Gathering to celebrate steam enthusiast town figure centre to New care Centre in Tipton Road. Archival and Local History move to the new base. New non-clinical workers will take up to 60. £18 million contract to run spark the industrial revo- on A&E. Country figure who helped taking place about a lack of walk-in centre at Holly ru near Hall Hospital in April. The new service, accessed via the emergency department, will replace the exist- ing walk-in centre at Holly Hall and is expected to treat more than 160,000 patients a year. It is hoped the centre will help to reduce pressure on A&E. Malting Health has been awarded the five-year £18 million contract to run the 24/7 service. Some 30 clinical and non-clinical workers will move to the new base. New staff will be recruited to take on total up to 60. Dr Steve Mann, from Dudley CCG said: “The walk-in centre at Holly Hall will close on March 31. From this date, all patients who think they have an emergency medical problem should go to the urgent care centre. “We are confident this will offer a real improvement in care for all patients.” More than 3,000 people responded to a consultation on the closure of the walk-in centre, while hundreds of people signed a petition calling for it to remain open. Dudley CCG says the urgent care service will be better so it will open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Talk on top town figure A TWO-hour workshop is taking place about a Black Country figure who helped spark the industrial revo- lution. Former Dudley Council archaeology officer John Hemmingway will be giv- ing a talk on Dudley Dud- ley on March 21 at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre in Tipton Road. The event, which runs from 10am to 1pm, will be part in and places need to be booked in advance from Simon Bradley on 01384 812683. Action Heart's Melissa Lowke with deputy mayor Councillor Steve Waltho and race organiser Paul Davies-Hale Action Heart’s Melissa Lowke with deputy mayor Councillor Steve Waltho and race organiser Paul Davies-Hale on your marks for Action Heart run. Report by Richard Guttridge FRUSTRATED residents blighted by a towering pile of rubbish could see their misery end as plans were re- vealed for 600 flats on the site. Developers have submitted the housing plans for the land in Moor Street, Brierley Hill. The mountain of waste at the former Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd industrial fuel yard once reached 40ft and has plagued residents for six years. Company director Robert McNaughton was jailed in December 2012 for failing to remove it. Neighbours have been demanding a clean-up since 2009. The jail sentences ap- peared to have brought an end to the saga, but, more than a year later, a 100ft-high pile still remains in Moor Street. Now developers J and V Kelly Ltd has submitted the flats proposal. Replenish The agent acting on its behalf, Marson Rutherson Taylor Architect, said the development would rid the area of an ‘appalling site’ and ‘replenish’ the area. A design and access state- ment submitted with the plans said: “The site has be- come under utilised allowing the waste pile to gradually become larger, causing a nuisance and health hazard to the site and local area.” “Due to the misuse of the land, the pile of rubbish has caused disturbances to the local people and started a campaign to remove the rubbish.” The appalling site has become a huge problem and needs to be removed, the developers said. Among competitors is Deputy Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho, for the tenth time. Race organiser Paul Davies-Hale said the annual run would be following a route starting out from the hospital site and ending back at the hospital. Mayor Councillor Margaret Aston will officially start the run at 9.30am, and walkers can take part from 8am. Mr Davies-Hale added that this year’s race, which aims to raise £100,000, would be extra special because it marks the 25th anniversary. Stewards Many of the participants will be staff at the hospital, and the course will be manned by 40 stewards who have received help from Action Heart. Fundraisers from the charity have also taken part in the London Marath- on, while a number of other events are held in aid of the charity includ- ing a 5km run at Baggot Hill Country Park. Action Heart provides the largest cardiac rehabilitation programmes in the country. Money raised pays for heart rate monitors and gym equip- ment. Mr Davies-Hale said it also provides support to patients with heart condi- tions who have been referred to the charity by GPs. At any one time, 400 people receive help from Action Heart. For more information on the run, visit www.actionheartrunning.com. Initiative a Sunday best for retailers MORE than 70 shops and market stalls opened in Dudley on Sunday in the wake of damaging losses from an English Defence League protest. Up to 2,500 visitors dropped into the town cen- tre for the special fun day. It was organised by Dud- ley Council to give the town a boost. Many shops had closed the previous Satur- day while 600 people from the far right group walked through the town. Dudley ambassador Nikki Chasing, who helped or- ganise the event, said 75 businesses opened for the fun day, including 25 that would not normally open on a Sunday. She said: “I am so pleased. We had no idea when we were setting up this initia- tive how well supported it will be.” There were activities for children, including a fire, balloon modelling, treasure trail and face painting and Black Country Radio set up a stage for live music. There were market stalls and the town’s museum wel- comed visitors. Alan Caswell, who opened to show support for the council’s initiative, said: “It isn’t a matter of what we make, it is more about seeing all the positive things in Dud- ley visiting the town centre and enjoying themselves. The rubbish mounts up. Environmental Agency is now involved and the prob- lem is acknowledged by the people responsible for the site.” Ward councillor Rachel Harris, who has led the campaign to clear the waste pile, said people living near the site had suffered for too long but was “optimistic” the plan would bring the resi- dents’ nightmare to an end. She said: “From the views that people have given us, they want the land along Moor Street to be a mixed use of housing and industry. “This is a good sign, as far as I’m concerned because it shows somebody is listening to what people want. We do need good-quality housing in the area.” “It has gone on for far too long. It has been there so long vegetation has grown on it, and it is costing the council money having to monitor the site.” Dancing with the FLATS SCENE RUBBISH PILE FLATS SCHEME Initials links to street names revealed.
CAB APP UBER ARRIVES IN WEST MIDLANDS

**Decision sees taxi fares freeze for 5th year**

Taxi fares in the Dudley borough will be frozen for a 13th year running after a council agreed to freeze licensing charges.

Birkenhead-based chair of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association, had warned that cab companies may have had to pass on any extra cost to their customers if a proposed increase in licence fees went ahead.

But last week Dudley Council’s tax committee rejected the rise of between two and five per cent.

However, the freeze in licensing fees will mean the council will be subsidising the taxi service by £3,000 a year.

Following the meeting, Mr Saleem said: “This decision means we won’t be increasing the fares for our customers.

But for over 12 years now we have kept our fees the same in Dudley.

**Blue plaque honour for ELO musician**

A BLUE plaque honouring guitarist of Electric Light Orchestra, Kelly Groucutt was set to be given the nod this week.

The family of the bass player and occasional singer asked for the Electric Heritage plaque to be placed on the house in Gough Road, Cradley, where he grew up.

The request was being supported for approval by Councillor Hiley Bills, Dudley Council’s cabinet member for environment and culture, ahead of a meeting yesterday morning.

It will be the sixth blue plaque installed in Dudley and the first to be placed on a privately-owned property.

The property’s current owner has backed the request.

Groucutt, who lived in Cradley from 1945-67, died in 2009 from a heart attack.

His sister June Groucutt, now aged 80, has lived in the borough all her life.

Mr Brookes, aged 75, said: “It was a fantastic turn out. My mother was so pleased and actually got quite emotional when she and actually got quite emotional when she was photographed with the glossy paperback after one of the book’s contributors, Roy Williams, a former signed engineer of Paul’s, put him in touch.

On his book, pictured with the book include Ruby Turner and Rock & Screw.

It details the club’s history from its humble beginnings at Dudley FC’s former home, Turnpike, to showcasing some of the big names of recent times, including The Police, Dire Straits and The Pretenders.

“The people that spent their youth in JD’s have spread out around the world but are still interested in remembering the history of the club,” said Mr Truittam.

“We hope that many generations of Rock & Screw fans and anybody who remembers JD’s will buy this book to send us their picture.”

Joyce Brookes has a kiss from her great-great-grandson Samuel Bridgens-Shepherd, aged 4, at her birthday surprise for 100th.

**Birthday surprise for 100th**

**Tales of the Wonder Stuff**

THK Wonder Stuff frontman Miles Hunt will share his rock ‘n’ roll tales at a book launch event in Dudley’s Legendary Live Music Venue, which was released in Document.

Author Geoff Tristram, who performed at the club himself in the 70s, said Paul was more than happy to be photographed with the book.

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Tributes to respected politician and governor

**Harry Nottingham**

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former councillor and school governor who had died aged 81.

Harry Nottingham had a long career representing Worsley and Kingswinford wards on Dudley Council, during which he acted as chair of some 25 committees.

Mr Kelly said: “Harry was a great and respected community worker who served his constituents well, and it was a privilege to serve alongside him on the council.”

Mr Nottingham, who lived in Lawnswood Avenue, Worsley, had two spells as a councillor, the first when he represented Kingswinford South between 1991 and 1995 and the second as councillor for Worsley between 2006 and 2010. He was also a governor of Cradley Heath School.

Councillor Patricia Harve, leader of the Conservative group at the council, said: “I always remember in my younger days he was well liked on the Conservative group and if you needed advice you could always go to him. He was always the perfect gentleman and would try to find a solution to your problems.”

Tony Bowes, headteacher at Westwood School, said: “Harry was a popular and well respected governor. He oversaw many changes in the school including the building of a new sports hall to improve the facilities for our students. He was a very hard-working governor and always very supportive.”

The leader of Dudley Council, councillor Pete Lowe said: “Whilst we did not always see eye to eye, always welcomed him to be the most courteous individual. I hope for the day for public services that people like Harry are so long with us.”

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**Mosque appeal returns to court**

The legal battle over plans for a new mosque in Dudley continues as the case has been adjourned.

The number of council workers will have to make £27 million cuts to pay for the 10% increase in energy bills.

The Dudley Council says it wants to examine the site because it has been occupied since medieval times.

The plan aims to attract new life into the market as part of the overhaul.

**Prayer hall ‘no’**

A PLAN to create a prayer hall and community centre for Muslims in Old Hill has been rejected by council officers over a lack of parking spaces.

Councillors have been given the go ahead to keep with cash for council workers.

The number of parking spaces will increase from 9,393 to approx 18,750.

UKIP councillors have rejected the offer, saying the money should be spent on front line services instead.

Gould, aged 38, of Summerhill Road, was jailed for eight months, suspended for 18 months, and ordered to pay £20 in compensation and complete 100 hours of unpaid work.

**Curry cash helps the Eagles soar**

A new football club for a football fans in the town is up and running.

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**Pink Productions**, whose former members include One Direction star Liam Payne, will stage Blockheater at Sedgley’s Mill Theatre in June.

The group is on the search for both children and adults to perform in the show.

Company director and choreographer Jo Jo Richards said between 80 and 100 performers usually took part in the show.

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**Singer’s illness postpones gig**

CHINA In Your Hands hit-makers ‘T’Paul had to cancel their gig at Sittingbourne's Robin 2 on Saturday night due to the illness of singer Carolina Deckler.

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**Dates announced for beer festival**

THE annual Black Country Beer Festival at Lye Cricket Club will take place from August 13 to 15.

The number of ale lovers who buy tickets will increase from 80 to 150.

