off street parking and front and rear gardens.

There is local shopping at Loundonerry Road, with a wider range in Bearwood and Oldbury town centres, with local schools for all age groups.

On the ground floor the dining room, 13ft 4in by 12ft, has a feature fireplace, with the reception room measuring 12ft 2in by 12ft having a feature fireplace and French doors to the garden.

The kitchen, 9ft 11in by 8ft 10in, has a range of wall and base units with work surfaces, stainless steel sink and cooker hood with a utility room measuring 10ft 6in by 9ft 10in and with wall and base units, breakfast bar, stainless steel sink and plumbing for washing machine, with a door to an utility.

The downstairs bathroom has a corner bath and wash hand basin, and there are three bedrooms and first floor bathroom with shower, wash hand basin and WC.

Contact Love Your Postcode on 0121 285 5005 for more details.

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Get more at barratthomes.co.uk or call 01562 750 195
This THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED property is a great opportunity for a cash buyer! Ideal for an investor buyer who is looking to purchase a property in good order with cosmetic work needed throughout. Benefiting from double glazing and central heating along with a good sized, well maintained garden, an early viewing is recommended to avoid disappointment.

**Offers Around £65,000**

Netherton Office

**NEW**

Vale Road, NETHERTON

This THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED property is a great opportunity for a cash buyer! Ideal for an investor buyer who is looking to purchase a property in good order with cosmetic work needed throughout. Benefiting from double glazing and central heating along with a good sized, well maintained garden, an early viewing is recommended to avoid disappointment.

**EPC-D**

Netherton Office

**Offers Around £65,000**

**NEW**

The Beck, NETHERTON

A well presented two bedroom mid terrace property set in a popular location. The spacious accommodation is gas centrally heated and comprises of entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two well proportioned bedrooms and bathroom. The rear garden is low maintenance and is not overlooked from the rear and has gated access to an open field. The front garden is block paved providing off road parking for a number of vehicles.

**EPC-C**

Netherton Office

**Offers Around £94,950**

**NEW**

Russells Hall Road, RUSSELLS HALL

This spacious two bedroomed semi-detached home is conveniently situated on the ever popular Russells Hall development close to all amenities. Benefitting from central heating, double glazing, garage and a spacious driveway! Available to let immediately, an early viewing is highly recommended! DSS considered, no pets. DEPOSIT £550 PET DEPOSIT £550 Secured by payment of holding fee payable - ask for details.

**EPC-C**

Netherton Office

**£525 PCM**

**NEW**

Metropolitan Lofts, DUDLEY

This immaculately presented second floor apartment set in this wonderfully converted building benefits from open plan living, spacious accommodation, seperate shower and bathroom and is finished to a high standard. Benefitting from secure communal entrance with lift, under croft secure gated allocated parking, basement storage area, electric heating and double glazing, viewing is a must!

**EPC-TBC**

Netherton Office

**£107,000**

**NEW**

Clarence Road, DUDLEY

This three bedroom mid terraced property is in good decorative order comprising; entrance hall, lounge, separate dining room, three bedrooms, house bathroom, downstairsw.c, allocated parking, 34 Fernhurst Drive, BRIERLEY HILL

**EPC-D**

Netherton Office

**Offers Over £179,950**

This three bedroom end terraced property in good decorative order comprises: Entrance hall, lounge, separate dining room, three bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, house bathroom. Outside there is a lawned front garden with driveway to the side for parking and double gates lead to the rear garden which is laid mainly to lawn. Being conveniently situated, an early viewing is highly recommended.

**EPC-C**

Netherton Office

**Offers Over £94,950**

Sharon Bissell - Sales Negotiator
Emily Gray - Assistant Branch Manager
Natalie Fellows - Lettings Negotiator
Daniel and Michelle Thomas - Directors

Website: www.thepropertyshop.co.uk

Email: info@thepropertyshop.co.uk
**SEDGELEY**

**St. Andrews Close**, Market Street

- A 3 bedroom, double glazed with UPVC, carpeted, semi-detached property.
- Offers in the region of £225,000.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Southerdowel Road, Brownwell Estate**

- Offers in the region of £234,950.
- EPC Rating: B.

