

ISSUE 73

just

BEVERLEY

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VACCINATION CENTRE DAWN OF A NEW ERA

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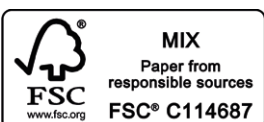


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REMEMBER! If you see examples of anti-social behaviour or other types of low-level crime, do report it to the appropriate authorities. **POLICE - Emergency 999, Non-urgent 101. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) - 01482 393939.**

Magazine available from outlets in Beverley and surrounding areas.



Please pass your Just Beverley on or recycle it responsibly.
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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS



As we get used to Lockdown again, it is good to see and hear about people helping each other, continuing with the community spirit.

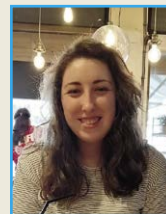
Just Beverley continues with the small change BIG impact! I trust everyone is keeping close to their 2021 resolutions? If

you've slipped a little, make February the time to get back on target. Whatever February has in store for you, then maybe add lent onto your list to get you through and achieve your targets.

These are going to be difficult times ahead for everyone, and it is at times like these that we all need to pull together, to work together, and to be there for each other. So as the vaccination programme continues to roll out, make sure you continually follow the guidelines. Do not put someone else's life at risk.

Just Beverley promotes positive news and attitudes and with that in mind, we can and will get through this and keep smiling. Send in your stories - I am sure you will have some good news! We look forward to a longer brighter future ahead. Stay safe and healthy, and follow the guidelines.

Julian.



Happy February readers!

I've decided on behalf of us all that this month is going to be our month, yes everyone's, for we are all starting it with the most beautiful structure. If you look at February in your calendar, nothing is more satisfying. A perfect 4 weeks

on a perfect 4 lines, everything falls into place. A masterpiece month!

The UK is still in lockdown so that's good news for singletons who want to avoid the sight of romance, but for those loved up couples there are still plenty of ways to make the most of Valentine's Day. And who knows, if you are single, maybe you have a secret Valentine!

While we remain in lockdown, let's be mindful of the impacts of Covid-19, of isolating, and how important it is to abide by the guidelines. While the new vaccine is being rolled out quickly, it is important to still be aware of those around you. Hope you enjoy the issue.

Olivia.



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If you would like copies for your business to distribute to staff and customers, call **Just Beverley** on **01482 679947.**

NEW NATIONAL (TYPE 2) DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAMME - HEALTHIER YOU

Are you at risk of type 2 diabetes? You may be eligible for your free local NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme.

When it comes to discussions about the prevention of diabetes, this usually refers to preventing type 2 diabetes, as type 1 diabetes is an irreversible autoimmune condition.

Type 1 affects only 8% of everyone with diabetes, while type 2 diabetes affects about 90% and in the majority of cases, type 2 diabetes is brought on by lifestyle factors which can often be prevented. These factors can include an unbalanced diet, lack of activity, lack of sleep, stress, smoking and alcohol.

However, by making lifestyles changes, you can decrease your risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Your local Healthier You: NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme service is free to all those at risk of type 2 diabetes who are registered with a GP in your locality.

By confirming their place, patients will be supported through a dedicated programme to helping individuals with their health and wellbeing.

The programme includes; an initial one-to-one assessment with a Health & Wellbeing Coach to assess individuals health and wellbeing, understand individual needs, motivations and programme goals; nutrition guidance and support; and individual strategies and tools to empower long term progress and physical activity sessions and advice. The course is run over 13 sessions in multiple languages, with sessions 1-6 fortnightly and sessions 7-13 monthly.

Sessions are currently being delivered remotely via Microsoft Teams or as a group telephone call. Every 2 minutes someone finds out that they have type 2 diabetes, and some ethnicities are at a higher risk. For example, type 2 diabetes is two to four times more likely in people of South Asian descent and Black Caribbean or Black African descent.



Do you know your risk of type 2 diabetes? Visit www.preventing-diabetes.co.uk and fill in a few simple questions that will give you a risk score. From there you can get the right support to avoid long-term health problems.

It takes just a few minutes and could be the most important thing you do today.

Take a look at our website: <https://riskscore.diabetes.org.uk/start> which is really useful for people to find out a little more about us and complete your risk assessment.

HEALTHIER YOU

NHS DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAMME

FREE CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL EXTENDED FOR COVID VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

Bus company East Yorkshire are working with East Riding of Yorkshire Council to allow concessionary passholders free travel to their COVID-19 vaccine appointments.

The national concessionary bus pass scheme, which allows free travel for older and disabled people, normally only allows travel after 9.30am. The bus company and council have jointly made the decision to scrap the time limit for those who are travelling to early morning vaccination appointments.

Ben Gilligan, East Yorkshire's Area Director, said: "We've already been getting lots of calls from people looking for advice on travelling to vaccination appointments. As soon as we realised that some concessionary passholders were having to travel earlier than their passes allowed, we got in touch with East Riding of Yorkshire Council to ask if we could allow them to travel before 9.30am, and they immediately agreed."

"It's great that we can play a small part in getting people vaccinated, and helping to beat this pandemic for good."

Paul Abbott, East Riding of Yorkshire Council's head of housing, transportation and public protection, added: "With the vaccine programme now well underway in the area, it made sense to work with East Yorkshire to

allow free early morning travel to those who are currently in the priority groups for the vaccination." The new free early morning travel begins immediately.

Passholders travelling to early appointments will need to show the bus driver their appointment letter or similar proof of their appointment, and then will be allowed to use their pass before 9.30am.

Travellers in the Hull City Council area already have no time limit on their passes, so they can also travel free to their vaccine appointment, no matter what time of day.

Advice on public transport to vaccination centres is available on East Yorkshire's website: www.eastyorkshirebuses.co.uk, or by ringing the company's BusLine advice centre on **01482 59 29 29**.



LIFE IS A CABARET, OLD CHUM, COME TO THE CABARET!

Lockdown and winter have seen some grey days, so why not add a splash of colour and sparkle to your living room by joining the Mayor of Beverley's virtual cabaret evening?

Hosted by Viking FM's Alex Duffy, the Head and Heart Digital Cabaret is bringing a showcase of fabulous artists into your home via the magic of technology. Artists include Hull legend Bobby Mandrell, along with Jed Salisbury, Husk, Mikey James, Brooke Sunlay, Miss Fanny, Stacey Rheet, Dixey, Celeste St. Clair and Cyanide Homocide.

Managed by Rich T Events, the virtual cabaret evening starts on Friday 12th February at 8pm and will run late into the evening. The event be broadcast via Twitch (<https://twitch.tv/richtevents>) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/richtevents).



YOU CAN NOW READ JUST BEVERLEY ONLINE IN AN EXCITING NEW FORMAT

You can now view and read *Just Beverley* online in a new page turning flipbook format.

To keep with our theme of “small changes - big impact”, we’ve introduced a brand new exciting way of accessing the magazine to give our readers the best experience when reading **Just Beverley**.

All you have to do is go to <https://justbeverley.co.uk/magazine> click ‘View Online’ to open the magazine and you will see exactly what you would see in a print publication in an even glossier form.