Organisers from the club and Dudley Council said: “We are very pleased to welcome you back.”

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**Rowing course**

PEOPLE can learn how to row at the Dudley Water Sports Centre. A six-week course of 40 sessions, from March 22, from 10am to noon, is available.

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**Weather**

**DATE**

**MAY**

**THURSDAY**

**WEATHER**

**WEATHER**

**WEATHER**

**WEATHER**

**WEATHER**

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**History dig could delay start of work on car park**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL dig will need to take place before a £2.5 million car park can be built in Dudley town centre.

Work on the 250-space multi-storey in Tower Street must wait for the investigations to be carried out.

Dudley Council says it wants to examine the site because it has been occupied since medieval times.

The site earmarked for the car park in next to the Trinity Church Hall and community centre created.

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**In the pink for next showbiz production**

The Dudley-based group is on the search for both children and adults to perform in the show.

Rehearsals for the show will be held at the hall every Saturday between 1pm and 6pm.

Company director and choreographer Jo Jo Richards said between 80 and 100 performers usually took part in the show.

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**Great coinsidences of our time. Newly-extended limit executive of the Financial Conduct Authority, seems to the inferno of white-hot bomb blasts that Jordan is now unearthing. “Wholehearted” Mr Wheatley is staggered only because he seems to believe that bankers are fine up-rights of the law, has been staggering.” Mr Wheatley is staggered when the Crown Prosecution Service pursues crooked bankers as eagerly as it seeks to cut deals with them.**

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**A STILL processing firm has been fined £12,000 after a worker suffered horrific injuries when his arm was trapped in a machine.**

Matthew Collins was cleaning rotating rollers at Cooper and Jackson Ltd in Brierley Hill when his arm was pulled between them.

A colleague attempted to free him by reversing the roll...
**Road rage thug is given suspended jail sentence**

A DRIVER launched a savage road rage attack on a Dudley lawyer and his brother.

Aaron Hayes saw red when the other motorist accidentally blocked his path at The Inhedge, Dudley, at around 2.30pm on July 25, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The 32-year-old jammed his hand on the horn and bashed abusive at Dudley solicitor Mr Shahaid Khaliq, knocking him to the ground.

He then pulled his car around in a panic while trying to move out of the way.

Mr Philip Boardwell, prosecuting, explained that this gave Hayes the opportunity to loop out of his sabre car and race to the other vehicle, where he punched Mr Khaliq through the open side window.

The attack switched to the stunned victim’s brother Mr Khaliq when Hayes punched Mr Khaliq so savagely in the face that his cheek was cut so badly that the man will be scarred for life.

**Traced**

The defendant drove away but was traced through the registration number of his red Vauxhall Viva.

Hayes of Combe Avenue, Wyeleton, admitted assault and assault causing actual bodily harm but was given a two-month suspended sentence.

They got a golden ticket — young chocolate apprentices Abigail Rowley and Martin Raybould, both from Dudley, are savouring the sweet taste of success as the first chocolate apprentices at the home of Cadbury.

Two trainees are savouring the sweet taste of success as the first chocolate apprentices at the home of Cadbury.

Abigail Rowley and Martin Raybould, apprentice bakers with University College Birmingham (UCB), work at Cadbury-owner MondelEZ International’s global home for chocolate research and development at the Bournville site.

The chocolate-maker has previously recruited engineering and maintenance apprentices but this is the first time post-16 trainees have been taken on in Bournville’s innovation centre, where teams work behind closed doors for brands such as Cadbury Dairy Milk, Milka and Toblerone.

Abigail and Martin, both 19 and from Dudley, are working as junior technicians in the pilot plant production team.

Abigail said: “The apprenticeship with MondelEZ is an amazing opportunity. I have always had a creative streak and want to come up with new ideas while I work here.”

The apprentices receive a salary of £12,000 and are assigned their own mentors at Bournville.

The two-year apprenticeships are part of a new partnership between MondelEZ and UCB.

Abigail and Martin were selected having completed level 2 diplomas in professional bakery at UCB and are honing their skills as chocolatiers and confectioners.

**Sweet job for chocolatiers of tomorrow**
It’s been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows, a company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged. Our service is provided by replacing the frames – not the frames have grown rapidly as the neighbours throughout the country are served by our service.

Managing Director Brian Staley feels that it’s all about service. Our product is simple – if your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it’s not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many people have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times we sometimes perhaps didn’t focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure to keep up as we say we will, do the job of the consumer expects and leave the house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn’t expect us to arrive on time and as we were expected to.

Clouidy2Clear service

Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. ‘The truth is that’s just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job while also making good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people.

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Mastering skills at an early age

The other Sunday I heard a member of the government say that they wanted all pupils in the country to get to the tables most of three quarters of a century? All pupils in the country to get to the tables most of a certain age only visit when really necessary. We grew up with the knowledge that we were lucky to have a free service and did not abuse it. Unfortunately, most people today think they are entitled to everything going.

D WINTERBORN
Brierley Hill

Double trouble for traders and shoppers

It’s good to see that one of the main roads through Dudley has been reopened to traffic centre have a vast range of shops, from both shoppers parking like the Merry Hill open, that parking system validated parking system meaning the work is carried on in a level playing field.

IN response to J Adams of Dudley, Birley’s Bagels, given that Dudley Council needs to save £57m over the next three years, I doubt very much they will be investing in “Too Pint’s” DNA technology.

EXPLAIN RULES
FOR PARKING

IF it is a good thing to live longer, then why are we always being told that everything that goes wrong with this country is because of the ageing population?

Tuke the NHS, apparently we are the people in A&E causing all of their problems. This is just not true. All ages sometimes need this service but many of us of a certain age only visit when really necessary. We grew up with the knowledge that we were lucky to have a free service and did not abuse it. Unfortunately, most people today think they are entitled to everything going.

S BELL
Woodsetton

Explain rules over parking

I FEEL I must write after seeing another batch of cars opposite Russell’s Hall Hospital having parking tickets put on their windows.

When visiting the hospital, locally or from outside the area, people are thinking more about times of appointments or visiting times and do not notice those little yellow lines on the kerbs which means no parking whatsoever – even with a disability badge.

To come out of the hospital, with goodwill knows what on one’s mind to discover a fine of £60 must be very upsetting.

I suggest the highways department put up a notice explaining the rules of the parking, and stop using someone’s lack of understanding to make money so easily.

DEREK WESTON
Barnett Close
Kingstownd

Dog DNA idea doesn’t add up

IN response to J Adams of Brierley Bagels, the public s guns and as do all of my fellow classmates. With regard to the tables most of my friends and myself had this ability at about eight or nine.

The person speaking about these plans/ideas used the word education. Schools, colleges and even universities are places of teaching and learning.

Exams soon have in the past been dumbed down and assignments make it easier to pass a course as information can be obtained from the internet and adjusted slightly.

Why not change the title of Minister for Education to, the Minister for Teaching And Learning?“

D WINTERBORN
Brierley Hill

Let’s quote the wealth of this country and are entitled to everything going.

D RUBBISH
Brierley Hill

Age to the wealth of this country and are entitled to everything going.

Rubbish. We have contributed from a young age to the wealth of this country and are entitled to claim our money back. Should we need hospital care, our pension is stopped, not sure how we pay regular bills? If we do not pay our council tax, there will be a $50 note on the floor and a fine waiting for us.

We are told that our pension is a benefit. Rubbish. We have contributed from a young age to the wealth of this country and are entitled to claim our money back. Should we need hospital care, our pension is stopped.

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DUDLEY CHRONICLE
Thursday, February 19, 2015

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, West Bromwich, WY1 1ES
Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.
Members show off their floral creations

**Guild hopes to find two quiz teams**

Kingswinford TWG

All usual, the guild met in Kingswinford Community Centre on the second Monday of the month, in this instance, February 9.

Members were handed envelopes in which to put their annual subscription.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and very briefly discussed and members were asked questions concerning the future of events, now that the Federation has shrunk somewhat.

Events in the pipeline were read out and names are being taken for the quiz team. In fact, the guild hopes it can muster up two teams.

Events to mark the 50th anniversary of the community centre was announced.

Thanks were expressed by Mary Stevens Hospice for the blankets delivered there. The Wednesday Club is currently knitting more. Donations of odds and ends of double knitting yarn would be gratefully accepted.

The speaker was Dave Wilkins, aka ‘Big Dave’, who gave a very amusing and thought-provoking talk about his years in the police force. He was thanked by Chris Moy.

The raffle was won by Joy Williams and Dorston Com- ley Broadfield who at the age of 86, told the fascinating story of his life in showbusiness.

On March 18, at the Church Centre, The Village, at 7.45pm, the speaker will be Siddig Hussein on ‘The History of British movie stars’.

Talks are open to members and non-members with a charge to cover expenses of £1 and £1.50 respectively.

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£20m move for Dudley to rejoin rail network

FOR more than 20 years this stretch of derelict railway track has lay dormant.

Under ambitious plans backed by Dudley Council, this section of track could be transformed for use by light rail trains. The trains would reconnect Dudley to the national rail network, linking the old town centre train station at Castle Hill with Dudley Port station.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for transport, said: “We have a long history of innovative industry in Dudley and this demonstrates our commitment to build on this in the future. This fantastic project will help link people in Dudley with the rest of the country while bringing people into the town for the landmark tourists sites we have here.”

The £20 million project is part of a partnership between the council and Warwick Manufacturing Group, which is keen to use Dudley’s disused rail lines to test new light rail technology.

The technology is a development of what is currently used on the Stourbridge Shuttle, which is known as the Parry People Mover and uses flywheel energy storage. It could create around 45 jobs at the outset with the potential to create hundreds more in the future.

Bids will be made to the Government’s Regional Growth Fund and Europe to fund the creation of an innovation centre at the old Dudley train station site on council land at the bottom of Castle Hill.

One line will be used for testing new vehicles, while the other will be for passengers. The line used to be on the Oxford to Wolverhampton route, but Dudley station was closed to passengers 50 years ago and the line to Dudley Port was then used as a freight line until the 1980s.

Dudley transport boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed at the location which is on track for a rail innovation centre.
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‘Phenomenal’ demand at Landmark apartments

WORK is on track on a multi-million pound project to transform a former office block into apartments.

More than two-thirds of the 181 luxury apartments at The Landmark – formerly Point North offices – at the Waterfront have been snapped up.

One of the penthouse suites has been bought by Wolverhampton Wanderers legend Steve Bull.

Most of the work inside the building has been completed. Electrical and sewage supplies have been connected to each apartment and now work will begin on partitioning each home.

Work began on the apartments in July last year. The work is being carried out by developers Seven Capital and contractors Colmore Tang.

Phase

Sales director Andy Foote said phase one of the apartment sales was completed with phase two due to complete at the end of the month.

Phase three will begin in March with the last third of apartments being sold off with a 10 per cent price increase.