---

**KINGSWINFORD**

- **Hathaway Mews**, 111 Wood Street

- Offers in the region of £174,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Ulswater Gardens**, Caesewell Road

- Offers in the region of £164,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**WORDSLEY**

- **Caswell Drive**, Stourbridge Road

- Offers in the region of £109,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Larch Road**, Bankfield Road

- Offers in the region of £369,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**SEDCLEY**

- **Lambrook Drive**, Stourbridge Road

- Offers in the region of £119,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Coseley**

- **Norwood Road**, Coseley

- Offers in the region of £245,000.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Walls Heath**

- **Open Viewing Sat 22nd June 11am**

- Offers in the region of £339,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Kingswinford**

- **Market Street**, Market Street

- Offers in the region of £289,950.
- EPC Rating: B.

---

**Dudley**

- **Market Street**, 3/4 Market Street

- Offers in the region of £207,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

**Lightwood Road**, 111 Wood Street

- Offers in the region of £185,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Wordsley**

- **Brierley Hill Office 01384 265265**

- Offers in the region of £139,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Netherton**

- **Kingswinford Office 01384 401777**

- Offers in the region of £136,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Wordsley**

- **Holly Hall**, 81 High Street

- Offers in the region of £163,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Wordsley**

- **Dudley Office 01902 880888**

- Offers in the region of £124,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Walls Heath**

- **Charles Street**, Stourbridge Road

- Offers in the region of £119,950.
- EPC Rating: D.

---

**Walls Heath**

- **St. Andrews Close**, Walshe Close

- Offers in the region of £195,950.
- EPC Rating: D.
An EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE, gas radiator centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached family home within a sociable and distinguished location. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance hallway, through lounge, separate dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £175,000

Halesowen

129 Poplar Road
0121 434 4345

21 Hagley Road
0121 550 3978

2A Dudley Street
01902 880888

6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS

UPPER GORNAL/SEDELEY

Dudley Road
An EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE, gas radiator centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached family home within a sociable location. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance hallway, through lounge, separate dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £175,000

LOWER GORNAL

Desdale Lane

£3,000 Reduction

Kingswinford

Haskewell Drive

Ground Floor

This very well maintained, detached home is situated in a very popular residential location and offers spacious accommodation throughout. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall, entrance hall, spacious lounge, separate dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950

New

CONSERVATORY

Rubens Close

Dudley

Elm Green

This uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated semi detached home is situated in a quiet and well regarded residential location and offers spacious accommodation throughout. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall, entrance hall, spacious lounge, separate dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £118,950

New

QUARRY BANK

New

PENSHOTT

New

http://www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

NEW PRICE

Ideal First Buy

Exchange Street

Ideal for first time buyers or those seeking a B & B / Lt 6 Bed house. This modern, two bedroom semi detached house offers a lounge with uPVC double glazed double doors, entrance porch, entrance hall, spacious lounge, separate dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, two double bedrooms, modern shower room and plenty of parking. EPC Rating G. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in excess of £77,000

New

Briery Hill

NEW PRICE

The Promenade

DUDLEY CHRONICLE, THURSDAY, JUNE 20 2013 Page 35 www.expressandstar.com/free-editions

Now Available

Haydn Road

This well presented, detached home is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and offers spacious living throughout. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance hallway, through lounge, spacious dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the Region Of £99,950

NEW PRICE

Bradscroft Close

This well presented, detached home is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and offers spacious living throughout. Providing significant potential, the accommodation includes entrance hallway, through lounge, spacious dining room, large kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, garage & pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the Region Of £99,950

NEW PRICE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Himley Road Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£249,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Abbotsford Drive Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£210,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Micheals Grove Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>Offers over £190,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Richborough Drive Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£149,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Himley Avenue Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£149,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dibdale Street Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£143,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vanborough Walk Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£135,955</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tansey Green Road Pensnett</strong></td>
<td><strong>£129,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prices Road Gornal Wood</strong></td>
<td><strong>£124,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Beck Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£120,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parkes Hall Road Woodsetton</strong></td>
<td><strong>£119,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Corbyn Road Russells Hall</strong></td>
<td><strong>£97,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Labumum Road Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£79,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wolverton Road Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£89,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bramble Green Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£79,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Occupation Street Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£69,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tarsey Green Road Pensnett</strong></td>
<td><strong>£33,125</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Abberley Street Dudley</strong></td>
<td><strong>£54,950</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Traditional five bedroom detached benefits three reception rooms, spacious kitchen breakfast room, master bedroom with an en-suite. Must be viewed, Energy rating E.**

