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## Beef bourguignon with cheesy garlic bread topping

Serves 6-8 Preparation time 20-25 minutes Cooking time 3 hours-plus

This hearty midweek family favourite is slow-cooked in one pot, meaning fewer pans on the hob and less washing up!

### Ingredients

- 15g dried porcini
- 1kg beef shin, diced
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- 75g plain flour
- 4 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 x 390g jar Opies Pickled Walnuts, pickling liquor reserved
- 2 onions, peeled and cut into chunks
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed whole
- 1 tbsp tomato purée
- 450ml red wine
- 1 beef stock
- 3 bay leaves
- ½ tsp dried thyme
- 1½ tsp sugar
- 200g carrots, peeled and chopped

### For the cheesy garlic bread

- 1 baguette, cut into slices diagonally
- 1 ball of mozzarella, diced
- 80g mature cheddar cheese, grated
- 50g butter, softened
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and finely chopped
- A handful of fresh flat-leaf parsley, chopped

### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C, fan 160°C, gas mark 5. Add the porcini to a small bowl, cover with hot water and set aside. Season the beef generously then toss in the flour to lightly coat.
2. Heat 3 tbsp of the oil in a large ovenproof casserole dish on high. Shake off the excess flour and add the beef, frying in batches until evenly browned. Remove using a slotted spoon and set aside on a plate.
3. Deglaze the pan with 4 tbsp of the reserved pickled walnut liquor to help loosen any brown bits on the bottom of the pan, then drain the porcini and add the soaking water to the pan before roughly chopping the porcini. Add another tbsp of oil, reduce heat to medium, add the onions and garlic, and fry for 4-5 minutes before adding the beef, tomato purée, wine, beef stock, bay leaves, thyme, sugar and porcini. Stir, cover with a lid and transfer to the oven for 2 hours.
4. Remove from the oven, add the carrots, then cover and return to the oven for 1 hour or until the carrots are cooked through and the meat is tender. Halve the pickled walnuts and place on top of the stew.
5. To make the cheesy garlic bread, combine the mozzarella, cheddar, butter, garlic and parsley in a bowl. Season and spread the mixture over the baguette slices. Arrange the slices on top of the stew so they overlap with each other and bake for 15 minutes until the cheese is golden and bubbling. Remove, sprinkle with parsley and serve hot.

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

## MINI CROSS

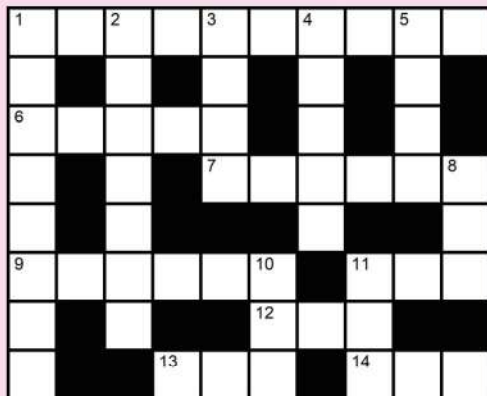
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ASW  
DER  
DEU

EEY  
ESY  
GMU  
AELN

ELOS  
DSTUY  
IKNRS  
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5 words

END      END

IN END

2 words

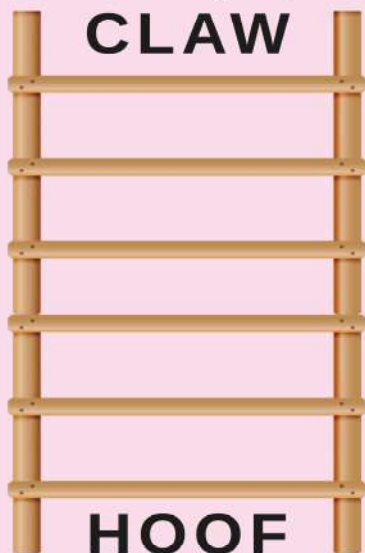
→ DRESS  
DRESS  
DRESS  
DRESS

5 words

CITY V UNITED    HEMARIANA VEN

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# STREET CABINET EV CHARGERS: WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW DO THEY WORK?

Residents of an East Lothian town can now charge their cars up using an old street cabinet.

The UK's electric vehicle charging infrastructure continues to grow and while there are gaps in the allocation of chargers across the country, there are certainly more ways to top up than there ever have been.

BT Group announced last year that it would convert its old on-street cabinets into EV chargers, but how do they work and what sort of impact will they have on the overall network?

**Here are a few key questions answered.**

## **How many old BT Group cabinets are being converted to EV chargers?**

As of today, a trial begins to see whether the old street BT cabinets will be of use to an EV owner. Initially, 600 charging points will be installed in the UK, with the first completed on 1 May this year in a street in East Lothian, Scotland.