Its new sleek design and flipbook format makes the latest issues of **Just Beverley** more user-friendly, more interactive, and offers a more comfortable way of reading the latest news in and around Beverley.

The new format also makes **Just Beverley** even more mobile-friendly to give our readers a greater digital experience when reading the magazine online as it adapts to the screen size you are using. New features of the flipbook style include;



a search feature for improved navigation that now allows you to easily find particular articles and revisit articles you want to reread, and an overview option to give you a summary of what to expect in the latest issue. You also now have the option to save the magazine as a PDF if you want to read it later.

Don't miss out on this month's issue of **Just Beverley**, view your copy online now.

NEW FLEMINGATE STORE WILL GIVE COMMUNITY THE PERFECT ONE STOP FOR HOUSEHOLD ESSENTIALS

A new **One Stop** convenience store is opening at Beverley's Flemingate centre.

The new store, next to the Premier Inn hotel and close to the entrance of Flemingate's multi-storey car park, will sell groceries, toiletries and other daily essentials and provide a valuable service during the lockdown and beyond.

Wykeland Group, owner and developer of Flemingate, is bringing the unit into use as a convenience store at a time when Covid-19 restrictions limit shopping to essential retailers.

The store, which will be open seven days a week and create at least 10 much-needed local jobs, is expected to open in early February.

It will be a boost for the local community following an announcement that the Co-op convenience store in nearby Hull Road, Beverley, is to close in April.



ERT COVID SUPPORT PAGE GOES LIVE

COVID has put undue strain on all of our lives and now more than ever many of us need a little extra help.

So here at East Riding Theatre we've created a COVID support page on our website, where you can find different resources that are available to the public.

If you're feeling down, looking for a new hobby, or simply trying to find a reason to get out of the house, there's something for you.

There are support groups, charities and independent local businesses all ready to help during lockdown, so please access the support you and your family need.

Take a look at: www.eastridingtheatre.co.uk/events/



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WHAT DOES FEBRUARY MEAN FOR CHOCOLATE?

January 2021 for so many across the globe has been known as a bit of a write-off. The exceptional circumstances within which we have all been living have become all too familiar, and for those in the world of business who worked so hard to make Christmas during a pandemic a success, the harsh first month of a New Year has been a worrisome and tricky time to navigate.

With the triple-edged sword of post-Christmas fatigue, cold dark weather and a new lockdown, there has never been a better reason not to leave the house, so businesses have shortened their opening hours and sat tight for January, looking to the rest of the year to generate a buzz about their work again.

So now the nights are getting longer again and a sunny day can almost make you believe you feel the first hints of spring, what exciting things are on the horizon for a chocolate enthusiast in market town in Yorkshire?

February, of course, is synonymous with Valentine's Day, the first big event in the calendar of anyone in the gifting industry. Last year I wrote about the long history of Valentine's Day, and how we came to gift chocolate at this time of year. Traditionally, chocolate and romance come hand-in-hand, but this year I think the whole world could use a bit of love.

We have been working hard to come up with a range of gifts to suit everyone, not just the young lovers or the old romantics, but gifts to show our friends or family just how much they mean to us and help them feel not so self-isolated in our lockdowns.

We have created a Valentine's Chocolate Lunch, available for click-and-collect, for those looking for an intimate time for two, but also a Heart-Shaped smash-cake (a chocolate shell filled with romantic sweets & treats) for that very special someone or even a whole family you're thinking of.

We will have chocolate hearts with hand-written messages, limited edition chocolates with passionate flavours, and salted-caramel bites - a customer favourite! We will do everything in our power to spread a bit of joy, and make this year the year of love.

great taste

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Far from being an isolated event, Valentine's marks the start of Spring festivities with lots to look forward to over the coming months.

This year, Easter falls on Sunday 4th April, and thus sets the schedule ahead: Mother's Day is 3 Sundays before Easter (March 14th) and Pancake Day is 6 ½ weeks before Easter (February 16th).



All of these are major dates for any chocolate lover, but more importantly they are all times for family and friends and showing each other how much we care.

Pancake Day has always been a tricky one for us. We are chocolatiers, not pancake-flippers by trade, and everyone has different preferences and traditions for their flat-dough delights so we like to stick with what we know and love.

We are cooking up some of our home-made fat-pancakes, served with pots of melted White Rabbit chocolate to dunk. All you need is a toaster and a microwave and you can have stacks of perfect pancakes, with quality decadent chocolate to dip, for the whole family! We are doing these for click-and-collect as well as local delivery, so there is no excuse not to indulge in what you love.

The week after lent begins is another little quiet spot at your local chocolaterie, but it doesn't take long before people need a pick-me-up once again. We will be using this time to stock up for Mother's Day, and our true time to shine: Easter. Again, we think those Mums and children out there will deserve an extra special treat this year. Mums, we thank you for being our Mum, and kids we thank you for being so patient and good during all this.

White Rabbit has lots of ideas about how to make these events unique this year and show these special people how much we love them.

So, if you are feeling a little blue after January, it is my job to tell you there is lots to look forward to! The year of love is ahead of us, and if you love chocolate there is no shortage to go around.

Ed Hawkes, White Rabbit Chocolatiers.

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THOUGHTS OF MATT CLAPISON, KINGS HEAD GENERAL MANAGER IN LOCKDOWN

*"How have you been?";
"What are you up to?";
"What have you been watching?";
"How are you keeping busy?" are all questions we ask each other in lockdown, but when the hospitality industry that I've been working in all my adult life was closed indefinitely back in March 2020, the question...
"What are you going to do now you've got the next 4 months off?" was not a question we were being asked, or asking. We just didn't know.*

I initially thought it would just for a few weeks, a month at the most. If only I'd known back then that it would actually end up being close to 100 days, before we could reopen our doors, I certainly would have organised my time better.

After the team had spent a few days "mothballing" the bar, hotel and restaurant my First thoughts were to start refurbishing the outside areas of the business, thinking I didn't have much time as we could reopen any time soon.

My mindset was very much that I'd been given this unbelievable opportunity (once in a lifetime) to get jobs done that otherwise would never get completed. My wife and I started on the exterior jobs, jet washing, polishing, painting, varnishing, gardening and sanding with gusto.



The staff were great at keeping in touch via regular zoom quizzes and WhatsApp groups. The company also sent 3 emails a week with updates and ways for us to keep busy, including tips on mindfulness, healthy recipes and discounts we could use online. The days turned into weeks, and then months, and more and more jobs got done. The weather helped, it was amazing and that really helped get us out of bed in the morning knowing it was going to be another lovely day.

It was a strange time. After the initial fascination of watching the news religiously I had taken to actively avoiding it. Everything getting reported was Covid related with daily death figures, R numbers and general gloom. It felt so real but also so otherworldly as the view out of the window showed cars arriving in Saturday market and lots of people wandering around Beverley town centre. The only difference was the shops were closed. Pandemic, what pandemic??

We finally got told a date of reopening. 4th July, a Saturday! Why a Saturday I'll never know? What was wrong with a Monday so businesses could ease themselves and the staff back into it?



With less than a month to go before we reopened, I realised that I hadn't actually taken any time for myself, so I treated myself with a few sofa days, hurried box sets and extra time in bed.