Mr Foote said: “Work is going very well and we are well on track to complete by November, which has always been our target completion date.

“The major part of the works was the engineering work, such as sewage and electricity, but that has all been finished and now we will focus on finishing the apartments.

“Mr Foote said there has been around 2,000 enquiries, many regarding rental opportunities.

“We have had many rental enquiries but currently we are only selling apartments to ‘Winos’ he said. “Apartments will be available to rent from December and it will be a very popular spot in Dudley.

Former offices are being transformed into apartments inside The Landmark

“The price will increase by 10 per cent in the third phase and we expect all the apartments to be gone by May, so anyone thinking of buying, now is definitely the time to do it.”

The total resale value of the properties will be around £218 million with prices starting at £79,000 for a one-bedroom apartment.

A third of the apartments were bought up before the first phase had even completed, which Seven Capital’s managing director Phil Carlin described as “phenomenal”.

The seven-storey former office block will consist of 138 one-bed flats, 37 two-bed and eight studio including six rooftop penthouse apartments.

The building was empty for five years after insurance firm Egg left.
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AN office furniture manufacturer from Dudley has swapped up a US upholstery firm in a takeover deal thought to be worth several million pounds.

The move will give Boss Design the ability to make and distribute its furniture in America, where the market is six times bigger than in the UK.

It has acquired the 50-year-old Jack Cartwright firm, which has an $80,000 sq ft manufacturing facility in North Carolina. The price of the deal is not being revealed.

It follows the recent opening of the Boss Design showroom in Dubai, where the company is winning work in the expanding Middle Eastern office market.

Boss Design founder and chairman Brian Murray said: “We have already successfully traded with the USA for several years, the acquisition of the Jack Cartwright brand now presents us with the perfect opportunity to fully take advantage of established routes to market in the USA and to launch the Boss Design product portfolio to a lucrative sector which is currently six times bigger than that in the UK.”

Boss has factories in Dudley and on the Peiris estate in Kingswinford. The company, founded in 1983, employs more than 200 people and has annual turnover in excess of £30 million.

The Jack Cartwright business provides bespoke upholstery for commercial interiors across the USA. As well as continuing to manufacture this successful brand, the acquisition will now enable Boss Design to manufacture and distribute its own brands to the US market.

**New factory for modular homes will create jobs**

A HOUSEBUILDER is to open a factory making ‘modular’ homes in the heart of the Black Country.

The Mar Modular factory in Coseley will build for Mar City which has developments in the West Midlands, London and the South East.

It is already recruiting for at least 20 staff while Mar Modular is looking for people with experience in the building industry as well as unskilled staff who it will train.

Posts available include assembly workers, electricians and warehouse and maintenance staff.

Mar City says that the modular process – whereby sections of the homes are prefabricated then put together on site – will enable it to build homes three times faster than by existing building methods.

**Profit**

Mr City spokesman John Bick said it had not yet been confirmed where in Coseley the factory would be located but it would create more than 20 jobs.

The company has built a land bank of around 5,000 plots with a gross development value of approximately £1 billion.

Last year Mar City launched its new modular-built apartments in London and modular-built houses in the Midlands.

It is in discussions with a number of parties about potential joint venture new build developments. Mar City’s current production capability with its exclusive manufacturing partner will allow the group to build up to 1,000 modular homes a year. The factory will enable it to augment this production capacity.

Tony Ryan, chief executive of Mar City, said: “We now have a strong pipeline where we are in discussions with a number of potential joint venture partners and we are also developing plans to increase our home building capacity through the development of our own production facilities.”

The company is currently building homes in Cranford Street, Smethwick; Alexander Road, Tipton; Lache, Walsall and Birmingham Road, Lichfield.

It plans to build more than 700 homes on the River Park site at Brier Road, Coseley and also has proposals for 248 at Hall Green Road, West Bromwich, 211 at Darkhouse Lane, Coseley and 38 at Mill Street, Great Bridge.

The Bean Road, Coseley development is on a shortlist of the 29 areas to become one of England’s first 10 housing zones outside London.

**Students make voices heard in competition**

RIGHT team of students displayed their public speaking skills in the Youth Speaks contest.

The Rotary Club of Stourbridge sponsored the heat at King Edward VI College.

Participants name from Haybridge High School, King Edward VI Sixth Forms College, Old Sworldford House School, Pedmore Technology College and Redhill School and were selected by members of Stourbridge rotary Club.

They picked their own themes for the speeches made in front of students, parents and teachers.

Rotarians joined members of Stourbridge Speakers Club to help judge the contest.

Winners go through to the district round. They were: in the Intermediate category, aged 11-13, Annseh Ezh, Slieve Warwicker and Georgina Phillips from Redhill School and in the senior section, aged 14-17, George Glassy, Manpreet Sanghera and Ben Phillips.
Steam enthusiasts in farewell to engineer Len

HE was a self-confessed steam fanatic so it was appropriate that a celebration of Len Crane’s life was held at his spiritual home, The Black Country Living Museum in Dudley.

Around 500 attended the event alongside a dozen traction engine, following his funeral at Gornal Crematorium. Len had died in hospital after a long illness on January 5.

His wife, Jane, 74, said: “Len would have enjoyed every minute of it. It was a wonderful day and a fantastic way of celebrating Len’s life.”

Born in Goole, Yorkshire, Len’s family moved to West Bromwich and he attended George Salter School before a scholarship to art school. He had a 12-year career in motorbike racing which saw him crowned British Motocross Scramble Champion in 1966 and 1967. He was also a tool maker at Great Bridge Foundry.

Len restored seven steam engines and was the main force behind several popular events, including the Black Country Living Museum’s steam gathering.

Len Crane working on a steam engine

Len’s widow June Crane from Sedgley and daughter Brigitte Brown from Wombourne at the museum farewell event

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ALMOST two-thirds of deaf children in the West Midlands have left secondary school having failed to hit national GCSE benchmarks.

The figures, released by the Department for Education, show 36 per cent of non-deaf pupils fail to hit the same targets. The National Deaf Children’s Society (NDCS) called the gap ‘disturbing’.

The society said that local authorities in England have reported a continued drop in the numbers of qualified Teachers of the Deaf.

This was particularly concerning given that the numbers of deaf children in England has risen to over 40,000 this year.

Commenting on the West Midlands figures, Susan Daniels, CEO at NDCS, said: “Deafness is not a learning disability so having a widening gap in GCSE attainment is simply unacceptable.

“The dwindling support from local authorities for Teachers of the Deaf is resulting in deaf children being set up to fail and lagging behind throughout their education.

“It’s crucial that the Government takes action to clarify how local authorities will be properly held to account for failing deaf children.”

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The National Deaf Children’s Society (NDCS) called the gap ‘disturbing’. The society said that local authorities in England have reported a continued drop in the numbers of qualified Teachers of the Deaf. This was particularly concerning given that the numbers of deaf children in England has risen to over 40,000 this year. Commenting on the West Midlands figures, Susan Daniels, CEO at NDCS, said: “Deafness is not a learning disability so having a widening gap in GCSE attainment is simply unacceptable. “The dwindling support from local authorities for Teachers of the Deaf is resulting in deaf children being set up to fail and lagging behind throughout their education. “It’s crucial that the Government takes action to clarify how local authorities will be properly held to account for failing deaf children.”
Crackdown near school targets speeding drivers

PUPILS and police joined forces to help clamp down on drivers speeding along a busy main road near a school.

Youngsters from Dingle Community Primary, Madeley Road, Kingswinford, were shown how to use a speed gun by officers before setting out to monitor traffic along Rangeways Road.

Around 20 Year Three pupils, accompanied by school staff, police and councillors, spent 45 minutes checking motorists’ speed. The youngsters all got the chance to use the speed gun and the experience will now form part of a project on speed they are working on.

No motorists were caught flouting the 30mph limit during the 45 minutes. But a monitoring session held earlier in the day along Lawnswood Wood, in Wednesley, clocked 10 motorists flouting the limit – with the fastest recorded at 43mph.

Pupils from Ilkeston Vose School took part in the exercise as part of a speed watch initiative set up to cut speeds.

Vehicle registration numbers were noted down and the owners will be sent a letter warning them not to exceed the speed limit in future. The motorists will not be fined on this occasion.

Councillor Derrick Hemingsley, who launched the initiative along with police, said: “The children really enjoyed taking part in the monitoring session and it also played a vital role in getting motorists to think about the speeds they are driving on roads in the area.”

Dingle School headteacher Joy Wheeler added: “Road safety awareness is important for children and adults, whether they are pedestrians or the drivers of vehicles.”

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A CHAMPION for denture wearers, Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng) has spent more than ten years campaigning to “break the taboo over false teeth and prove that high-quality dentures can indeed be nothing short of life-changing.”

Evangelical about what new-generation denture prescriptions can achieve, he says the palette of solutions to deliver a more youthful, engaging smile has never been so great, with traditional, high-quality hand-made-on-the-promises prosthetics; suction diaphragm dentures; and implant-retained over-dentures.

“People have come to us with pinched lips and we have been privileged to transform their looks, providing teeth that not only are aesthetically pleasing and hugely functional, but also successfully support facial structures just like their real teeth once did. It can take years off people.”

Can dentures ever be glamorous? “Emphatically, yes,” adds Steven.

Strident advances in technology, improved materials and revised clinical procedures are all helping “to drive the denture revolution forward and indeed introduce a real sense of natural-looking glamour to what can be accomplished,” he says.

A CUTTING-EDGE development that helps to resolve the stability problems faced by thousands of denture wearers is being offered by the Denture Clinic.

Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng) GD108335, who heads the teams at his North Street practice in Dudley, and other clinics across the region, says the invention has the potential to resolve all-too-common denture stability issues.

Prosthetics are held in place by tiny valve-operated suction devices which are built into the prescription. A clever diaphragm principle, triggered by bite pressure on patients’ gums, creates a ‘sucking’ vacuum between the soft-tissue mouth lining and the prosthesis.

Steven, whose clinics attracts patients from as far as Spain, the Isle of Skye and the Isle of Anglesey, says: “In recent times we have seen, what I can describe only as strident clinical steps forward, with implant-retained over-dentures, ‘teeth-in-a-day’ implant procedures and suction solution dentures, all coming into mainstream dentistry.

“We also have clever injection moulding technology which allows excellent fitting outcomes and our clinical solutions have never been so appealing.

“Implant dentistry as a resolve for stabilisation issues is not suitable for everyone, neither is it all patients’ first preference. The Ultra Suction prosthetics system offers a possible alternative clinical solution. “The beauty of this affordable technology is that it can deliver for the right patient excellent denture retainer qualities without the invasive clinical procedures required for implant work.”

Lower dentures can often be troublesome when stability is compromised by shrinking gums and bone erosion – all part of the natural ageing process. Ill-fitting dentures create painful friction problems on gums and not least, can bear egular source of embarrassment.