## **What were the old BT Group cabinets used for originally?**

Before they became surplus to requirements, they stored telephone and broadband cables – which means that all their electronics are already installed, allowing them to be easily converted into EV chargers.

## **Can I charge my car for free?**

The first installation was free to use for residents until 31 May. Users also have to download an app to access the charging point.

## **What is the point of upcycling an old broadband cabinet?**

The whole point of this experiment is not only to improve the UK's EV infrastructure but also to help on-street charging.

Tom Guy, from BT Group, said: "Our research shows 78 per cent of petrol and diesel drivers see not being able to conveniently charge an EV as a key barrier to purchasing one."

## **How many old cabinets could be transformed into EV chargers?**

The BT Group looked into how many could be converted and identified that 4,800 street cabinets in Scotland alone could be suitable for the change.

## **Where was the next location?**

The next phase of the pilot was a site in West Yorkshire, and it's expected that the roll-out will continue throughout the rest of the UK.

## **Where can I get the app to access the charger?**

The Trail app is available to purchase via the App Store or Google Play Store. EV owners can connect their cars to get live updates and battery levels, smart estimated costs, charge times and access to their charge history.

The UK government has a target to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles by 2035, and while EV uptake has slowed in recent months, it's expected that further increases in charging infrastructure – including these BT ones – will help boost interest.





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## Sweet temptation Burnt Basque cheesecake with caramel sauce

Serves 8-10 • Preparation time 20-25 minutes, plus cooling • Cooking time 40-50 minutes

This Spanish-style baked cheesecake, with crème caramel-style bittersweet notes and creamy yet lusciously light centre, will quickly become a favourite as it's really simple but so, so good!

### Ingredients

- 1kg cream cheese
- 400g caster sugar
- 2 tbsp plain flour
- 7 eggs
- 2-3 tsp vanilla paste
- 200ml double cream

### For the caramel sauce

- 250g caster sugar
- 1 tbsp water
- 50g butter
- 120ml double cream

### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 220°C, fan 200°C, gas mark 7. Line a 25cm springform cake tin with enough baking parchment to extend over the edges of the tin – this will help you remove the cheesecake from the tin later on and prevent it from sticking. Just scrunch the parchment in! It gives a beautiful, rustic look.
2. In a stand mixer or using an electric whisk in a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, sugar and flour together. Whisk the eggs with the vanilla in a separate bowl, then slowly add to the cream cheese mixture a little at a time, whisking continuously. When it is all combined, add the double cream just to incorporate; don't over-whisk it at this point.
3. Fill the lined tin with the mixture and bake in the oven for 40-45 minutes until brown, yet still a little wobbly in the middle. Remove from the oven and leave to cool slightly before putting in the fridge to cool completely.
4. Meanwhile, to make the caramel sauce, put the sugar in a large frying pan and add the water so it's like wet sand. Place over a high heat, but do not stir it at this point. Leave to bubble away until it is a dark amber colour, then gently swirl the pan to combine. Remove from the heat and add the butter, then put back over the heat and whisk. Now add the cream, bring to the boil and whisk again to combine. Remove from the heat and leave to cool slightly before serving along with a slice of your delicious cheesecake.

Recipe extracted from John and Lisa's Kitchen by John Torode and Lisa Faulkner, out now, published by Quadrille, priced £25, with photography © Dan Jones.







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# CHILDREN'S PUZZLE PAGE

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Healthy olive trees

# The origin of species

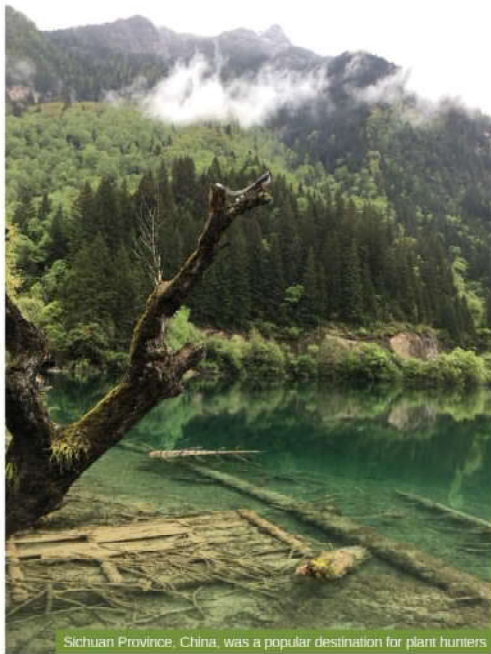
by Caroline Knight

The phrase 'plant hunters' sounds adventurous and exciting, and indeed it was when people knew little of the world outside their local area. The first-known record of collecting plants seems to be back in 1495BC, when the Great Royal Wife of Pharaoh Thutmose II of Egypt, Queen Hatshepsut, (who eventually took on the full powers of pharaoh) sent hunters to Somalia to find trees from which incense could be harvested.