I now realise how important it was to have perhaps have taken more time out for myself, recharge the batteries, reflect and think.

That time between reopening on 4th July until we closed again in November were some of the toughest in all my time in the industry, and the Eat Out Scheme was hard enough...

The sheer volume of guests booking in and the amount of food being ordered meant the kitchen was under a lot of pressure; it was unexpected, the staff were incredible at dealing with the banquets of food and keeping the customers satisfied.

It was a busy time and quite labour intensive to keep on top of everything, especially the new cleaning regimes that had to be done every half an hour and documented.

Looking back I recall being extremely happy with the systems we had in place. We had hand sanitisers at the entrance, by all toilets, on the bar, at the exits, a host station to welcome guests, check them in and allocate them a table, protective screens on the bar and at the reception desk and throughout the business to divide up dining areas.

All these were new to the business to ensure



everyone stayed safe whilst eating out.

In such an unpredictable year after having closed, reopened and relaunched in such unprecedented times, to run a 300 capacity full table service business, I have been incredibly proud of the staff and positivity they brought with them. We have felt galvanised as a team, united for the next challenge. Preparing us for what lay ahead.

My time away from the business, whilst in lockdown allowed me to think about the positives, focus on what we have, how resilient people are, how the community came together to get through the tough times. Lockdown 2 brought about different challenges.

"Surely we will be back open for Christmas?"

Matt Clapison, General Manager, Kings Head Beverley.

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BEVERLEY RACE COURSE VACCINATION CENTRE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19



Beverley Racecourse has joined in the fight against the Coronavirus after the NHS announced they were opening a vaccination centre.

It opened to Beverley and Market Weighton catchment for residents on January 6 and covers Beverley and Market Weighton with an overall patient catchment of circa 50,000.

With the assistance of the community and the ease of access and parking at the race course, Taxi Drivers, Beverley Community Lift and a host of volunteers have come together to help the most vulnerable get their injections.

The racecourse became involved in the vaccination centre scheme when it was approached by a local doctor, Dr Colin Garnham on the task force for setting up a local network centre. The main rationale in question was whether the racecourse could offer any facilities to accommodate the measures.



The ideal centre needed to be accessible within the region with good road links, onsite parking and enough space to be able to welcome lots of people at the same time in a safe and ordered fashion. It also needed to be able to operate 7 days a week for the foreseeable future, and Beverley Racecourse fitted the bill perfectly.

With the government attempting to ramp up the Covid-19 rollout for vaccinations, the size and scale of Beverley Racecourse will help efforts to cater for the vaccination demand.

Needing a quick turnaround to cater for the large rollout of vaccines, the team at the racecourse had some adjustments to make but luckily the stand alone facility is easy to adapt.

The flooring was changed from carpet to vinyl to ensure thorough cleaning and the highest hygiene standards, and most of the equipment needed on site.

Sally Iggulden, CEO Beverley Race Course, said: "We are so pleased to be able to host a





vaccination centre at the racecourse and hope that this really will see an end to the restrictions placed on everyday life by this pandemic.”

“It has been thoroughly heart-warming to see people back at the racecourse, albeit for very different reasons than usual. The NHS staff and the volunteers have been truly wonderful, allowing for an efficient procedure which will hopefully see many thousands protected in our local community”.

Initially the racecourse is anticipated to be operational as a vaccination centre for around 12 weeks, but this could be extended depending on how the vaccination rollout continues. The centre has already completed 10% of the vaccinations and all the care homes have been vaccinated.



The vaccination centre is located in the Annual Badgeholders Building, and free parking is available in the Owners and Trainers Car Park, located directly off York Road. Ensure you follow all directions and safety information to ensure a smooth and safe operation. Clinical Director, Dr Colin Garnham, says: “Progress is good for the Beverley and District with fantastic attendance records to date. If people do not show up, then the vaccination still needs to be used and volunteers are given their injection earlier to ensure no waste of the vaccine”.

The service is being operated by the NHS centrally, so you will be notified by the NHS when to get your vaccination. Efforts are being made to lay on transport. Residents are being prioritised based on medical information and not just age, so it is important to be patient as you

can as it may take some time before you are notified. Currently patients are visiting from the local area, but there is potential to open to people from further afield.

Dr Garnham is optimistic that as long as supplies continue to arrive, the timeline in which to have everyone vaccinated will be achieved. He said: “The vaccination centre is well organised, slick, and is a credit to everyone involved”.

Initially when the Dr Garnham received the criteria to open a vaccination centre to cover the area, a number of options were available. The racecourse, with the ease of transformations, ease of access and availability, has proved to be the right decision with the ideal location.

Local surgeries are not organising the vaccination centre so please do not contact them as they are unlikely to have information and the phone lines are increasingly busy.

Keep to the guidelines:
Stay Home,
PROTECT THE NHS,
Save lives.



EXTENSION OF THE ELWELL TRAIL IN BEVERLEY

The popular Elwell Trail, which consisted of 22 reproductions of paintings by Fred or Mary Elwell displayed on external walls in various locations in or near Beverley town centre, has been extended by adding 6 new works, including three by Mary Elwell, two by Fred Elwell and one by Fred's nephew Ken Elwell.

The project, which was led by local solicitor and B&B proprietor Walter Sweeney on behalf of Beverley Civic Society, took two years and was finally completed in December 2020, just in time to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Fred Elwell's birth in 1870.

"I would like to express my thanks to the many people who made the extension of the Trail possible" Mr. Sweeney commented.

"I am grateful to Beverley Art Gallery and the private owners of the various paintings who allowed their works of art to be photographed for inclusion on the Trail. I am also grateful to the property owners who kindly allowed the pictures to be displayed and the sponsors whose generosity ensured that the costs of photography, printing the photographs onto aluminium sheets, framing the pictures, printing descriptive plaques and creating a small fund to cover future maintenance costs were all covered, without burdening the Civic Society or its members with any additional costs.

"I would also like to thank Mr. David Bird and others who provided valuable assistance and advice to me when applying to East Riding of Yorkshire Council for the listed building consent which was needed for four of the paintings. I would also like to thank Professor Barbara English for her help and encouragement throughout the project.

"Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to Mrs. Wendy Loncaster, who not only helped source suitable additions to the Trail but also wrote descriptions of all six paintings based on her research and her considerable expertise on both Fred and Mary's work, as exemplified in her books "Fred Elwell R.A. - A life in Art" and "Mary D. Elwell, S.W.A.: Stepping from the Shadows".

"I hope that the Elwell Trail, which has provided pleasure for local art lovers and visitors alike, will continue to do so for many years to come. It is great that even during lockdown, we are allowed to enjoy taking exercise in our beautiful town, and can enjoy not only the Elwell Trail but also the updated and improved History Boards erected by the Civic Society.

"I hope that East Riding of Yorkshire Council will support the Elwell project by funding an update for the Elwell leaflet which used to be available at Beverley Tourist Information Centre in the Library" Mr. Sweeney commented.

"The old leaflet can still be downloaded using the link on the Project Section of the Beverley Civic Society website, which also provides information about the History Boards, the refurbished street pump and other recent projects".