Reduction

Steven adds: “The device can be mounted on upper or lower teeth and because of its efficiency allows us to consider an reduction in the size of the acrylic ‘plate’ which can improve speech and taste.

“We have always endeavoured to be on the very cusp of clinical development and this is another tool in our commitment to always try to deliver outcomes greater than patient expectations.”
BITTER disputes, a fatal accident and the unstoppable growth of industry – Wolverhampton’s railways have a colourful past.

And now the untold stories of the city’s network are being revealed in a new exhibition.

The event at Bantock House Museum looks at the origin of railways in Wolverhampton and the important role they have played in the city’s development.

A range of artefacts, documents and information are displayed in the exhibition, with recordings of steam trains providing the soundtrack. The exhibition was loaned to the museum by railway historians Simon Dewey, Mervyn Srodzinsky and Ned Williams.

Steam trains were built in Wolverhampton at the Stafford Road Locomotive Works near Dunstall, which opened in 1849 and where the new 2-2-2 express single locomotives were created in 1859. In 1864 a new superintendent joined the works and developed a new way of working by which new parts were added to old locomotives – which became known as the ‘Wolverhampton style.’

This is just one of the fascinating stories told through the exhibition, which also charts the history of bitter disputes on the lines over years.

Importance

The importance of the line led to the so-called ‘railway battles’ – two disputes between the Shrewsbury & Birmingham Railway (SBR) and the London & North Western Railway (LNWR) over agreements to use the Stour Valley line through to the high level station in Wolverhampton.

The first battle took place in 1850 when workmen from the rival companies confronted each other and the mayor, policeman and the military armed with bayonets had to intervene.

The second battle followed a year later which took place just south of Wolverhampton’s current station.

An SBR train arrived in Wolverhampton around 9am and departed shortly after. It didn’t get far though as the LNWR had blocked the line with two locomotives. The firm had also derailed another locomotive and removed parts of track.

Both sets of workmen confronted each other and the SBR train tried to push the LNWR train down the line but to no avail. The mayor, police and military again had to intervene.

Other historic events included a crash at the Portobello junction in 1899 in which two railway workers died.

Artefacts on show include a model steam engine – built in 1891 to defend a court case relating to emissions of sparks, and a plaque from a train named after Wrottesley Hall in Wolverhampton.

The exhibition, called One The Right Tracks, ends on May 10.
Claimants of housing benefits on rise by 75pc

THE number of working people in the Black Country who rely on housing benefit has jumped by 75 per cent in four years, new figures show.

The figures show in 2010 there were 2,574 employed people in receipt of housing benefit in Dudley. That figure was 4,161 last year. However this was also a slight drop on 2013, when there were 4,202.

Across the West Midlands as a whole, 53,111 employed claimants had housing benefit in 2010. Last year it was 88,198.

Reduced

It has been controversially reduced for people in council or social housing if they have one or more spare rooms, labelled by critics as ‘bedroom tax’.

Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin said the increase was due to the cost of living. He said: “Lots of working families in the Black Country are struggling to make ends meet.

“Wages here are below the national average and bills keep going up.

“Now thousands more Black Country families are having to rely on housing benefit because their wages just don’t cover the rent.

“I want the government to help local families and bring down the benefit bill by taking action on low pay and high rent, including a higher minimum wage and a cap on rent increases,” he said.

By Daniel Wainwright

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LEGEND has it that Oliver Cromwell fired cannons at Dudley Castle from the surrounding streets lending Cromwell Drive its name.

Historians have subsequently disputed this, arguing the guns at the time were incapable of causing damage from such a distance. But it is true that Cromwell was locked in a battle in Crowney Hill in 1644, and used Kates Hill as his base against King Charles I.

Resident Tony Cartwright, aged 68, said: “I have heard the stories that this is where Cromwell cannoned the castle. That is why there are roads around here named after him. I don’t think a lot of people around here, especially the young ones, would know about it.”

Bryan Morton, 70, said: “It is called that because Cromwell came up here. They went from here to the castle and they shot cannons from here.

Swords

“There are stories that there used to be an area near here where the soldiers would dance and drag their swords. I was born and bred here so I’ve heard all the stories over the years.”

The 18th century Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire was the birthplace of Winston Churchill, and has become a popular tourist destination. So is this where the name of Blenheim Road in Kingswinford came from?

Blenheim Palace was built as a reward to John Churchill, The First Duke of Marlborough, following his triumphs against the French and Bavarians during the War of the Spanish Succession, culminating in the 1704 Battle of Blenheim. But residents were at a loss over its significance.

Dental nurse Danielle Rainsford, 23, said: “I’ve not long moved here and I hadn’t noticed the link to the war. I don’t know anything about it.”

And Leanne Lees, 35, who has lived in the town for 30 years and I don’t know. I know the names had any significance.

Alan Smith, 65, said: “I’ve lived here for 43 years but I hadn’t noticed the link to the war. I don’t know anything about it.”

John Edwards, 66, a retired engineer, has lived there 43 years but said he did not believe any of the road names had any significance.

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Ambulance trust bids to keep 111 service

WEST Midlands Ambulance Service will seek to continue running the NHS 111 number for five more years.

The non-emergency number endured a troubled start when it was implemented in 2013, leading to the ambulance service making it on from NHS Direct.

The ambulance service now answers 111 calls for Birmingham, Solihull, the Black Country and Shropshire, Herefordshire, Coventry and Warwickshire.

Since it took over the running of the service, 5.2 million calls have been made and the trust which runs West Midlands Ambulance Service has taken the first step in its bid to secure a 111 contract for the region.

Commissioners set a deadline of early January to submit a pre-qualification questionnaire which sets out the basis on which the trust should be allowed to bid for the contract.

And the trust’s clinical commissioning chief Mark Dobterry and bosses would do “everything we can” to continue running 111 from its Dudley base.

He said: “As a trust we are committed to winning the contract and will do everything we can to win the bidding process.”

Concerns over policing cuts

A POLICEMAN who makes sure bobbies’ voices are heard has warned that cuts that hit officers on the beat.

West Midlands Police is faced with unprecedented cuts to its policing budget.

Now Tom Cuddeford, deputy chairman of West Midlands Police Federation has said the trust is committed to ensuring public safety with more cuts on the way.

He said: “Our hard work and dedication as a force is already being recognised in some areas where officers are rarely seen.

But the cuts which are being left vulnerable to the public’s needs.”

Running course

A 1010 WEEKENDS, begins running course starts on April 21, organised by Dudley Leisure Running Club.

The group meet each Tuesday and Thursday at Wombourne Leisure Centre, Ogdens Lane, at 7.30pm.

Further information is available on 01384 821668.

Creatures on loan at college

A MINI zoo has arrived at Dudley College. The array of exotic animals on loan from the Owl & Falconry Sanctuary at Halfpenny Green includes pythons, gibbons, millipede, cockroaches, turtles and an albino hedgehog.

The students who are in the process of transforming a classroom into an animal house, to help them understand the feeding, handling, learning and health care needs of exotic species.

They will also learn about animal welfare and how to maintain animal accommodation.

People aged 70 to 80 are being offered a free shingles vaccine offer

GP’s are offering the vaccine for free at the Dudley borough.

Unlike the flu jab, the shingles vaccine is only needed once.

Shingles is a painful rash caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox, and is most common in older people.

Councillor Rachel Harris, Dudley Council’s cabinet member for health, said: “For many people, shingles can be a mild infection with good recovery, but for others it can be very painful and uncomfortable.

“The vaccine reduces the risk of developing the illness, but for those who do get it, their symptoms may be milder and the illness shorter than if they weren’t protected.

“If you haven’t already been vaccinated, please get in touch with your GP surgery to make an appointment.”

For more information, speak to your GP or practice nurse or visit the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk/shingles
NATIONAL GUARD

A year after the end of the war, thousands of former soldiers
were still without homes. They were given the job of
building houses for themselves and others who had been
left homeless by the war. The houses were
constructed by the men and women who had
been on active service. The houses were
constructed using materials which had been
scavenged from abandoned buildings. The
houses were built using the same techniques
that had been used in the war to build
fortifications. The houses were small and
simple, but they provided shelter for those who
had lost their homes.

There are two things which quickly become obvious
about folk musicians Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman.
First they are passionate about their music, second they are a
duo in every sense, whether playing live, song writing,
putting together an album or being parents - they are a
team. Even when talking to them individually, each is
repeatedly referring to the other and the roles they take in
their shared life and work. “We work really well together,”
confirms Lakeman, who is from Devon. “Kathryn is really
creative and good at coming up with sparks and ideas, and
I am quite good at fleshing them out and bringing them
together as a package and giving them a sound.”
“Kathyrn is very good at sparking ideas, for example the
song about the 52 hertz whale, (a track from their latest
album Tomorrow Will Follow Today) came from a
science journal.”

Roberts comes across as a voracious reader. “I never
actively set out to look for a subject for songs,” admits the
former Barnsley lass who lives in Tavistock with husband
Sean and their twin seven-year-old daughters Lily and Poppy.
“I do read a lot and I am very undiscerning. I tend to
hoover up everything I can whether it’s online, in a
library or just with our own books at home. There is always
something which triggers an idea; makes me think ‘Ooh, I
wonder if we could give that a song’? I have never
consciously thought, ‘Today I will look for an inter-
testing story that we can turn into a song and that will be
today’s job done’, I have never been able to work like that.
“At home I have a big folder of ideas and half-formed
stories for songs and tend to sit down with Sean and say
’Right let’s find something which catches your fancy or
piques your interest.’

Excited

“The way we work is that I take something to
Kathryn and it may be a half-formed idea, a
thought, ‘Today I will look for an interesting story
that we can turn into a song’? I have never
consciously thought that will be today’s job
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Excited

“We have both got to feel excited
and enthused, because if one of us is
only half-hearted it’s difficult to
get a really good response and,
you’re not really giving it your all. I have
so many ideas in this folder that I don’t
care if Sean says, ‘Nah, not that one’
and turns the page, it’s fine, there’s
another one there and I am quite happy
for it to work in that way.”

Once that process is started this is
where Lakeman’s strengths for produc-
ing come into play. He has been in
the music industry since he was a child,
he does means he is in demand in the
industry. Perhaps one of the reasons
for this is that when it comes to putting
tracks together, going through the mo-
tions is not on his agenda.

“I am passionate about what I do,
and if you are making a record then it’s
all consuming, so unless you feel that
passion about the music, or artist or
material then you are not doing your-
self or the artist justice.

“I enjoy just bringing out better per-
fomances from people, that’s what’s
satisfying, and to be able to take peo-
ple to places where they didn’t think
they could go by themselves.”

Tomorrow Will Follow Today is re-
leased on the Iscream label on Febru-
ary 23.

Roberts and Lakeman are at the
Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham
on February 22 at 8pm, doors open
7.30pm and tickets are £10.