During the Victorian era, exploration and plant hunting became very popular, and exotic plants were excitedly brought back to Britain. Most of those we now take for granted, because they are grown in so many gardens, parks and within the wider landscape, were introduced during the 18th and 19th centuries. Intriguingly, it is thought we still haven't discovered up to 30% of the flowering plants that exist in the world.



Many Camellias came from China thanks to plant hunters



## Olive threat

Not only are olive trees valuable for their fruit and for producing olive oil in countries enjoying a Mediterranean climate, but we Brits love them in our gardens too. With appropriate care, they grow well in warmer parts of the UK. However, Europe has been battling the spread of a plant pathogen called *Xylella fastidiosa* for the past decade or so. It is thought to have killed more than 20 million trees in Italy, Corsica, France, Spain, Portugal and Germany. Many olive groves and family businesses have been decimated.

*Xylella* is caused by bacteria and is spread by sap-sucking insects such as froghoppers and other common bugs. The bacteria cause blocking of the xylem vessels within the plant. As this is how a tree provides water and nutrients to its entire structure and produce, it's not long before growth becomes stunted and the slow death of the tree follows.

The same pathogen infects rosemary, lavender, coffee trees, and cherry and other *Prunus* trees. It is considered to represent the biggest threat to plant biosecurity in the UK. Over 500 plant species are at risk, including oaks, elms and the native bay, *Laurus nobilis*. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has banned olive trees and other popular plants from their shows unless they have been propagated from seed in the UK or have been growing healthily in the UK for at least 12 months before the event.

Fortunately, this plant pathogen is not thought to have reached UK shores just yet. This means you can still buy olive trees in the UK for the time being. Many of these will have been grown from seed locally, and others will have been imported under strict conditions.

## Pests and diseases

When welcoming plants from abroad, gardeners have sometimes got more than they bargained for. In earlier times, little thought was given to unwanted bugs and blights that might be introduced alongside the new, desirable plants representing a symbol of exoticism and wealth. We now know humans have altered ecosystems in many ways, including contributing to climate change and reducing biodiversity. We have travelled the world, taking pests and diseases from one country to another with relative ease.

Plant health is now taken very seriously and there are much stricter controls on the import of plants and related products into the UK. Plants arriving from the EU must have phytosanitary certificates, and a UK plant passport system is in operation so that every plant or plant-related product can be traced and recorded. There are also restrictions within the UK on the movement of certain plants, such as oaks, because of pests, such as the oak processionary moth. Every plant nursery is subject to plant health inspections and appropriate restrictions according to the location. Horticultural professionals have embraced the new regimes as being necessary and desirable if we want to preserve the vegetation we love.





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## Chris Shemilt's Money Corner

### 10 of the most common equity release myths – BUSTED!

Equity release (technically known as 'lifetime mortgages') have become very popular for homeowners aged at least 55. Equity release can help with the cost of living, supplement pension income, pay for medical procedures, fund a holiday, provide financial support for children or grandchildren – and any other reason.

I'm asked the same questions again and again, so here are 10 of the most common myths:

#### Myth #1. I won't own my own home any more

Equity release customers always retain ownership of their home and are guaranteed to remain the owner until both die or until both move to long-term care.

#### Myth #2. I can't afford mortgage repayments

It's true that an equity release arrangement is a mortgage, no repayments are normally required until the borrower dies or goes into long term care (though repayments can be made if preferred).

#### Myth #3. It's too complicated

You can only take equity release after taking professional advice from an equity release financial adviser - and a solicitor who acts on your behalf. These professionals simplify the process and guide you through the options.

#### Myth #4. I don't want to leave my children with my debt

A 'no negative equity guarantee' ensures that you will never leave a debt – no matter how long you live.

#### Myth #5. I don't want to leave my property to equity release company

The equity release provider only takes what is owed upon death or earlier if both are moved into care.

#### Myth #6. I can't trust the lender

All lenders must be authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). It's also advisable to use a member of the Equity Release Council.

#### Myth #7. The lowest interest rate is the best deal to choose

Don't assume that the lowest interest rate is best. There are a wide range of options and features, so we're looking for the best overall fit for your needs.

#### Myth #8. I don't want to risk losing my State benefits

This can be an issue. State pension and disability benefits wouldn't be affected, though other means-tested benefits may be.