The new additions to the Trail, with their locations and sponsors, are as follows: "A Hidden Corner" - A picture by Mary Elwell of her garden in North Bar, c. 1949. Displayed at Carol Bird Interiors in North Bar Within and sponsored by Carol Bird Interiors.

"St. Mary's from Waltham Lane, Beverley" by Kenneth Elwell, who lost his life as a prisoner of war in 1944 (c. 1925). Displayed inside the Beverley Arms Hotel and sponsored by Emma Knowles of Australia.

"A Street Corner, Beverley" painted by Mary Elwell c. 1918. Displayed at Bug Vinyl in Ladygate and sponsored by Professor Emerita Barbara English.

"House in St. John Street" by Mary Elwell c. 1910. Displayed at Beverley Minster Parish Hall and sponsored by Mr. Andrew Marr, President of Beverley Civic Society.

"Orchard" painted on the continent by Fred Elwell c. 1907. Displayed at East Riding Theatre and sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. R.D. O'Callaghan.

"In the Studio" by Fred Elwell c. 1914 - a portrait of the widowed Mary Dawson Holmes before her marriage to Fred. Displayed at Beverley Memorial Hall and sponsored by Mr. Walter Sweeney.



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NEW FURLOUGH SCHEME GUIDANCE - GET HELP WITH STIPENDIA

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme has been extended until 30 April 2021.

The extension of the furlough scheme allows employers to claim back 80% of their employees gross pay.

Based on guidance as of January 10, this means employees can be furloughed fully or can work part time and be paid at their full hourly rate for hours worked while being furloughed for their unworked hours.

The furlough scheme is open to employees who were included on the RTI submission on or before 30th October 2020, but employers cannot reclaim back anything towards employer pension or employer national insurance costs. Claims can be made by employer or by an agent.

Stipendia, a payroll solutions company located in Beverley, can help you calculate how much you can claim using the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and deal with the HMRC on your behalf.

Stipendia has been providing its clients with a professional payroll service for over 7 years, and has helped businesses local and nationwide improve their performance by outsourcing their payroll.

The calculation of the 80% furlough scheme reclaim depends on various factors, such as; if the employee is on a fixed pay, if the employee is on variable hours, and if the employee has worked



overtime. Any claims must be made to HMRC by 11.59pm 14 calendar days after the month ends, and any errors made on a claim can be amended within 28 calendar days after the month the claim relates to.

To arrange a free meeting with Stipendia, call **0845 308 2288** or visit **www.stipendia.org.uk**

Information correct at the time of going to print.

NEW PARTNER BOOSTS BUSINESS STRENGTH AT LOCAL LAW FIRM

Gary Taylor has taken on the new responsibility at the Beverley base of Wilkin Chapman solicitors, after eight-years with the firm during which he has risen from solicitor to senior solicitor and now Partner.

The combination of the two areas of expertise allows Gary to offer clients a 'one-stop-shop' approach to their recovery and insolvency issues, with additional support from the wider firm network.

Wilkin Chapman acts for more than 100 UK Local Authorities, many of whom support the appointment of Gary as their insolvency practitioner of choice.

Born and raised in East Yorkshire and an avid Hull KR fan, Gary successfully completed his law degree at Hull University before finalising his studies with a commendation from the College of Law in York.

He then completed his training before joining the Recoveries team at Wilkin Chapman.

Gary explained this sector was an ever-expanding area for Wilkin Chapman, a firm that was keen to progress and encourage innovation and self-development.

"What we have here is a unique offer, one that is



extremely hard to find elsewhere and is a result of Wilkin Chapman's willingness to look at ways we can best serve clients, perhaps in a different way. That ethos is what attracted me to the firm, and I am delighted that my progression to Partner enables me to further support that growth," said Gary.

Broadening the depth and strength of Wilkin Chapman's East Yorkshire offer is high on Gary's agenda as the firm looks to a growing client base in all areas of commercial and private law.

"With a number of key appointments over the last two or so years, there is certainly real optimism for the future," he added.

WHY IS FEBRUARY THE SHORTEST MONTH OF THE YEAR?

February gives us many unique reasons to celebrate - be it in the name of food on Pancake Day, chocolates and romance on Valentine's Day, bright decorations for the Chinese New Year, and the extra lucky day in a Leap Year - and it provides all this in fewer days than any other month.



But why is February so short?

It has everything to do with the very first calendar.

The first Roman calendar created by King Numa Pompilius had a striking difference in structure from the Gregorian calendar we go by today, in that it had just 10 months instead of 12.

This, however, meant it fell out of sync with the lunar year, so to solve the problem the King added January and February to the original 10 months. This calendar had 6 months of 30 days and 4 months of 31, amounting to a total of 304 days.

However, Roman superstition held even numbers as unlucky, and the King wanted to avoid having months with even days in his calendar so instead he subtracted a day from each of the 30-day months to make them 29.

Things were changed yet again as the lunar year actually consists of 354.367 days, but going by 354 in Roman Times would have made the whole year unlucky, so this figure was rounded to 355.

Eventually, they realised at least 1 month out of the 12 needed to contain an even number of days because of mathematical fact that the sum of any even amount of odd numbers will always equal an even number, and he wanted the total number of days to be odd.

So the King Numa chose February as the unlucky month to consist of 28 days, which was fitting considering the month derived from the Latin word 'februum', meaning purification. The month would be host to Roman rituals that honoured the dead.

This calendar remained until 45 BC when Julius Caesar adopted the 365-day year to replace it, establishing the leap-year system to correct the calendar every four years.

I'VE BEEN THINKING... SAYS COLIN RAYNOR

I've been thinking about a couple of books I received at Christmas.

Two very different books so I've decided to review them a bit differently from the normal type of review. I will not tell you the names of the authors or the titles of the books.

One is a pure fiction modern day thriller and the other a true historical novel which centres on a period of our country's history when life was short lived. I will give you clues about each book and my honest opinion of them, which of course you can totally disregard!

It seemed to me, in the last months of 2020 the media was full of 'celebrities' who had written a book. Many had successfully published for the first time and others were established authors. My two books are examples of both category.

I was probably taken in by all the hype for this first book as the author is on a popular TV quiz show and is a person I do like to watch. I was also attracted to this book because the writer had ventured in to an area of reading that I like i.e. a murder mystery.

As usual this book had comments on the cover from other thriller writers. I should

have learnt by now to take such comments with a pinch of salt. One such comment was "gripping". My response is that your toast with jam on it is gripping when it falls to the floor face down. This book did not grip me.

The description of each character and the setting they found themselves in was enchanting in the same way that a Constable painting might be thought to be.

But the build up of tension required, when the death of a person is the reason for the book, never came to my notice at all. Other readers may revel in the absurdity of many of the aged sleuths but I found it all a bit pointless.

Mutilation, death and a picture of royalty that makes "The Crown" look very tame" and you have the overall plot of my second book. However, this is a serious historical novel written by a person who has first hand experience of the higher echelons of public life.

Henry 1st was the youngest son of William the Conqueror and became king of England after his father died in 1097. Ensuring that he had a son to follow him on his throne is Henry's absolute purpose in life. But in a cruel twist of fate his beloved son tragically loses his life at sea at only 17 years of age



and the ship wreck has ramifications for the whole of England for many years to come.