**A detached dormer bungalow, comprises through lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom three/study, two double bedrooms, family shower room, garage, Energy Rating D.**

**A traditional five bedroom detached house in cul-de-sac location, comprises through lounge, kitchen, conservatory, two double bedrooms, bathroom, garage, Energy Rating E.**

**A three bedroom detached property with en-suite, two further bedrooms and bathroom, garage, gardens to the front and rear, Energy rating D.**

**Traditional five bedroom detached benefits three reception rooms, spacious kitchen breakfast room, master bedroom with en-suite. Must be viewed, Energy rating E.**

**A detached dormer bungalow, comprises through lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom three/study, two double bedrooms, family shower room, garage, Energy Rating D.**

**A three bedroom detached property backing onto open fields benefits kitchen/diner, two reception rooms, loft room, central heating, double glazing. No Upward Chain. Energy rating D.**

**A well presented semi detached property set in a desirable cul-de-sac location, comprises two reception rooms, three bedrooms, attractive rear garden, Energy rating D.**

**A three bedroom semi detached property backing onto open fields benefits kitchen/diner, two reception rooms, loft room, central heating, double glazing. No Upward Chain. Energy rating D.**

**A well presented semi detached property set on corner plot, comprises refitted kitchen and bathroom, lounge, two bedrooms, garage, No Upward Chain. Energy rating D.**

**A well presented and extended semi detached property in cul-de-sac location, briefly comprises, hallway, lounge, dining room, extended kitchen and conservatory, three bedrooms and bathroom. Energy rating E.**

**An immaculately presented three bedroom property benefits from spacious kitchen/diner, lounge, no work required and ready to move in. Ideal for the buy to let investor.**

**A three bedroom semi detached property, briefly comprises hall, lounge, dining kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom, en-suite to master bedroom, gardens to the front side and rear. No Upward Chain.**

**A three bedroom semi detached property benefits from kitchen/diner, two reception rooms, loft room, central heating, double glazing. No Chain. Energy rating D.**

**A well presented semi detached property set in a desirable cul-de-sac location, comprises two reception rooms, three bedrooms, attractive rear garden, Energy rating D.**

**First floor apartment close to Dudley town centre provides lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. With double glazing and parking space and NO UPWARD CHAIN.**

**NOTICE OF OFFER**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
A four-bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a separate sitting room, a lounge, a dining room, a superb fitted breakfast kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, three bedrooms, a bathroom, a garage, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden. EPC rating E.

A four-bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge, a dining room, a new kitchen with open access to the conservatory, three bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden. EPC rating B.

A three-bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception porch, a lounge, a dining room, a fitted kitchen with open access to the conservatory, three bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden. EPC rating D.

A five-bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a guest cloakroom, a lounge, an open plan kitchen / dining room, a fitted kitchen, a master bedroom en-suite, four further bedrooms, a family bathroom, a utility room, UPVC double-glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden. EPC rating D.

A three-bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception porch, a spacious lounge, a double aspect sitting room, a fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double-glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a delightful rear garden. EPC rating D.

A five-bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a magnificent lounge, a conservatory, a fitted kitchen, a master bedroom en-suite, four further bedrooms, a family bathroom, a utility room, UPVC double-glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden. EPC rating D.

A four-bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a spacious lounge, a double aspect sitting room, a fitted kitchen, a master bedroom en-suite, three further double bedrooms, a family bathroom, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a driveway and attractive gardens that enjoy panoramic views of the local countryside and beyond. EPC rating C.
The UK’s most visited estate agency website*

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SEDGLEY

LARKSWOOD ROAD

• EPC D Three Bedroom Detached Lounge/Dining Room/Kitchen/Games Room/Study
Double Glazing Where Stated Gas Central Heating System

£225,000

DUDEY 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

OAKHAM ROAD

• EPC D An Extended Detached Three Bedroom Extended Breakfast Kitchen/Utility Room/Garage Double Glazing Where Stated Gas Central Heating System Driveway

£155,000

DUDEY 01384 455000

OAKHAM

OAKHAM AVENUE

• EPC AWAITED An Improved & Extended Semi Detached Three Bedroom Lounge/Study/Extended Kitchen/Dining Room/Conservatory Double Glazing Where Stated Gas Central Heating System Garage Rear Garden Viewing Recommended