Husband and wife team Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman

There are two things which quickly become obvious
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“We work really well together,” confirms Lakeman, who is from Devon. “Kathryn is really creative and good at coming up with sparks and ideas, and I am quite good at fleshing them out and bringing them together as a package and giving them a sound.”

“We work well as a team in all aspects, not just in the song writing but in the live gigs and all sorts. We’ve both got different strengths and we play to those strengths. Kathryn is very good at sparking ideas, for example the song about the 52 hertz whale, (a track from their latest album Tomorrow Will Follow Today) came from a science journal.”

Roberts comes across as a voracious reader. “I never actively set out to look for a subject for songs,” admits the former Barnsley lass who lives in Tavistock with husband Sean and their twin seven-year-old daughters Lily and Poppy. “I do read a lot and I am very undiscerning. I tend to hoover up everything I can whether it’s online, in a library or just with our own books at home. There is always something which triggers an idea; makes me think ‘Ooh, I wonder if we could give that a song’? I have never consciously thought, ‘Today I will look for an interesting story that we can turn into a song and that will be today’s job done’, I have never been able to work like that.”

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Once that process is started this is where Lakeman’s strengths for producing come into play. He has been in the music industry since he was a child, he does means he is in demand in the industry. Perhaps one of the reasons for this is that when it comes to putting tracks together, going through the motions is not on his agenda.

“I am passionate about what I do, and if you are making a record then it’s all consuming, so unless you feel that passion about the music, or artist or material then you are not doing yourself or the artist justice.

“I enjoy just bringing out better performances from people, that’s what’s satisfying, and to be able to take people to places where they didn’t think they could go by themselves.”

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Roberts and Lakeman are at the Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham on February 22 at 8pm, doors open 7.30pm and tickets are £10.
Rick and theprog rock veterans PROG rock veterans are back in the Black Country next week with the return of some of the biggest names from the 70s progressive rock genre.

Former YES keyboardist, organiser Rick Wakeman presents Yet Another Evening With at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on February 28. It blends tales from his rock career and samples of his various theatrical skills. Support is from harmonious folk-singing siblings The Cadbury Sisters.

On the same night Coosum return 45 years since they originally split, to play the Robin 2 in Bilston. The line up includes founder John Hiseman, his wife Barbara Thompson on sax (she has been battling Parkinson’s Disease) and singer Chris Farlowe.

Psychocandy is back on the menu INFLUENTIAL rock band The Jesus and Mary Chain, following night. Brum's prog rockers Fightstar are at the Institute on Monday with Pond.

Meanwhile, rock veterans Paul Jones and Dave Kelly bring The Blues Band to Bilston's Robin 2 tonight (Thursday). Charlie Simpson's new band Fightstar are at the Institute on Monday with Pond and at the Digbeth venue the following night. Brum's Ocean Colour Scene promise two nights at Symphony Hall celebrating 25 years on Saturday and Tuesday.

The King and his speech therapist

THE King’s Speech – the play from which the Oscar-winning movie was adapted – will star Raymond Coulthard as King George VI and Jason Donovan as his Australian speech therapist Lionel Logue at Birmingham Repertory Theatre next week.

The production is directed by the Rep’s artistic director Roxana Silbert and is staged from Wednesday, February 25, to Saturday, March 7. The play tells the story of George VI’s relationship with his interventional therapist as his brother’s abdication thrusts him into the public eye.

Anne of the priory comedy to seedy 1950s Soho

STAR turner Raymond Coulthard is best known as Mike Efron in ITV drama Mr Selfridge. Wolverhampton’s Grand Theatre continues its association with some of the nation’s finest theatre companies. The National Theatre’s touring production of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time continues until Saturday. Then, the RSC and English Touring Theatre’s production of A Mid Winter’s Night Musters has a short run from February 26 to 29. A hit when it was staged at Stratford in 2013, Sean Foley’s production updates Thomas Middleton’s Jacobean comedy to seemingly 1960s Soho.

Walking, dancing, living doll

BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet return home to Birmingham Hippodrome to begin a special year that marks their 25th anniversary in the city and director-choreographer David Hirstley’s 25th year at the company.

Family favourite Coppelia, about an eccentric toy maker who wants to bring a life-sized doll to life and is tricked, is staged from Tuesday to Saturday, February 28. First performed by the company in 1995, Sir Peter Wright’s production is one of BRB’s most popular classical ballets. Each performance will feature a different ballet in the comic romantic role of Swanilda.

This week, until Saturday, the company present Moving Stateside, three short ballets including George Blainche’s elegant Serenade, Jessica Lang’s innovative Lyric Pieces and Tylwyth Thain’s exhilarating The Upper Room.

Elisha Willis as Coppelia/Swanilda and David Morse as toymaker Doctor Coppélius.

HOLIDAYS STARTING FROM £129

Penn Tandoori specialises in authentic Indian cuisine at its very best dining experience in one of the West Midlands most luxurious restaurants.

As soon as you enter, you are treated like a VIP by the friendly and attentive staff.

Looking around the modern open plan interior of the restaurant, it gives more the impression of a trendy designer bistro with walls painted cream and mint green, giving the place a contemporary and relaxing feel.

Penn Tandoori specialises in genuine Indian cuisine at its very best including Tandoori, Curry and Balti dishes all served up in a warm friendly atmosphere.

You are always assured of a high standard of service and quality of food, all at very moderate prices.

Children are always welcome and the staff always try their best to ensure that families feel at home and have a happy time with them.

Situated on the A449 Penn Road just a couple of miles outside the city centre there is free parking available at the rear of the building so you can rest assured that you can bring your partner of family group along and not worry about parking your car.

3rd March 1pm-5pm
4th March 1pm-5pm
5th March 2pm-5pm
6th March 12pm-5pm
7th March 11am-5pm
8th March 12pm-5pm
9th March 12pm-5pm
10th March 11am-5pm
11th March 12pm-5pm
12th March 1pm-5pm
13th March 1pm-5pm
14th March 2pm-5pm
15th March 1pm-5pm
16th March 1pm-5pm
17th March 2pm-5pm
18th March 1pm-5pm
19th March 1pm-5pm
24th March 1pm-5pm
25th March 1pm-5pm

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Penn Tandoori is not your run of the mill curry house, it is a unique dining experience in one of the West Midlands most luxurious restaurants.

As soon as you enter, you are treated like a VIP by the friendly and attentive staff.

Boasting the latest innovation in the restaurant industry and the highest level of presentation and service, you can be assured of the ultimate in dining.

The menu features a range of classic Indian dishes as well as dishes inspired by the chef’s Indian heritage.

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10th April

Aussie soap and pop star Jason Donovan has successfully fully created a stage career, whilst Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) and National Theatre actor Raymond Coulthard is best known as Mike Efron in ITV drama Mr Selfridge.

The Week in Review

Meanwhile, rock veterans Paul Jones and Dave Kelly bring The Blues Band to Bilston’s Robin 2 tonight (Thursday). Charlie Simpson’s new band Fightstar are at the Institute on Monday with Pond.

Wednesday, February 25. Birmingham Institute on 1985 debut for a gig at pioneering Psychocandy's reunion tour. The line up includes sax (she has been battling Parkinson’s Disease) and singer Chris Farlowe.

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**FILM CHOICES**

**MONDAY**

Heist, BBC, 12.30am

A veteran criminal’s charmed life comes to an abrupt end when he is caught on security camera. He is blackmailed by a dealer in stolen goods, who threatens to turn him over to the police if he does not carry out a gold robbery. The thief also suspects his wife is planning to leave him for a younger crook. Starring Danny De Vito and Ricky Jay. (2001)

**TUESDAY**

CARRY ON Henry, ITV, 11.40pm

King Henry VIII plots to rid himself of his new French wife when her craving for garlic becomes too much to cope with. However, he cannot afford to anger the king of France, and tries to make it look as if his queen has had an affair. Comedy, starring Sid James, John Bluthal, Kenneth Williams and Kenneth Connor. (1971)

**WEDNESDAY**

Citizenfour, Channel 4, 11.05pm

Laura Poitras’ Bafta-winning documentary follows her undercover investigation into a massive campaign of illegal surveillance carried out on US citizens by the country’s National Security Agency. When the story goes public, they find themselves at the centre of a media storm and facing decisions that would have a huge impact on their lives. (2014)

**THURSDAY**

Having You, BBC1, 11.45pm

A man with a fear of commitment finally manages to deliver on his promise and propose to his girlfriend. He feels himself facing new responsibilities when he realises he’s been living with a woman he’s only known for one night. Romance, starring James Norton and Olivia Cooke. (2015)

**FRIDAY**

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**PICK OF THE WEEK**

**Hopefuls aim to step in the right direction**

For some celebrities, approaching themselves into a revealing new role, starting with the promotional road trip and then lingering around on national TV is excruciatingly their job description, so signing up for Strictly Come Dancing probably isn’t the best idea of the week in front of the office. However, for members of the public, the chance to enter theRecorded, glorious world of televised ballroom dancing is as compelling an opportunity – which is where The People’s Strictly comes in.

Last year, viewers were asked to nominate someone who they thought deserved the chance to trip the light fantastic. Out of the thousands of names put forward, six inspirational people were ultimately chosen, all of whom have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of others.

Over the next four weeks, we’ll see them learn to dance and perform with visiting professional dancers, such as the likes of Colm Meaney, but in this opening edition that’s happening three of the remarkable contestants.

Lance Corporal Cusiday Little is a 33-year-old former Royal Marine, who lost his right leg below the knee during a tour of Afghanistan in the summer of 2011. Despite his own horrific injuries, Cusiday attempted to tend to his colleagues on the ground after the attack, and is also credited with lifting the spirits of his fellow injured Marines during their intensive rehabilitation.

In 1999, Michael Portillo tragically lost his 13-year-old son Dave to meningitis, and since then has worked tirelessly to raise money for the Meningitis Research Foundation. His charity fundraising has included a three-week walk across the Sahara Desert, and last year he faced the challenge of running 400 marathons in 400 days.

Meanwhile, Heather Parsons set up a charity to support intensive care patients and their families, raising £1.5 million, and is now ready to brush off any nerves she finds herself facing when her unsung heroes are on the dance floor.

Laura Poitras’ Bafta-winning documentary follows her undercover investigation into a massive campaign of illegal surveillance carried out on US citizens by the country’s National Security Agency. When the story goes public, they find themselves at the centre of a media storm and facing decisions that would have a huge impact on their lives.

In 2014, Chris Edwards stepped in after his fellow injured Marines during their intensive rehabilitation.

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**BEST OF THE REST**

**MONDAY**

Broadchurch, ITV, 9pm

Meera Syal, aka Judge Borina Sharma, jumped at the chance to be a part of this heart-wrenching drama, but what was it about Chris Chibnall’s scripts that attracted her? “It takes time,” she explains. “It’s the time and place in his scripts that he uses to delve into character. It’s those little people to watch The Killing. It’s so much about what are the effects of these events on ordinary people and to delve into their inner lives.”