A monarch in the twelve century had supreme power over all his subjects, from the richest to the poorest and this book describes in great detail the lengths to which Henry 1st went to ensure his bloodline would keep the throne after his death.

The fact that his daughter Matilda was the next in line, and England was not yet ready to accept a woman as their ruler, makes for fascinating reading.

I trust I have given you enough clues to recognise both books which I'm sure you will enjoy. To find out the answers, take a look at Page 23.



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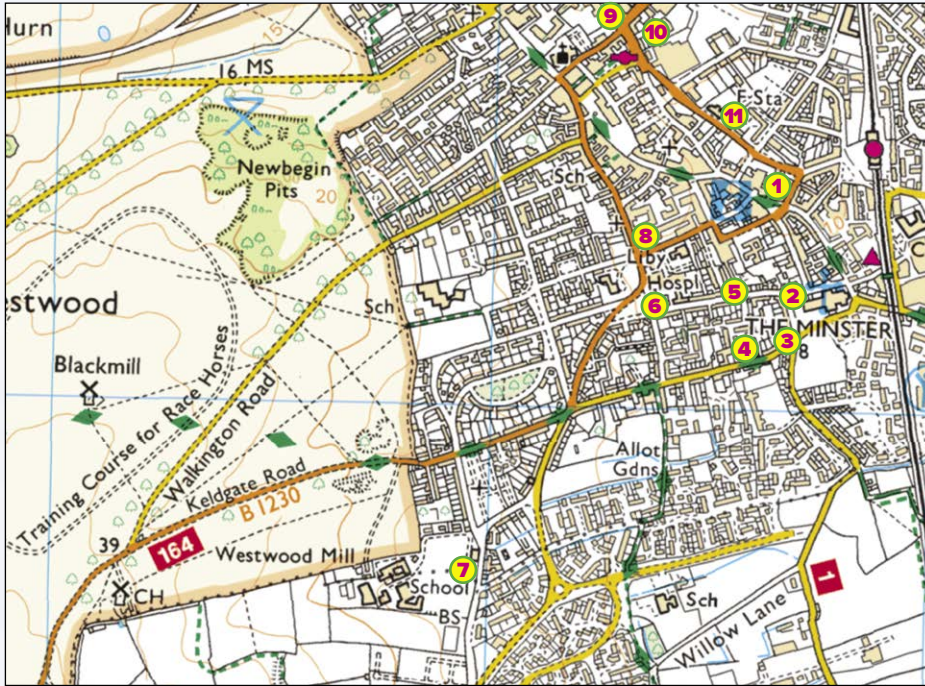









LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL



In these difficult days when thousands of local youngsters, including my youngest, are unable to attend school, it is perhaps appropriate to take a stroll through the town's long and proud history of education.

Indeed, Beverley Grammar School lays claim to being the very oldest in the country, with a lineage extending back to the eight century. We can still explore the rich physical evidence of Victorian primary schools and see splendid modern buildings from the Flemingate college campus to Keldmarsh Primary.

Please follow the current guidelines for taking exercise outdoors if you choose to walk some or all of the suggested route of around 2 miles; never

has everyone behaving sensibly and keeping safe mattered more to the whole community than it does now.

1 Wednesday Market is a good place to begin and end our educational wanderings, it also has a fine range of independent food retailers able to keep trading during the pandemic. Use the zebra crossing to head down Highgate, a beautiful street and in our context the gateway into the town's educational history. It is worth noting that the important feminist philosopher Mary Wollstonecraft spent her adolescence at No.2. As the plaque points out, she was educated in the town too, but as was invariably the case for a young woman in Georgian times, mainly by private tuition.



Former Bluecoat School on Highgate.

Just down the street on the right a building that was the Bluecoat boys School from the 1740s still stands, now the parish offices of the Minster, and a fine one it is too. At its rear you should find the wonderful Quiet Garden open. Last summer, Judith, the head gardener, kindly showed me inside a building she now uses for storage which was formerly the wash house for the school. In Minster Yard North, what is now the Parish Hall, was, I understand, formerly Minster Infants Girls School built in 1885.

2 Head into St. John's Street, whose fortunate residents have one of the best outlooks in Yorkshire, in the far west corner of the Minster churchyard stood the medieval Grammar School, demolished in 1816, how the boys must have rivalled those at Bluecoats.

Former Grammar School.



3 Turn right up Keldgate, in 300 yards on your right at. No.54 you find the large and handsome School House. I had always assumed this was the actual Grammar School, but most authorities suggest it was the master's house and the actual school was demolished in 1890.

It intrigued me to discover that the main entrance of this building was apparently built into the side of the splendidly named Victorian artist, Tindall Wildridge, on Railway St. - where I have resided for the past 20 years. I wonder though if the building directly opposite, adjacent to Keldgate House, might once have been part of the school?



School House - Keldgate.

4 A few yards behind School House, alongside the beautiful Ann Routh almshouses, a pathway takes you through the nice modern housing of St. Matthew's Court, then entering Minster Moorgate, the views of the Minster here are fabulous.

5 Turn left, the second building is the splendidly converted former Minster Infants school, with sign still intact. I assume this was the Boy's

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section, perhaps some former pupils might confirm? It always amazes me how tiny these school buildings now seem, partly due to the lower numbers on roll, but also due to the huge numbers taught in each classroom.

Across the Humber, at Barton, I strongly recommend a visit to the splendid Wilderspin National School Museum when it reopens. This is free to enter and really captures the atmosphere of Victorian and early twentieth century schooling - kids love it - and so do old teachers!

6 You can now take a diversion of around half a mile out of the town centre to visit two further school sites, or if you are flagging, turn right onto Lairgate and pick up our journey there. If you are in for the longer haul, turn left into Lairgate and use the crossing to head down Kitchen Lane.

Nice pathways lead us down to Woodmansey Mile, where we can see the striking modern buildings of Keldmarsh Primary, I was touched to discover it has the bell of the former Walkergate Infants School.

7 From here, head to the main road, cross carefully at the pelican and head up Butt Lane to the Grammar School. The Edwardian buildings that front the road, now a nursery, are from 1902, the much larger complex dates from later in the century.

The fine sports pavilion was built as a memorial to old boys who fought in WW1. Head back into town along Queensgate to pick up the school's trail on Lairgate.

8 Lairgate has many attractive buildings and a little less traffic these days. The building on the western corner of Landress Lane appears at first glance to once have been a school. In fact, as a number of local people confirmed recently on social media, it was actually a Sunday school.

What came as a real surprise to me, is that 200

yards further down Lairgate the building that comprised St. Mary's Infants does still stand next to the fish and chip shop, with its date stone of 1842, (enlarged in 1885.) I must have passed hundreds of times without previously realising this was once a school.

On nearby Newbegin in the nineteenth century a private boarding academy 'for high class young ladies' stood, it later moved to Holland House in Register Square, before closing in 1926, I understand at that time another branch of St. Mary's, perhaps for boys, was located in the same square. The history of the many St. Mary's school sites is long and complex.

9 Now head to Norwood, via Hengate, to see the sites of one former and one very current school. The elegant Norwood House, probably the very best Georgian building in Beverley, was until about 15 years ago used by the Girl's School Sixth Form - what an elegant place to have studied.