From £259,930

DUDEY 01384 455000

NEW

DUDLEY

ST MARKS ROAD

• EPC RATINGS AWAITED Bay Fronted Detached Property Three Bedroom Two Reception Rooms Kitchen/Garage/Drive No Chain Rear Garden

£165,000

DUDEY 01384 455000

BRIERY HILL

GROSVENOR WAY

• Improved Three Bedroom Semi Detached Lounge/Dining Room/Fitted Kitchen Family Bathroom Gas Central Heating System Double Glazing Where Stated Block Paved Driveway Front & Rear Garden EPC Ratings Awaited

£120,000

DUDEY 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

BULL STREET

• EPC RATINGS AWAITED Three Bedroom Semi Detached Lounge/Dining Room/Fitted Kitchen Double Glazing Where Stated Gas Central Heating System Garage Drive No Chain

£99,930

DUDEY 01384 455000

NEW

DUDLEY

BRIERY HILL

BULL STREET

• EPC RATINGS AWAITED Three Bedroom Semi Detached Lounge/Dining Room/Fitted Kitchen Double Glazing Where Stated Gas Central Heating System Garage Drive No Chain

£99,930

DUDEY 01384 455000

NEW

DUDLEY

TA H C H I N E R Y

BRIERY HILL

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DUDEY 01384 455000

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Auris: Stays part of the Toyota motoring family

Model benefits from redesign

IF THE car you are looking for needs to be dependable, secure, safe, and perhaps not too exciting the market place is quite wide and varied, but one manufacturer that always comes out in the top choice factor is Toyota, one of the world’s largest car makers.

Toyota have recently introduced the next generation of the Auris, this benefits from an all-new exterior design. I like the fact that Toyota has followed other manufacturers of giving their frontal design a corporate look; they call it the Toyota family face.

I just like it when you instantly know who has manufactured a car, has its own heritage, its own DNA, and I really do like this feature that the Auris knows who has manufactured it.

The overall length has been extended just slightly but the wheelbase remains the same, a slight extension of length will relate to a little more interior space although that having been said the new model has been reduced in height by 55mm and this sometimes can be a worry if the interior headroom has been reduced, but I am glad to say this is not the case.

The design people at Toyota have been working hard on the Auris, they worked hard on losing weight, the chassis design, the packaging and the engine configurations.

Impressive.

All this gives a vehicle that has a better level of equipment and is now cheaper to run than ever before.

The aerodynamics have made quite impressive savings in respect of running costs and in addition engine tweaks and adjustments have improved fuel consumption and reduced CO2 emissions considerably, thus bringing down running and ownership costs.

The Auris is available with multi-choice in respect of the power-trains; you can go for the full hybrid or a choice of two petrels or one diesel.

Hybrid has progressed quite considerably from being a niche market to a very important factor. The jury is still out in respect of hybrids, I believe the technological advancement in conventional engines has seen such strides as the expenditure and long term ownership worries of a hybrid are not sufficient for me to actually consider.

The 2 petrols are a 1.3-litre producing 98bhp, and a 1.6-litre producing 130bhp, the fuel of the engine was fitted in to my particular test car, with a 6-speed gearbox which it is pleasing to report that you can use all of the 8 gears as opposed to some vehicles that I have driven whereby 5th and 6th are pure motorway.

It is possible for your Auris to be supplied with a 1.4-litre diesel producing 89bhp, where the diesel exceeds nearly in the fuel consumption figures.

Toyota suggest a combined figure of 74 mpg could be achievable but let’s reduce that considerably to real world figures and you should be able to achieve 50 mpg and in all probability 45 from the smaller 1.3-litre petrol.

It was rather rewarding me with 47 mpg whilst it was in my company.

Toyota have taken the step of changing the way they describe their vehicles and now you can buy an Auris in a TS, TR, TR Plus or an Excel.

The standard features on all versions include 7 airbags, air conditioning, follow me home headlights, they also benefit from hill start assist, a vehicle stability programme system and LED daytime running headlamps.

All manufacturers have extra list and the optional Toyota Touch and Go multimedia system with a full map navigation system was fitted in to my vehicle, and for once it was one of the most user friendly satellite navigation and Bluetooth methods I have used.