This week’s the series’ finale, so fans can expect a shock, it’s time to start training with the hit-and-miss nature of this week’s series finale. Agrowing population, increased life expectancy and extensive housing stock has all contributed to a predicted £30 billion funding gap just over 10 years’ time. This interactive series challenges viewers to put themselves in the position of doctors, managers and other health professionals as they try to determine where to allocate scarce resources while facing complex dilemmas. The first programme considers liver transplants for alcoholics, cosmetic surgery and dentists.

**TUESDAY**

Mary Portas: Secret Shopper, Channel 4, 8pm

New series. The retail guru works with four businesses to improve the quality of their customer service. At a family-run convenience store in Bournemouth, Beverley Armstrong, of The Chippy at The World’s End, asks her customers to rethink the products they stock and give her some more responsibility.

**WEDNESDAY**

The Brit Awards 2015, ITV, 8pm

As the series progresses and more contestants are eliminated, it’s becoming harder and harder to spot any weak links – or to decide who’s ahead of the pack. Each week we have our own ideas about who has the title, but the following episode changes everything. The week’s challenges should weed out those who were not confident, so the remaining amateur sewers are tested on their ability to stitch the pieces together and to shape and structure their garments. They begin by creating a boned corset by sewing together 12 pieces of fabric, before breathing new life into a 1980s ‘poorer’ suit. Finally, they are challenged to make a traditional kit from scratch, which proves one of their toughest tests to date.

**THURSDAY**

The Great British Sewing Bee, BBC2, 8pm

As the series progresses, more contestants are eliminated. It’s becoming harder and harder to spot any weak links – or to decide who’s ahead of the pack. Each week we have our own ideas about who has the title...
BRAIN GYM
No.313

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.

Quick Clues:
Across
3. Make a stop on the way? (9)
8. Bird associated with a cage (4)
9. Explain how to record one’s votes? (3, 8)
11. She’s not as smart as her male (6)
16. He gives the fellow an alternative (5)
14. A yachtsman, we hear, may be one who smears (5)
15. Food crazy (4)
16. A place where wallabies are forgotten? (5)
18. Cry from a small boat (4)
20. A rich mixture at the table (5)
21. Provides food and lodgings in castles (5)
24. Her sisters are not really her sisters (8)
25. Nobody pays an egg-producer around the end of October (9)
26. He sold his birthright among the swans (4)
27. If he wants it is no good to another (3-6)

Down
1. He’s given unwaranted responsibility (9)
2. As a personal record, it’s rather fragmentary (9)
4. English name, no French one (4)
5. Time to move (5)
6. Copy-paper (8)
7. Is its tower is inclined to attract tourists (4)
9. A gem looks right in a ring (5)
11. Maud’s involved with a French writer (5)
12. Rush over to meet (3, 6)
13. He must have space to work in (9)
17. A once-rough sea (5)
18. Colour that would run? (6)
22. They’re in the front row when the game starts (9)
23. A visit from a local luminary (4)
24. Measure encountered over the East (4)

Last week’s solution:

Across
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.
Down
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.

Cryptic Clues:
Across
1. Which German school of design was inspired the film Cool Runnings? (5)
2. Who was Hero’s lover? (4)
3. Make a stop on the way? (9)
4. Who wrote the novel Daniel Deronda? (5)
5. Which country’s bobsleigh team verdiug form? (4)
6. Which painting immortalised his native village of Cookham in Berkshire? (4)
7. How is the house plant Chlorophytum given a flower? (6)
8. Bird associated with a cage (4)
9. By what name are the Trucial States now known? (5)
10. Who played young attorney Andy Beckett in Philadelphia? (9)
11. Gossip (5)
12. Censure (9)
13. A yachtsman, we hear, may be one who smears (5)
14. A gem looks right in a ring (5)
15. Time to move (5)
16. Food crazy (4)
17. Who was Blood Brother? (9)
18. A rich mixture at the table (5)
19. A visit from a local luminary (4)
20. He gives the fellow an alternative (5)
21. Colour that would run? (6)
22. They’re in the front row when the game starts (9)
23. A visit from a local luminary (4)
24. Measure encountered over the East (4)
25. Adjust (4)
26. Journeys (5)
27. Impel (5)
28. Rub out (5)

Down
1. Policeman (9)
2. Uninteresting (4)
3. Portent (4)
4. Time to muse (5)
5. Metal-worker (5)
6. Chair (6)

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.

Across
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.
Down
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.

 quoting...
Stylish converted barn in sought-after hamlet

A SUBSTANTIAL converted barn with versatile accommodation and four bedrooms The Swallows in Worcester Road, Harvington, Kidderminster lies in a highly regarded hamlet.

It is for sale through Andrew Grant at £775,000.

Having a wealth of exposed timbers and brickwork and full height windows, it has a vaulted reception hall and a formal sitting room and family room, both with stoves. In the extensive kitchen/breakfast room are cabinets with granite worktops and a two oven gas range cooker.

The formal dining room has French doors, a laundry, boot room and WC. Off a galleried landing is the master bedroom with oak flooring and a vaulted ceiling and en suite.

Contact Andrew Grant on 01527 579565 or visit www.andrew-grant.co.uk

Four-bed detached with £399,000 tag

A SUBSTANTIAL detached family residence, 46 Love Lane, Oldswinford, Stourbridge has great potential for further development and modernisation.

With a double garage and manicured garden, it is for sale through the Lee Shaw Partnership at £399,000. It has been extended and has a substantial driveway.

It has an entrance hall, downstairs WC, a lounge with patio doors and access to separate dining room. The breakfast kitchen has modern, soft-close units and a central island. There is also an inner hallway, study and second living room, four bedrooms and master with dressing area and en suite.

Call 01384 396066 or visit www.leeshaw.com

SKITTS ESTATE AGENTS

PROPERTIES REQUIRED IN THE DUDLEY AREA!

£175

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bilston@skitts.net 01902 353578
greatbridge@skitts.net 0121 520 2255
sedgley@skitts.net 01902 686868

 successf ully let ting homes across the West Midlands & Staffordshire for over 35 years
Well-presented detached with four bedrooms

AN extremely well present-ed unfurnished four-bed-
roomed detached property in Southern Close, Stourbridge is available to rent through Town & Country at £795 pcm. In a popular residential location it has a reception hall, WC, lounge with a gas fire, dining room, extended kitchen, conservatory, utility, four good-sized bedrooms, bathroom with a shower over the bath, gas central heating, double glazing and a rear gar-den with a garage with a storage room. Call 01384 444855 or visit www.
townandcountrypropertyservices.
co.uk
Genuinely helpful.

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Your Move Dudley

We help a customer move into their new home every five minutes. Let us help you too.

*Includes sales and lettings.

facebook.com/yourmoveuk
twitter.com/yourmove_uk
NEW
Wombourne 18 Heller Drive
£369,950 Kingswinford Office
* 2 Bed Rooms, Conservatory, B/Kitchen
* Bathroom, Solar Panels. D/Garage EPC - B

NEW
Wall Heath 12 Beachwood Avenue
£275,000 Kingswinford Office
* Improved, Extended Detached Bungalow
* Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Garage
* Shower Room, Popular cul-de-sac. EPC - D

NEW
Prestwood 4 Pavilion End
£249,950 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Conservatory, B/Kitchen
* Bathroom, R/F Guest wc, R/F Kitchen
* Utility, R/F En-Suite & Bathroom EPC - C

NEW
Kingswinford 25 Fairlawn Drive
£225,000 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* Extended Lounge/Diner, Big R/F Kitchen
* R/F Shower, 2 Garages/Workshop EPC - C

NEW
Wordsley 12 Greenbank Gardens
£204,950 Kingswinford Office
* Modern 3 bedroom Family Semi
* Utility, R/F En-Suite & Bathroom EPC - D

NEW
Pensnett 28 Severn Drive
£182,500 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Conservatory
* Lounge, Diner, R/F Guest wc, R/F Kitchen
* Utility, R/F En-Suite & Bathroom EPC - C

NEW
Kingswinford 65 Sandringham Road
£154,950 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* Extended Lounge/Diner, R/F Kitchen
* R/F Bathroom, Garage, Driveway. EPC - C

NEW
Wordsley 21 Greenbank Gardens
£209,950 Kingswinford Office
* Modern 3 bedroom Family Semi
* R/F Guest wc, Lounge/Diner, Garden Room
* R/F Kitchen & Bathroom, EPC - TBC

NEW
Wombourne 4 Rusherlight Gardens
£154,950 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* Lounge, Dining Room, R/F Kitchen
* Utility, R/F Bathroom, Store EPC - D

NEW
Kingswinford 11 Fairlawn Drive
£257,000 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* R/F Shower, 2 Garages/Workshop EPC - C

NEW
Wordsley 65 Sandringham Road
£154,950 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* R/F Guest wc, Lounge/Diner, Garden Room
* R/F Kitchen & Bathroom, EPC - TBC

NEW
Wordsley 20 Reinfrew Close
£154,950 Kingswinford Office
* 3 Bed Rooms, Semi-Bungalow
* R/F Guest wc, Lounge/Diner, Garden Room
* R/F Kitchen & Bathroom, EPC - TBC

NEW
Wombourne 4 Rusherlight Gardens
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* R/F Kitchen & Bathroom, EPC - TBC
In cul-de-sac and on popular estate

This four-bedroomed detached house in Yarner Close, Dudley lies in a cul-de-sac location on the popular Milking Bank estate. It is for sale through Trinity Property at £234,950.

Neutrally decorated throughout, it has an entrance hall, a good-sized lounge with a feature fireplace and double doors through into a dining room, a kitchen, utility room, downstairs WC, bedroom one en suite, three further bedrooms, a bathroom with a white suite and shower, garden, garage and driveway.

For further information contact Trinity Property on 01384 213395 or visit the website at www.trinityproperty.net

Detached within walking distance of Gornal village

This extended detached residence in Louise Street, Dudley is within walking distance of Gornal village and has spacious accommodation.

Well maintained, it is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £179,950.

It has a reception hall with stairs off, a living room with a modern public effect electric fire and patio doors, a dining area, WC, a kitchen with cream coloured units and ceramic wall and floor tiling, three bedrooms (two with storage), a shower room, rear garden with a patio area and lawn and a garage.

For further information contact Skitts Estate Agents on 0121 5202255 or visit www.skitts.net

AUCTION
26th February 2015
at Aston Villa Football Ground

131 Lots
To include properties on behalf of:
West Midlands Council Midshires Housing

Plus properties on behalf of Receivers/Administrators
Vacant Residential Properties Residential Investment Properties
Vacant Commercial Properties Commercial Investment Properties
Land/Development Opportunities

Entries now invited for our next auction

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@CPBigwood

*Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots. *For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website.
Semi-detached with the space for an extension

HAVING a side garden with space for an extension, subject to consent, a three-bedroom semi in Holly Road, Oldbury is for sale through Braithwaites at £159,950 with no chain.