Another surprise to me though, (forgive me, I am not a native Beverlonian) was that the range of attractive Victorian buildings that front the street are actually those of the former St. Mary's Junior School. To my shame I did not realise this, despite teaching History for two years at the Girls School, just behind.

The details of the doors, windows and porches really are very lovely. I was especially moved to see the school bell is still there in its barge-boarded cote. I wonder if it ever rings? Let this sentimental old fool suggest it should perhaps be moved to the modern St. Mary's on Eden Raod, which all my 3 kids have been privileged to attend over the past 15 years.

I have no doubt the logistics of this would be problematic, yet it seems to me a worthy objective.

You might reflect on how unusual it is nowadays for a town to have 2 of its 3 secondary schools that are single sex, although as many will know, BHS and BGS Sixth Formers are taught together.

10 We still have 2 former school sites to see as we turnaround and head into the town centre along New Walkergate.

The care home across from the bus station is tellingly named the Old School House, for until the early years of this century it was indeed Walkergate Infants, it had the only school swimming pool too, which I assume went when the buildings were demolished.

11 Head along New Walkergate, crossing adjacent to Tesco, the street on the left as you pass the fire station is School Lane, for here was located Spencer School until it closed in 1967 to be replaced by Swinemoor Primary on the estate.

As we end the walk, it is nice to note that the tradition started over a century ago by the retiring headteacher, William Spencer, of giving children free oranges, is, I am told, still preserved in the modern school; Marcus Rashford is following in august footsteps!

It is a short stroll back to our starting point, perhaps you have learned something from your walk.

May I thank the many local people who helped with the research for this article. Any errors made are my own and I am happy to stand corrected and/or respond to any comments via my email: ricojosh@msn.com.

Ian Richardson.
15/01/21.



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NEW SHORT DEMENTIA-AWARENESS FILM FOR HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS

Local charity *Dementia Friendly East Riding* has linked with theatre company *Smashing Mirrors Theatre* to create a new short film about dementia awareness to be shown in Hull and East Yorkshire schools.

The film, titled "The Memory Project", is being funded by the SMILE Foundation and is being shot at the East Riding Theatre in March.

The writer of the film Elizabeth Godber explained how it tells the real life stories of families living with dementia, and explores the ups and downs of such a diagnosis, including a discussion of facts and figures and the medical diagnostic process.

The film features a collection of local actors including: Avalon Ramos, Caitlin Townend, Ze Rebelle, Alisha Robinson, Joyce Branagh, Natalie Wharam and William Ilkley as well as others, with many performing in their first professional role since grating drama school.





Elizabeth said: "making this film is a brilliant opportunity to bring together some amazingly talented individuals in East Yorkshire to create something that will really make a social difference in the lives of young people".

For more information, contact Dementia Friendly East Riding or Smashing Mirrors Theatre online.

<http://dementiafriendlyeastriding.org.uk/>



Elizabeth Godber

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Ahmad



Bob



Wendy



Course Dates:

Thursday 18th March
Thursday 25th March
Thursday 1st April
Thursday 8th April
Thursday 15th April
Thursday 22nd April
Thursday 29th April


Course times:

10.30 am every Thursday Morning
All sessions will be via Zoom and last about 1 hour 15 minutes
We can provide support to help you get connected



To enrol, simply contact
Damian e-mail: Damian@myid.org.uk Tel: 07927 405 854
or Melissa e-mail: Melissadalby@nhs.net

Competition
Closing Date 31st March 2021

Dementia Friendly East Riding
www.dementiafriendlyeastriding.org.uk



East Riding Dementia Friendly needs your help.
We need Fiddle Muffs, Fiddle Aprons, & Dementia Fiddle Bench Tops.

The competition is FREE to enter and you can enter as many times as you like. To enter make at least one of the following and send to the address below.

Fiddle Muffs - These can be knitted, crocheted or made of fabric. There are patterns on our website or you can use your own. There should be at least six interesting items outside and at least four inside. Please remember to secure the interesting fiddly bits well & that they are washable.

Fiddle Apron - this is like a small quilt (three layers – backing, wadding and top) and quilted together and has two apron strings to tie round the waist to prevent it slipping off knees and onto the floor. Ideal size from 15 x 15 inches to 30 x 30 inches (38cm to 77cm). There should be at least eight fiddly items. Again please secure the fiddle bits well and that they are washable.


Fiddle Bench – Interesting fiddly items attached to a board or thin piece of wood. Please ensure all bits are attached, ie no bit that can escape or drop on the floor and all edges are smooth to prevent splinters. Item to be no bigger than 20 inches (50cm) on any side.

Shortlisted entries will be displayed on our website and the best entry in each category will be awarded a prize. No items will be returned. They will be distributed to those in need and some may be used to raise much needed funds for the Charity.


Completed entries are to be labelled with Name, address, postcode, contact number and email address and attached to the item and sent to –

Visit our website
www.dementiafriendlyeastriding.org.uk
for more details, pattern and full terms and conditions.

Local entries can be dropped off into collection box in porch during March.



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ones clothing, or pillows made with an item of their clothing.

These can be developed and created however you may wish. You could also create one to write messages on to place in a coffin of someone that has passed.

Of course not everyone is cremated, so in this

situation we would recommend fingerprint jewellery or a lock of hair in a keepsake which we also offer.

If a client finds something elsewhere that they like the look of, we will do everything we can to organise this and make it an option for our clients.

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SHORT STORY - CRUISING SOLO BY MALCOLM J BROOKS



"She never has!"

"Yes, she's gone on a cruise on her own."

"Why on earth did she do that? She'll hate it!"

"Rumour has it that her kids sent her. Paid all of it for her."

"What, they sent her away at Christmas? She'll miss the Grandkids opening their presents."

"I think her daughter just wanted her out of the way. She's probably fed up of going to her house for Christmas. It's a long way to Beverley with three children."

"She did say that she wasn't a very good cook. Last year she told me she forgot to defrost the sprouts and she left the giblets in the turkey in a plastic bag! Cooked the lot! Poor thing."

"Why didn't she go to her daughter's house?"

"Not enough bedrooms, I guess."

"She's had a really rough time since Harry died, but the fact the kids want rid of her at Christmas must be hard to take."

"Poor thing must have been desperate for her to agree to going on a cruise on her own."

"Do they cater for old people like her going on her own?"

"Yes. I think they do, but she is not the sort of person to enjoy that."

"No, I suppose not. She's a bit of a wallflower. She'll really hate it, poor thing."

"Maybe she can try and dance some nights. I hear they have male host dancers."

"You have to be joking! She can't dance, she has two left feet!"

Pearl walked into the ship's lounge feeling a million dollars. She was wearing the dress she had bought in town but she never believed that she would wear it. It was very glam and yes, just a little bit sexy.

To think she had only come on the cruise because the children had insisted that she needed a holiday and that they would pay for everything. She really didn't want to go because she enjoyed Christmas with the grandchildren even if Christmas dinner wasn't always perfect.

Then she saw him on the far side. He was her blue-eyed, arctic fox with his undyed, white hair, looking like something out of a Bond film in a dinner suit and bow tie.