Automatic.

Even the entry level Active benefits from automatic air-conditioning and electric windows and mirrors.

The Auris is a pleasant vehicle to be ensconced in for any length of time, the all important head and shoulder room was ticking all the boxes, quite simply, 3 adults with a squash, the boot was more than adequate for the luggage for 4 people.

I did like on my derivative the parking assist system, a rear view camera and front and rear parking sensors.

Servicing.

The on road price is £17,495 on to that you needed to add £450 for metallic paint and on my vehicle the touch and go navigation system increased the price by £800.

All Toyota have a 5-year 100,000 mile Pan European Mechanical Warranty and benefit from a 5-year paint work warranty anti corrosian is covered for 12 years.

In addition Toyota has included a one-year full AA cover, and servicing should be done annually or at 10,000 miles.

Kia now open at Tipton with fantastic opening offers

THE NEW PICANTO FROM ONLY £7,795 SAVE UP TO £1,250

NEW 7 SEAT KIA CARENS LAUNCH OFFER FROM ONLY £15,999

• GREAT SELECTION of approved used cars with 7 year warranty and low rate finance.
• Used cars wanted (up to 5 years old).

SERVICE AND PARTS OFFERS
1. 20% Off Kia manufacturer schedule servicing.
2. MOT’s from £35.00 (Make/models)
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4. FREE health check on every vehicle
5. FREE wash and vac on every vehicle
6. Courtesy cars available
7. Collection and delivery from home or workplace.
8. While you wait appointments available.
9. FREE refreshments
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Denture troubles? Unable to live life spontaneously?

THERE’S seemingly an impossible amalgamation between glamour and dentures, but these unlikely descriptive bedfellows are increasingly being thrown together at a ground-breaking Dudley clinic.

Under the watchful eye of dentist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), founder of the Denture Clinic, based in North Street, hi-spec prescriptions are helping turn back the hands of time.

Recently, the practice has undergone a major refurbishment, with three disciples – general dentistry (North Street Dental), implantology (Total Implant Solutions) and the prescribing and manufacturing of dentures (Denture Clinic) all under one roof. Key to a £1m investment are two new ground-floor surgeries, an level main entrance at the rear, disabled-friendly facilities and a large car park with a drop-off point right outside the reception area. A champion for those who wear dentures, Steven has spent more than ten years campaigning to “break the taboo over false teeth.”

He is evangelical about what new generation dentures can achieve. “Dentures have traditionally never been associated with cosmetic makeovers, but our high-quality prosthetics have quite literally taken years off some of our patients,” he said. “People have come to us with B-fitting dentures, sunken cheeks and pinched lips and we have been privileged to transform their looks. Can dentures be glamorous? Absolutely, yes. “We are on the cusp of development, so that those who entrust their smile to us can be sure they will be advised on best options.”

Steven’s work has attracted people from all walks of life, including a former SAS mountain warfare specialist, an airline pilot, a multi-millionaire with his own jet, health professionals and “ordinary salt-of-the-earth people from the Black Country.” The clinic’s prosthetics, hand-crafted at laboratories at the Dudley and Wolverhampton practices, have also found satisfied patients from as far away as Spain and Portugal. And the secret of his success? “A seamless service to clients, where clinical assessment and the crafting of prescriptions are all in-house. It’s a simple formula,” said Steven, “but it has allowed me to be fastidious about the quality and we’ll never compromise on best clinical outcomes.”

He admitted that denture wearers are one of the most challenging groups to treat successfully. “I believe many of them have had a bad deal for years, but we are in the vanguard of changing outcomes and hopefully changing some lives for the better too,” said Steven.

Steven draws on more than 30 years’ experience in all disciplines of dental technology to produce his hallmark “functional, natural-looking teeth.”

Having completed his training as a dental technician and started his own laboratory, Steven enrolled on a three-and-a-half year CDT training course with the George Brown College in Toronto, Canada, to enable him to work in his dental discipline independently of a dentist.

Graduating with honours, Steven undertook a further year’s study under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons.

The Denture Clinic is renowned for its natural look. Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng) says: “Quality traditional dentures can be hugely effective.”