In need of modernisation and having gas central heating and majority double glazing it has a spacious lounge with sliding patio doors out to the rear garden, a bathroom with a separate WC, a kitchen/diner with sliding patio doors out to the rear garden, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, off road allocated parking.

Contact 0121 421 1180 or visit www.braithwaites-estate-agents.co.uk
## WALL HEATH, Enville Road
A VERY INDIVIDUAL AND SUBSTANTIAL DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE within the heart of Wall Heath, having been EXTENDED AND IMPROVED to offer unbelievably spacious accommodation including FOUR EXCELLENT BEDROOMS plus a LARGE EN-SUITE and together with a DRIVEWAY, TANDERN GARAGE and pleasantly laid out rear garden. EPC E

### Offers in the region of £99,950

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>A VERY INDIVIDUAL AND SUBSTANTIAL DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## SEDGLEY, Off Lime Road, The Bungalow
Approached from Lime Road, EXTENDED, gas centrally heated,double glazed FOUR/FIVE bedroom detached family residence with DISTANT VIEWS comprising; hall, two through living rooms, sitting room, THREE EN-SUITE, shower room, kitchen, lobby, two BATHROOMS, To first floor two further bedrooms (one with en suite) Parking, gardens. EPC D. SEDGLEY

### £299,950

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## KINGSWINFORD, Murdoch Drive
An INCREDIBLY LARGE SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME well placed for excellent schools, offering a GENEROUS layout with EN-SUITE SHOWERROOM. EPC C

### £144,950

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## WALL HEATH, Foundry Road
This WELL PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM, END TERRACE HOME comprises; Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom and Pretty Rear Garden. EPC D.

### £129,950

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## GORNAL, Pensnett, Skylark Close
IMMACULATE, RE-APPOINTED & SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED, this OUTSTANDING SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME enjoys a superb cul-de-sac position, with LARGE CONSERVATORY, 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS, a VERY LARGE DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and secluded rear and side gardens. EPC TBA.

### £185,000

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## WOODSETTON, Parke's Lane
EXTENDED, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi-detached comprising; hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS, bathroom, garden, EPC D. SEDGLEY

### £219,500

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## WOMBORNE, Forge Valley Way
An IMPRESSIVE FAMILY RESIDENCE situated in the fringe of beautiful open countryside, offering a BEAUTIFUL layout with entrance vestibule, cloak/ utility room, entrance hall, living room, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, gardens. EPC C. SEDGLEY

### £144,950

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## NETHERTON, Hadleys Close
Two WELL PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOME, is a meander with NO UPWARD CHAIN and comprises; Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Three Generous First Floor Bedrooms, Contemporary Shower Room, Driveway, Garage and Rear Garden. EPC C.

### £119,950

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<thead>
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<td>NETHERTON, Hadleys Close</td>
<td>THIS WELL PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOME</td>
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## PENNETT, Bell Street
The THREE BEDROOM, END TERRACE HOME is for sale with NO UPWARD CHAIN and comprises; Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom and Pretty Rear Garden. EPC C.

### Offers in the region of £102,950

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<td>THE THREE BEDROOM, END TERRACE HOME</td>
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## UPWARD CHAIN, and FEATURESA FANTASTIC, WELL FITTED KITCHEN. Comprising: Reception Hall, Attractive Lounge, Dining Room, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom and Pretty Rear Garden. EPC C.

### £99,950

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## WOODSETTON, Tipton Road
This DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE offersas pacious A very individual house within the heart of Wall Heath, having been EXTENDED AND IMPROVED to offer unbelievably spacious accommodation including FOUR EXCELLENT BEDROOMS plus a LARGE EN-SUITE and together with a DRIVEWAY, TANDERN GARAGE and pleasantly laid out rear garden. EPC E

### Offers in the region of £255,000

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<td>This DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE</td>
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</table>
DUDLEY, Mansion Close, ‘Earls Keep’
Gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed detached on corner plot with landscaped gardens in cul de sac with hall, fitted cloak, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility FOUR BEDROOMS (principal with wardrobes &showersuite), bathroom, garage, delightful garden forming a fine feature. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £84,950

DUDLEY, Aintree Way, Milking Bank
Extended, gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed detached on corner plot comprising hall, lounge, transverse dining kitchen (French doors out to garden), utility, fitted cloaks, FOUR BEDROOMS, shower room with white suite. Garage, garden. EPC D. SEDGLEY

WOLVERHAMPTON, Camberley Crescent, Ettingshall Park
N/S UPWARD CHAIN. Positioned on an imposing corner plot the spacious, gas centrally heated, double glazed house comprises; lounge, refitted kitchen, 'sun room', utility, cloakroom, large 3m x 5m, three bedrooms and modern shower room with separate w.c., three bedrooms. Neat garden & garage. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £159,950

WOLVERHAMPTON, Ward Grove, Ettingshall Park
PRICE TO SELL! Stylishly appointed recently built SPACIOUS detached hall study lounge, OUTSTANDING Dining Kitchen, laundry, utility, FOUR BEDROOMS (2 en suite) bathroom DOUBLE GARAGE. EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £169,950

DUDLEY, Bath Street
EXCITING CONTEMPORARY DESIGN! - Fastidiously appointed recently built SPACIOUS detached hall study lounge, OUTSTANDING Dining Kitchen, laundry, utility, FOUR BEDROOMS, 2 en suite bathrooms, DOUBLE GARAGE. EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £244,000

COSELEY, Pemberton Road
Modernised, gas centrally heated &double glazed, house comprising; entrancehallway,hall, livingroom, kitchen, utility, Cloaks, three bedrooms, Bathroom, garage, Driveway for additional parking for two cars. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £126,450

NEW

SEXDLEY, Bath Street
EXCITING CONTEMPORARY DESIGN! - Fastidiously appointed recently built SPACIOUS detached hall study lounge, OUTSTANDING Dining Kitchen, laundry, utility, FOUR BEDROOMS, 2 en suite bathrooms, DOUBLE GARAGE. EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £244,000

DUDLEY, H米尔by Road
Gas centrally heated, double glazed house comprising; entrancehallway, hall, lounge, transverse dining kitchen (French doors out to garden), utility, cloakroom, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, driveway for additional parking. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £116,450

NEW

SEXDLEY, Cassett Road
Meticulously maintained EXTENDED &ENLARGED, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached comprising; entrancehallway, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, driveway for additional parking for two cars. EPC E. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £179,950

DUDLEY, Himley Road
Gas centrally heated, double glazed house comprising; entrancehallway, hall, lounge, transverse dining kitchen (French doors out to garden), utility, cloakroom, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, driveway for additional parking. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £116,450

NEW

DUDLEY, Aintree Way, Milking Bank
Extended, gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed detached on corner plot comprising hall, lounge, transverse dining kitchen (French doors out to garden), utility, fitted cloaks, FOUR BEDROOMS, shower room with white suite. Garage, garden. EPC D. SEDGLEY

WOLVERHAMPTON, Ward Grove, Ettingshall Park
PRICE TO SELL! Stylishly appointed recently built SPACIOUS detached hall study lounge, OUTSTANDING Dining Kitchen, laundry, utility, FOUR BEDROOMS, 2 en suite bathrooms, DOUBLE GARAGE. EPC C. SEDGLEY

WOLVERHAMPTON, Camberley Crescent, Ettingshall Park
N/S UPWARD CHAIN. Positioned on an imposing corner plot the spacious, gas centrally heated, double glazed house comprises; lounge, refitted kitchen, 'sun room', utility, cloakroom, large 3m x 5m, three bedrooms and modern shower room with separate w.c., three bedrooms. Neat garden & garage. EPC: C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £159,950

Price: £195,000

WAS £250,000, NOW £243,000

New price

Price: £150,000

Price: £150,000

Offer in the region of £180,000

Offer in the region of £180,000

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Offer in the region of £180,000

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Price: £179,950
Home is in popular area and close to high street

THIS semi-detached home in Coldstream Drive, Stourbridge lies in a popular area near to Wordsley High Street.

It is for sale through Select Property Management at £169,950 with no chain.

It has an entrance hall, lounge, a separate diner, a kitchen with pine effect units and contrasting working surfaces, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

It also has double glazing (where specified), gas central heating, pretty walled rear gardens, a driveway, gated car port and a garage with a work area.

For further information, or to arrange a viewing, contact Select Property Management on 01384 277701 or visit www.selectsalesandlettings.com

Cottage-style semi has three bedrooms

AN extended cottage-style semi-detached property in Furnace Hill, Halesowen comes with a good sized rear garden with views.

It is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £169,950.

It has three bedrooms, a fitted kitchen with an integrated electric cooker with gas hob and extractor over, tiled flooring, tiled splash backs and stairs to first floor, a living room with an under-stairs cupboard and a period style cast iron fireplace, a dining area with a bay window, family bathroom, a double garage, gas central heating and driveway parking.

Contact Hicks Hadley on 0121 585 6667 or visit www.hickshadley.com
New Honda Civic Type R to be unveiled at Geneva

By David Banner

The all-new British built Honda Civic Type R – which will make its world premiere at the 2015 Geneva Motor Show – will feature a host of eye-catching design enhancements that have been heavily influenced by extensive aerodynamic development and testing, both on computer and in the wind tunnel. The result is a car with exceptional high speed stability and high levels of downforce.

The superior aerodynamic performance helps make the most of the Civic Type R’s 2.0-litre direct injection VTEC Turbo engine, enabling the car to achieve a top speed of 270km/h (167mph), unrivalled amongst its front wheel-drive competitors.

A new, almost completely flat underside aids airflow under the vehicle and combines with a rear diffuser to optimise downforce – effectively ‘sucking’ the car onto the road. A bespoke rear wing gives the car enhanced visual presence and delivers powerful additional downforce, thanks notably to the structure of its airfoil section.

A wide front splitter and deep side skirts also manage airflow and reduce lift, while the front bumper has been shaped specifically to inhibit air turbulence around the front wheels, cutting drag and enhancing high-speed stability.

To help the driver manage the Type R’s prodigious power, the car is equipped with a high performance Brembo brake package, developed specifically for the car. At the front, four-piston calipers apply braking force to 350mm drilled discs. New 19in alloy wheels, unique to the Type R, complement the visual changes, filling the wheel arches and accommodating the larger brakes.

Focus

Heat management was another major focus for the design team, influencing several prominent external design modifications. Enlarged upper and lower grilles in the front bumper, vents above the wheels on the front quarter panels and vents at the trailing edges of the front wheel arches combine to provide greater cooling and ventilation for the high-output engine.

Leon Brannan, head of car, Honda (UK) said: “We’ve always had a strong interest in the Civic Type R but it’s been a couple of years since we’ve had one. The new one will be on our roads later this year.”