How lucky she had been to meet him. She had decided to go to 'Beginners Bridge' classes and he was allocated as her partner. She had been told lots of times how rubbish she was at Bridge but he had been so kind and considerate and didn't seem to mind all the mistakes she made.

Even the dancing with him had been so exciting. She'd only trodden on him five times to her knowledge, but he had been so understanding of her lack of dance skills. It had just given her the excuse to get even closer to him. "You look beautiful." He said as she approached him. She hadn't heard those words since Harry had died. He had often said it.

He rose and kissed her gently on her left cheek, then on the right. Her heart seemed to throw in a couple of extra beats for each kiss. He offered her a glass of something bubbly and she smiled.

"I'm not a mouse anymore." She whispered to herself. "This is a new chapter of my life, so bring it on!"

Malcolm J Brooks lives in Beverley and is the author of the Eva Trilogy and the novels 'Waiting in Line' and 'Living with Certainty'.

POEM - HIGH ESKE BY CLINT WASTLING



*There is nothing protecting us
from this raw north-westerly,
no windbreak between us
and the far High Wold.*

*This river is stealthy,
canoes and paddle-boarders
use the tide flowing silently
to reach their destination.*

*Winter is in the tease,
dry whispering reeds -
last gasps of so many
taken by this woeful season.*

*Still frost, still blue -
a landscape of reflections
stretched thin like the river
restrained by muddy banks.*

*This is our daily walk
squelching along well-trodden paths.
When will we be free to fly noisily
like geese in close formation?*

Clint Wastling is the author of Tyrants Rex, a fantasy story (Stairwell Books). His poetry collection Layers is available from Maytree Press.



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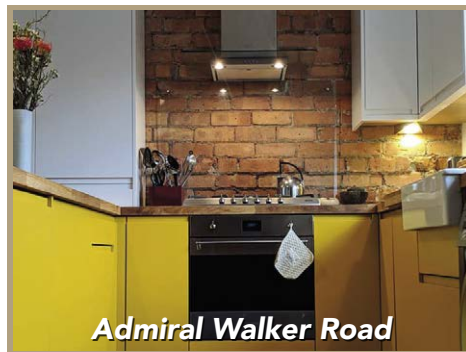
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FIRST CAR WITH CARFAN - THE SUPERCAR

Continuing with our new theme of automobile "firsts", this issue we feature the first Supercar.

The word was first coined in the late 1960s by Paul Frere and he knew what he was talking about, being a Formula 1 racing driver with eleven races to his credit and the car he was referring to was the Lamborghini Miura when he retired from racing to move into automotive journalism.

Anyone familiar with the Michael Caine film *The Italian Job* may well recognise the Miura from the opening credits where an orange example is seen driving through the Swiss alps before meeting an untimely end in a tunnel in a scene that still brings tears to your author's eyes.

According to the Lamborghini Miura Bible, a treasured, if somewhat an expensive reference book, a total of 762 examples were made and it is this low number that partially explains that a mint example will cost around a million pounds.



Celebrity owners quickly caught on to its beauty including Twiggy, Miles Davis, Frank Sinatra, the Shah of Iran and Rod Stewart who went on to buy many different Lamborghinis over the years.

The car featured is a P400 S, the P standing for *Posteriore* in Italian which is a reference to the fact that the engine is located in the "rear". With an engine of just under four litres, this was no slouch and the advertised top speed was over 170 m.p.h. although it took a very brave driver indeed to approach that as the front end used to lift at speed which sounds somewhat scary. One interesting feature is the "eyelashes" around the headlamps, serving no particular function, but let's just be grateful for talented Italian designers. Although this is a fast car, time needs to be spent just admiring it and if you are incredibly fortunate to see one, don't forget that cheery Carfan wave!

MY FIRST CAR - CLINT'S DATSUN CHERRY

Clint Wastling, local novelist and poet tells us about his first car:

First cars! I had to search through bags of photographs to find this picture. I have always liked cars with bold colour. This gold Datsun Cherry (registered in 1978) with vinyl roof trim was my pride and joy!

I bought my first car, in 1982, shortly after I started working in the oil industry. There were so many unreliable makes/models of cars in the 80's but Datsun were ahead - mechanically sound and advanced technology for the time: built in radio, vinyl seats, good fuel economy and a 4 speed gear box.

My first journey was on a cold January night from Hull to Warrington on the M62. I remember having to stop to ring the hotel, where I was staying, for directions in those pre-satnav days. My Datsun



had a push button radio, which lost signal whenever I went into a valley. It wasn't sporty, it only had a 988 c.c. engine. I don't think it ever did more than 70mph except downhill. The indicators were set in the chrome bumper and it had hexagonal headlights which made it look rather odd. Nonetheless, it had one luxury, a skylight in that vinyl roof!

I had the car for five years, it went round the clock. I recall driving to Carcassonne and touring the Pyrenees. Despite the small engine, the Datsun never let me down. Sadly, like most cars of that era, rust became a real issue, so inevitably it had to be traded in.

I don't believe I ever bothered photographing my second car.

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EXERCISE	HEART
FEBRUARY	LOVE
FLOWERS	POSITIVE
FRIENDSHIP	VACCINATION
FUTURE	VALENTINE

WHERE IN BEVERLEY?

Where in Beverley can you find the glove?
 Answer on Page 23.



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The diagonals add up to the totals top and bottom.

X	X	X	X	?
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?	?	1	6	?
3	6	2	?	16
4	?	3	4	16
10	26	?	22	?

Answers on Page 23.

Do you have any amusing stories, quotes or pictures? Send them to info@justbeverley.co.uk

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Whilst we all listen to the latest advice from the Government it is our responsibility to follow the guidelines. Exercise is key.



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If you choose your days carefully, you can get out and about from your own doorstep and enjoy the local countryside, there is nothing better than being outside on a bright sunny day in winter, it can be so rewarding.

It may be cold, but fresh air and exercise can do

wonders for the body and soul.

Whilst the roads may be gritty and dirty with salt on the road, it does make for unpleasant riding. So here are a few tips and tricks for cycling on wintry roads and caring for your bike.

- Dirt can easily build up on your bike to counter this, make sure you have plenty of clearance between the tyre, frame and mudguards.

- Wash your bike down after a ride to get rid of any mud and salt, keeping the brakes, gears and wheels from getting clogged and staying in good condition. Do not forget to lubricate them afterwards!



- Running slightly lower tyre pressures (not too low though), helps your bike grip the roads when they are icy or greasy,

When out on your bike always wear a cycle helmet, gloves and bright clothing and ensure your lights are working both front and rear so other road users can see you easily.

Remember Stay Safe and Stay Bright enjoy your exercise.

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THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Every year on February 14, people all over the world express their love for their partner by exchanging chocolates, flowers and gifts, all in the name of St. Valentine.

So where did Valentine's Day come from and why has it become such a big celebration?

The special day is widely associated with the ancient origins of the Roman festival of Lupercalia. Held in Rome in mid-February after the month was added to the Roman calendar, the festival celebrated the coming

of spring and was meant to ward off evil spirits, purify the city and increase the women's health and fertility.

Rumour has it that it was during this time that the festival became associated with 'love', as women were paired off with the men they were to marry in a form of matchmaking lottery - essentially drawing names out of a hat, or urn at that time.