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NATHAN ROUND and Ben Smith helped Himley step a run off five straight defeats in the Premier Division.
Rounds made 48 not out and Smith an unbeaten 47 at Himley moved them to 4-3 at Wolverhampton in reply to the hosts’ 175-7 from a reduced quota of 46 overs.
Himley went on the wrong end of the draw but picked up five points from the position of 20-3.
With cloudy weather, Wolvastia claimed a second-innings 1-45, as they searched for their first win of the season in the division.
Waalhal had the weather to thank as they escaped with a draw against Premier Division leaders Shrewsbury The Convoy Road side were skittled out for just 62 but the visitors were left stranded on 29-3 as rain forced an abandoned 50 overs.
Wombourne moved off the bottom after picking up eight points from their abandoned game and the access road back to the highland pastures at West Bromwich Dartmouth’s clash with Kidderminster Victoria at Sandwell Park was also called off after the hosts had reached 235-7, with Bazman Zaman top scoring with 87.
In Division One, Smethwick claimed an impressive winning draw against second-placed Kenilworth Wardens in a 20-over game.
Smethwick made 91-7 but former Warwickshire ace Neil Carter claimed 3-17 as the visitors were restricted to just 46-6.

Hortswell

Run of five defeats is brought to an end

Cricket

Penns’ game with Aston Manor were abandoned after they made 151-7, and the match between Bridgnorth and Milford Hall was abandoned with the home side on 88-5 in pursuit of 155-5.

Hartwell

Nailbiting victory as Kaye fights to the end

Dream over for Reanne

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HALIFAX’S Jordanne Whiteley narrowly missed out on winning her second ITF 1 Series singles titles in as many weeks.

The wheelchair tennis star finished runner-up at the Daegu Open to Japan’s Yui Kamiji, the player she will partner next month at The Championships, Wimbledon.

For the second week in a row the British No. 2 and Korea Open champion started the women’s singles as second seed and followed a first round bye by defeating Louise Hunt 7-5, 6-2, as two of the top three ranked Brits on the Tennis Foundation’s Wheelchair Tennis Performance Programme went head-to-head. Whiteley then booked her place in another final with a comfortable 6-2, 6-2 win over Japanese fourth seed Kanako Domori.

World No.8 Whiteley went into Friday’s final having beaten Kamiji 6-4, 6-4 to win the Korea Open a week earlier, but top seed and world No. 7 Kamiji just had the edge in their latest head-to-head to beat Whiteley for the first time in four attempts after securing the title 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

During the Daegu Open Whiteley and Kamiji were confirmed among the four women’s partnerships for the Wimbledon Wheelchair Doubles Event, having entered the third Grand Slam of the year together even before pairing up for the first time to win the Korea Open in Seoul.

However, they were on opposite sides of the draw in Daegu as Whiteley and Hunt narrowly missed out on the chance of a place in the doubles final alongside Kamiji. The Brits made a good start to their semi-final against Malaysia’s Fatatul Ahsa Abdullah Thani and Thailand’s Kanita Tuchmanasawan, one of the players Whiteley and fellow Brit Lucy Shuker had beaten to claim the bronze medal in the women’s doubles at the London Paralympics. However, Thani and Tuchmanasawan recovered for a 2-6, 6-4, (10-8) victory.

“It would have been nice to have come back with all four titles, but I was very close in the singles final and the better player just won on the day,” said Whiteley. “Yui’s a very, very good player and she also recently won the first Super Final Series title of her career at the Japan Open. We had a great time playing together in Seoul, so we’re really looking forward to Wimbledon,” added Whiteley, who was runner-up in the women’s doubles at The Championships last year, partnering Shuker.

Whiley just misses out on second singles title

British hero Tai Woffinden said he shut off the pain in his brain after an agonising conveyor belt of second places, to claim the bronze medal in the men’s singles final at the Capital One Cup.

Wolverhampton man Woffinden was in agony racing just a fortnight after shattering his collarbone in the British Vitality series.

However, he won yet more admirers for his efforts against the odds by finishing third and keeping his title hopes alive. The meeting was won by Polish star Jaroslaw Hampel, with reigning champion Chris Holder runner-up.

Woffinden, who notched 12 points, said: “At the end of the race and the third lap I shut it off because I thought the race was over, I was in such pain my brain switched off for a moment.

“T was only when I looked across at the flag that I realised it was one more lap to go and I’m delighted to finish third.”