The Civic Type R will be unveiled at Geneva Motor Show in Championship White – a colour shared with successive generations of iconic Type R vehicles.

Meanwhile Honda’s new entry into Europe’s fast-growing small SUV segment – The HR-V – will be on our roads later this year.

The unique exterior design of the new HR-V prototype echoes that of a coupé, with sharp, dynamic lines that link the sleek upper body with the stable and planted lower body. This coupé-esque elegance is achieved without compromising the interior practicality of the car.

The HR-V features a centre fuel tank location to create one of the most spacious and adaptable small SUV cabins. Honda Magic Seats make use of this versatility by enabling a wide range of seating configurations, with the ability to fold the second row seats completely flat for added cargo space.

The HR-V will go on sale in the UK in the summer.

Mr Leon Brannan said: “The HR-V is a very welcome addition to our current model line-up, it is a very popular and growing market segment that appeals to both retail and corporate customers.”
New SR7s now available

By Sharon Walters

New, top-value SR7 versions of four favourite Kia models are available across the company’s dealer network. Every SR7 has a higher specification than the 2014 VR7 special-edition models.

LED daytime running lights, cornering lights, front foglights, automatic headlight control, privacy glass, UV-reducing solar glass, dual-zone automatic air conditioning and roof rails are the highlights of the equipment additions, depending on model. There are also new alloy wheels and colour options.

This is just the start of a list of new models, facelifts and product enhancements during 2015, spearheaded by a new Sorento.

By Sharon Walters

Dudley Chronicle Thursday, February 19, 2015

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Style and practicality

By Sharon Walters

I have to put my hands up – I am a bit of a car snob when it comes to estates. Many of the family orientated and middle of the road ones are, well, just plain boring and dull. Dull to look at because they are just the saloon version with a bit added on without thought to style, and to drive. Although, don’t get me wrong, they do just what they are intended to.

Move up the price scale and there are some great estates. Ones that look fantastic because more thought has gone into the design and ones which are so practical that they get behind the wheel of and hit the road.

There are some exceptions, however, and the 308 from Peugeot is one. It is based on the multi award winning 308 which is currently European Car of the Year – an award that was very well deserved.

The Peugeot 308 SW is that rarity – a compact estate car that not only looks good but is practical too. It also has a classy interior, a state-of-the-art chassis and excellent efficiency numbers. Forget what you thought you knew about small estates. This one comes with a rare injection of desirability. And indeed attractive high praise indeed from one of my friends who is even more picky about her cars.

The 308 SW rides on the same chassis as the hatch and the ride is refined with a relaxed gait. There’s no nudging about even on the single and rather off the beaten track roads the sat nav took me to during a trip to the Forest of Dean. The electrically assisted power steering is geared towards ease of use rather than sportiness.

Dull to look at because they are Boxers, and go for full leather. This features subtle wheels • Air conditioning • electrically adjustable/heated door mirrors • Sports suspension Sports pack

Heated windscreen • Bluetooth® connectivity • 16-inch white alloy wheels • DAB radio • Rain-sensitive windshield wipers • Electrically adjustable/heated seats

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**X-perience with the Brownlee brothers**

By David Banner

SEAT has partnered with World Champion triathletes and Olympians Alistair and Jonny Brownlee to launch its new four-wheel-drive model, the Leon X-PERIENCE.

As part of a comprehensive project with the Tele

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<tr>
<th>MODELS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FORD FOCUS C-MAX 1.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>£3795</strong></td>
<td>Black, 5 door, 42,806 miles</td>
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<td><strong>FORD FIESTA 1.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>£3995</strong></td>
<td>Silver, 3 door, 55,000 miles</td>
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<td><strong>£3995</strong></td>
<td>Red, 5 door, 59,165 miles</td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL MOOKA EXCLUSIVE 1.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>£3995</strong></td>
<td>Petrol, choice of colours</td>
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<td><strong>JAGUAR XE LUXURY</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>Grey £33k miles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VAUXHALL INSIGNIA EXCLUSIVE SPORTS TOURER White</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>Black Leather, Alloys, 46,000 miles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRI 1.6 PETROL</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>5 door, Silver, 12,000 miles</td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER SE CDI Blue</strong></td>
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<td>12,000 miles, 2015 model</td>
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<td>2,000 miles, 2015 model</td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL CORSA LTD EDITION 5 door</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>Phantom Grey, Only 10 miles, Choice</td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL CORSA SRI 3 door, Black, 3,000 miles, Bodykit, Alloys Etc.</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>Silver, 55,108 miles</td>
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<td>Black, 4,554 miles</td>
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<td><strong>RENAULT MODUS Beige, 43,504 miles</strong></td>
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<td>Black, 12,500 miles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 TURBO</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MERCEDES VIANO AMBIENTE 1.6 Silver, 55,489 miles</strong></td>
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<td>Black, 5,000 miles</td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRI SRodor, Silver, 55,000 miles</strong></td>
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<td><strong>£4995</strong></td>
<td>Red, 43,500 miles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MERCEDES BENZ C CLASS 1.8 CDI 200K Silver, 8,822 miles</strong></td>
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<td><strong>MERCEDES BENZ A CLASS A150 SE Silver, 55,509 miles</strong></td>
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<td><strong>VAUXHALL ANTARA 2.2 CDTI Exclusive 5 door, Black, 11 miles</strong></td>
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<td>11 miles, Black, 11,000 miles</td>
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Stockport 19 Stourbridge 48
STOURBRIDGE turned on the style in the second half to see off basement boys Stockport and further ease relegation fears.

The home side, Greater Manchester, were the second in a row for Neil Mitchell’s side and moved them further into the relative comfort of mid-table in National Two North.

But they were given some trouble early on by the hosts, who managed just one win all season.

Stourbridge took just two minutes to open the scoring when scrum-half Toby Hadley dived over from close range for a try which

Caoan Ryan converted. Stockport however hit back with a converted try of their own through hooker Oliver Longmore and when Ryan put the visitors back in front in National Two North.

But with 10 minutes remaining, Stockport were awarded a penalty, Simon Green promptly went over to put the hosts ahead 14-10.

That was the signal for Stour to finally kick into gear and ries from centre partnership Stefan Shillingford and Stefan Cooksamy gave them a ten point lead at the break. With the slope then in their fa-

vour after the break, Mitchell’s men began to exert their dominance and Shillingford grabbed his second, before tight-head prop Mark George crossed twice to just the result beyond doubt as Stour led 41-14.

Stockport grabbed a consolation through Green’s second but it was Stour who scored last, Gary Dipple diving over to seal a mo-

racle-boosting win ahead of next week’s trip to Amthorpe and District.

Worcester remain top of the Championship after recording a record-breaking 21st consecutive win by battering Rotherham 49-10 at Sixways.

The hosts scored seven tries, including a penalty score, with six different players going over.

After Rotherham went in front through a penalty, Max Stelling notched the first try of the game for the hosts, with Andy Symons adding the conversion.

Dean Hammond was next to score after a prolonged spell of Rotherham pressure which the Warriors were successfully able to repel.

Ben Howard and Tom Biggs also went over before the break to give the hosts a 29-3 lead, which only increased further when GJ Van Velze burrowed over.

Casuals 2 Gornal 5
TWO goals apiece from Thomas Pigott and Denna Bala ended Wolverhampton Casuals’ hopes of a second consecu-

tive promotion in the Three Southern Midlands League Premier Division last season and kept Gornal’s promotion hopes alive.

Casuals went into the scoring with Pigott in the 20th minute.

Casuals hit back with Dan Westwood equalising in the 45th minute.

Gornal regained the lead with a second finishing off a sum good work from sub-

stitution Louis Baldwin in the 58th minute. Bala added a third in the 65th minute. Westwood put the hosts back in the game. Liam Hickman made it 2-4. Bala claimed his second and Gor-

nal’s fifth in the 80th minute.
Tividale in semi after sudden death goal

Walsall Senior Cup Quarter Final
Romulus FC 0 Tividale FC 0 (aet)

TIVIDALE will play either Redhall Swifts or Chasetown in the Semi-Final of the Wal-
sall Senior Cup after overcoming a spirited
Romulus side on penalties on their 38th
pitch at Coles Lane.

After a string of games on heavy pitches
Tividale struggled to get to grips with the
home side’s slick passing on the artificial
surface and they had the best of the first
half. The first chance on goal fell to Romulus

Football

forward Joel Davies but his effort was com-
fortably saved by Paul Evans making his
debut in the Tividale goal.

Tividale did even closer on 22 min-
utes when from a free kick on the edge of
the box Zach Foster hit the crossbar.

But it was Romulus who were doing the
majority of the running and the tricky
Edwin Akenkorah just failed to latch onto
a ball on 39 minutes as Evans was alert
and quick off his line to collect the

ball. On the hour the visitors made a cou-
ples of changes bringing on Danny Ashton
and Nigil Penney for Ryan Waxwood and
Mitchell Bottill.

With Ashton going into the right back
role and pushing Chris Field into the mid-
dle of the park while Penney played wide

right.

As the game moved into extra time Tivi-
dale’s Paid was now the holding player in
the middle of the park while Leigh Down-
ning was playing a more advanced role and it
was his clever through ball that put Romu-
lus defender Liam Francis under pressure

but Karl Edwards failed to cash in. During
the penalties Romulus’ Luke Keen scored
first. Downing made it 1-1. Mark Branch
put Romulus 2-1 up; Edwards made it 2-2.
Greg Downes made it 3-2 and Danny
Ashton levelled it at 3-3. Barry Fitzharris
then blazed his effort over and Andy Par-
sons put Tividale in the driving seat at 3-4.
Akenkorah had to score to keep Romulus in
and he made no mistake 4-4. So it was down
to Dave Bolli to see Tividale through but
he dragged his effort wide to take it to sud-
den death. Jackson blazed over but Penney
made no mistake and Tividale go through.

Wolves shown how it’s done

Norwich 2 Wolves 0

WOLVES were handed a reminder of the
levels they aspire to against a dominant
Norwich outfit.

If Huddersfield on Tuesday was the excep-
tion, then the Canaries was sadly what appears
to be becoming the rule. This might have been
their third game in eight days, but for the
fourth match in the last five, Wolves were
limp and lacklustre.

Ballhead coach Kenny

Jackett was keen afterwards

to warn; six minutes ear-
lier his clever through ball that put Romu-
lus defender Liam Francis under pressure

Rajiv van La Parra of Wolverhampton Wanderers and Martin Olsson of Norwich City

with Danny Batth and Richard Stear-
son’s cross with Danny

 tedious. Sako cutting in from

the right but curling his

shot down the throat of

Wolves’ only attempt of

the first half arrived soon

half time added on when he

flew straight at Kuszczak.

But if they are to seri-
ously take up his challenge,

Jackett was keen afterwards

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lier his clever through ball that put Romu-
lus defender Liam Francis under pressure

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