However, the festive traditions from Lupercalia were not romantic in the same sense of the word today, as the festival often involved animal sacrifices and brutal acts such as symbolic whippings of women, once believed to increase fertility. While the ancient Roman festival may be the reason behind our February 14 celebration of love, the term Valentine's Day is also linked to not one, but two martyred Valentine's.

The first, a priest who, according to legend, was martyred by emperor Claudius II Gothicus after he was found to have signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter; and the second, Saint Valentine of Terni, of whom accounts suggest secretly married Roman soldiers at a time when emperor Claudius II Gothicus banned them from getting married to ensure they would



remain fierce and free of familial obligations. Legend has it that the two Valentine's were honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valentine's Day on February 14 because it was the day they were both martyred.

Fast forward to this day and age, and Valentine's Day is now globally recognised as a cultural and commercial celebration of romance and love, although thankfully it has left behind the traditions of Lupercalia.



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The couple of books Colin Raynor received at Christmas were:
1) *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman
2) *The White Ship* by Charles Spencer (Princess Diana's brother).

WHERE IN BEVERLEY?

The glove can be found on a bench, north of Market Cross - Saturday Market.

'KNOW YOUR NUMBERS' ANSWER

Missing numbers in yellow

X	X	X	X	18
1	8	9	7	25
2	7	1	6	16
3	6	2	5	16
4	5	3	4	16
10	26	15	22	14

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**COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
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I think it is a well-known fact that a high percentage of urban dwellers have not much idea where their food comes from or how it is produced, and yet, like a lot more of us, expect everything we want to be available the moment we want it. I can understand why as usually everything we do want is pretty much on the shelf anyway.

I always say that agriculture is the most important industry anywhere as without food no other industry could survive, nor indeed could any humans either, so it is worth thinking about.



We might say we will just pop to the shops and get a new screwdriver, or a new pair of shoes, or anything you can think of and there it is, but they all need food to be able to produce those products too. So please give thought to where your food comes from.

I am often asked how farming has changed over the years, and like a lot of other industries it probably needed to do so and undoubtedly it will change in the future yet again. In fact it is constantly changing and not always easy to keep up with, so it is important that people involved in farming are able to get to grips with everything and be able to afford to make the changes.



When I was a lad, Shire Horses were all the rage and would pull a single furrow plough, a set of harrows, and eventually a seed drill.

Cereal crops many years ago were mown by a man with a scythe

until we got binders, which would also be pulled by horses to cut the cereal crops and "bind" the sheaves together by tying them with string. It was a huge improvement from what we had.

These would then be stoked, which means stood over with 5 or 6 sheaves in a row propped against another row always facing north and south to allow it to mature and dry, before being brought home and stacked, awaiting the threshing machine anytime within a year.

This allowed food manufacturers to be supplied with cereals and pulses to feed the people.



As time went on, tractors became available to pull the binders, which instead of being powered by a huge wheel underneath them were then driven from the tractor.

That allowed for larger binders which would certainly cut more in a day as you did not have to stop to feed and water the horses and the men could work longer hours too.

Next time: Combine harvesters and more.

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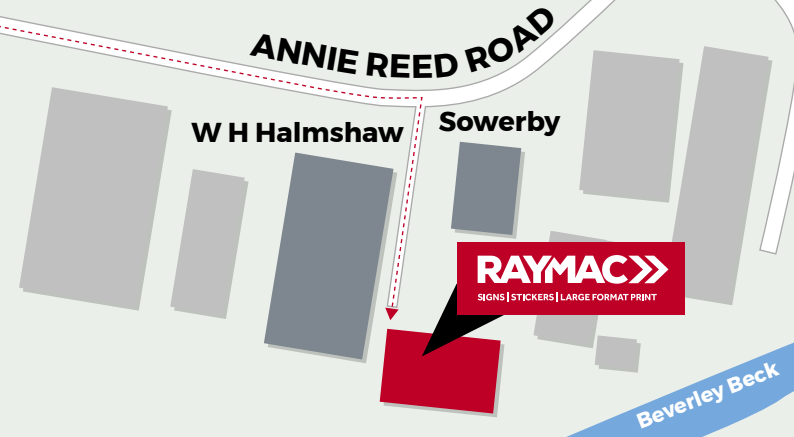
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With February being the shortest month, just 4 weeks - 28 days, Spring will soon be upon us.

As we start to think about getting involved in outdoor activities and look towards those jobs in the garden or "Spring Clean", make those jobs a little easier by installing an outdoor socket.

Tidying the garden could involve starting the lawnmower, power washing the paths and generally getting everything spick and span, outdoor power sockets are a must.

An outdoor socket, which should be protected by an RCD unit, makes working with outdoor electrical equipment so much simpler and safer than using internal sockets.



Rather than have those dirty flexes poking through a window to an internal socket, take the time to install outdoor sockets in a weatherproof box.

Taking these precautions will keep you safe and worry free. remember. Loose wires do cause fires.

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IN THE GARDEN... FEBRUARY

February is a month of contradictions; seasonally it is late winter, and we can experience some of winter's worst weather.

But, on the other hand the days are getting longer and some spring flowering bulbs are well out of the ground, and flower buds on shrubs such as Camellias are starting to swell - indicating that spring is on its way.

When the weather permits there are a number of things you can do in the garden:

- Apply organic-based fertiliser to beds and borders i.e. bonemeal; blood, fish and bone; pelleted chicken manure.
- Top dress any containers that have shrubs in them.
- Prune winter flowering shrubs that have finished flowering.
- Prune summer flowering shrubs and climbers.
- Clear any 'old' foliage and seed heads from perennial plants.
- If the weather is mild you may need to cut the lawn - just a light trim to tidy it up.
- Trim hedges and overgrown shrubs before the end of the month - this shouldn't be carried out during the bird nesting season (March 1st - July 31st) under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- Prune apple and pear trees - ideally the pruned tree should take the form of a wine glass i.e. no branches in the middle of the tree. This will provide even sunlight to every part of the tree.
- Prune wisteria - shorten side shoots to two or three buds from the main stems. By pruning now you can see what you are doing, it also encourages flower buds to form.

In a cold spell remember to:

- Feed the birds and make sure there is water available.
- Make an air hole in frozen ponds.
- Protect tender plants and blossom on fruit trees.

I, for one have spent far more time in my garden during the last year, and as a consequence I have remodelled parts of my garden (and have plans for more this year). None of this remodelling has been anything major - just tweaks here and there to make it more 'lockdown friendly'.

I have also noticed that I need a little more interest and colour in the garden at this time of year, so here is a list of plants that I will be considering to brighten things up...

- Camellia (flowers); Chaenomeles japonica (flowers); Cornus alba (coloured stems); Garrya elliptica (lamb's tails); Hedera colchica variegata (variegated leaves); Jasminum nudiflorum (yellow flowers); Mahonia x media (yellow flowers); Pyracantha (flowers) and Viburnum, there are many more.

I will need to make choices as my garden is not that large and won't be able to accommodate them all!

So until March, enjoy your garden when you can...

Jane Dale of 'Designed Gardens'. Tel: **07983 392 411**.

J. x.



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