The pain was intense and hard to manage, but we got through it and we got through it and I thank my mechanics, sponsors and all my supporters here in Poland and back in the UK.

Higher

Woffinden also revealed how he and his team have agreed a change in tactics.

“Now I’m going for a medal. That’s the new target for me. I feel I’ve done enough over the last few years to set the bar a little bit higher.

“I will look forward to Copenhagen on June 29 and aim for another place in the final.”

Fellow Wolves man Fredrik Lindgren narrowly missed out on the second place in the semi-final after a solid display. The Swedish star kicked off his evening with two hard-fought second places, the latter after a ruthless charge past Triple world champion Nicki Pedersen on the opening lap.

A further point followed – yet he was left furious with the back straight after Kasprzak after an aggressive charge for a second place behind Greg Hancock in his final outing in heat 15.

Leap with an uphill task to make the semi-finals, the 27-year-old could only manage a second place behind Greg Hancock in his final outing leaving him agonisingly short of progression on seven points.

The result saw him lose 11th in the World Championships standings but he has narrowed the gap to just five points in the race for the all-important eighth place which guarantees a spot in next year’s series.

Dudley boss Will Potter writes Rich Jones

Whiley just misses out on second singles title

Wolverhampton’s Dan Bowyer survives as Himley wicketkeeper Jagbir Dhillon, standing up at the wicket, just fails to hold on to a sharp chance. Match report and Birmingham Cricket League round-up – Page 55

Bowyer living on the edge as he survives chance

Depleted race side defeated

King’s Lynn

Wolverhampton 37

DEPLETED Wolves ran out of steam against a powerhouse King’s Lynn side in their Elite League clash, writes Rich Jones.

The Monmore men suffered a pointless return on the road for the first time this season – and it was talented British racer Richie Worrall who proved to be the difference with a stunning 18-point maximum at reserve for the Stars.

A 5-1 for the home side in the opening race put Parrys International Wolves on the back foot – although they did pull themselves back within two thanks to Freddie Lindgren and Adam Skornicki in heat five. But a trio of heat advantages gave King’s Lynn an eight-point lead after eight outings.

A further pair of races for Worrall in heat eight practically sealed the deal as Wolves were left chasing for most of the meeting.

With a tight finale on prospect, the hosts attract a timely 5-1 in heat 12 to give the Monmore men an uphill task, before a further King’s Lynn 5-1 maximum put the nail in the Wolves’ coffin and made three.

Kings Lynn 73

Wolverhampton 19

Kings Lynn took full advantage of their home advantage at the Arena on Thursday night.

The home side tooled up to 30-1 against Wolves, who were very depleted with Nicki Pedersen, Joonas Kemppainen, Tomasz Gollob and Andrew Rodger all injured.

Wolves were able to field only five riders as they went on to make the semi-finals, the 27-year-old could only manage a second place behind Greg Hancock in his final outing leaving him agonisingly short of progression on seven points.

The result saw him lose 11th in the World Championships standings but he has narrowed the gap to just five points in the race for the all-important eighth place which guarantees a spot in next year’s series.

Dudley boss Will Potter writes Rich Jones

Whiley just misses out on second singles title

Wolverhampton’s Dan Bowyer survives as Himley wicketkeeper Jagbir Dhillon, standing up at the wicket, just fails to hold on to a sharp chance. Match report and Birmingham Cricket League round-up – Page 55

Bowyer living on the edge as he survives chance

Depleted race side defeated

King’s Lynn

Wolverhampton 37

DEPLETED Wolves ran out of steam against a powerhouse King’s Lynn side in their Elite League clash, writes Rich Jones.

The Monmore men suffered a pointless return on the road for the first time this season – and it was talented British racer Richie Worrall who proved to be the difference with a stunning 18-point maximum at reserve for the Stars.

A 5-1 for the home side in the opening race put Parrys International Wolves on the back foot – although they did pull themselves back within two thanks to Freddie Lindgren and Adam Skornicki in heat five. But a trio of heat advantages gave King’s Lynn an eight-point lead after eight outings.

A further pair of races for Worrall in heat eight practically sealed the deal as Wolves were left chasing for most of the meeting.

With a tight finale on prospect, the hosts attract a timely 5-1 in heat 12 to give the Monmore men an uphill task, before a further King’s Lynn 5-1 maximum put the nail in the Wolves’ coffin and made three.