#### Myth #9. Equity release will tie me to this house

Equity release arrangement can be portable, depending on a number of criteria including the value of the house you move to.

#### Myth #10. Equity release is expensive

A balance has to be drawn between your immediate and longer-term objectives. It's important for you to understand how compounding interest increases the debt over time.

In summary, equity release is an activity regulated by the FCA and products guarantee that you can remain in your home until you decide to leave, and you will never owe more than the value of your home. It could significantly, and securely, boost your later life finances, giving you the freedom and peace of mind to enjoy the golden years you deserve.

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# Eight ways to update your home office

By Katherine Sorrell

Whether you're self-employed, a remote worker, starting a new business, or simply need space for day-to-day admin, here are our ideas on how to improve your work-from-home space.

## 1 Desk space

Is your desk big enough? A slightly deeper desk won't take much room but lets you spread out comfortably. Other options are adding a second desk to create an L shape, or investing in a space-saving corner desk.

## 2 A good chair

Experts recommend a height-adjustable chair with a five-point base on wheels. The seat should be deep enough to support your legs, and the back rest should provide good back support. Some people like adjustable armrests and the ability to lean back. Less conventional options include kneeling chairs, saddle chairs and balance balls.

## 3 Position your monitor

Your computer monitor should ideally be directly in front of you at eye level, about 50cm from your face. If necessary, buy a monitor or laptop stand, and an ergonomic keyboard and mouse if you're concerned about straining your wrists.

## 4 Consider the lighting

Maximise the natural light in your workspace but avoid glare by ensuring there are no bright lights behind your screen. Either reposition your computer or add a simple sheer curtain or blind to the window. A good desk light is a must – an adjustable style with an energy-saving LED bulb is ideal.

## 5 Minimise clutter

Adding coordinated storage of an appropriate type is always a good idea, and you may need to allow for expansion. Options include a slim shelf, a peg board on the wall, or a stack of lidded boxes. Some may need a filing cabinet, drawers or large cupboard; others may find that almost everything can be stored in the cloud and a few desk accessories will be enough.



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## 6 Plugs and cables

Trailing leads are unsightly and not always safe, so if necessary ask an electrician to add extra sockets in a convenient position – perhaps versions incorporating USB outlets.

## 7 A comfortable temperature

In winter, you may want to heat only your workroom. A small, plug-in heater could be a good investment, or consider a heated blanket, seat or foot pad, or a hot water bottle. In very hot weather, turn off unused electrical items and add a fan. Keeping the curtains shut while the sun is blazing in through the windows can help, but if this isn't an option you may need to consider an AC unit.

## 8 Make it personal

Anonymous white walls may be your go-to, but if you prefer colour there's no reason not to personalise your home office. Experts recommend soft greens as being conducive to calm and productivity. A lick of paint can be transformative and not overly expensive. Add accessories that will brighten your day, including plants, artwork and photographs. A scented candle or diffuser makes the environment much more enjoyable, as do a soft throw and your favourite mug for that all-important cup of coffee.



Dunelm Elements Home Office range, Dunelm.

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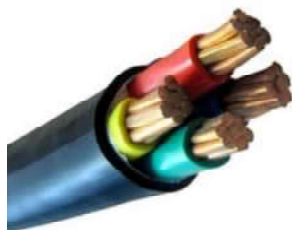
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L	A	I	B	T	R	O	T	B	L	D	N	N
O	N	T	L	R	E	S	R	I	L	E	T	I
C	S	A	C	L	O	P	U	U	O	E	O	M
A	R	A	B	I	A	N	O	F	P	T	R	O
S	H	I	R	E	E	T	C	N	F	S	F	L
N	E	R	A	M	O	R	S	O	Y	O	E	A
I	G	E	L	D	I	N	G	V	E	R	L	P
E	Y	E	L	A	D	S	E	D	Y	L	C	K
R	A	C	E	H	O	R	S	E	T	I	B	E
S	A	D	D	L	E	F	I	L	L	Y	V	I
T	H	O	R	O	U	G	H	B	R	E	D	L

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# LOYALTY DOESN'T PAY



If you operate all your finances through one account and you've been with the same bank for years, your loyalty is likely misplaced. There are many reasons why you should consider moving your account or opening an additional one.

## **Monogamy is risky**

All banks run on technology. This is highly efficient and extremely convenient, but their systems can and do fail. It's entirely possible that just at the moment you really need your bank to be working, they report some downtime. Furthermore, if your only card is lost or stolen, you will be stuck for a few days until you get a replacement.

## **There's gold in them there bills**

Several accounts give you a percentage back every month for your spending. Chase Bank gives you 1% cashback on almost all debit card spending up to £15 a month; Santander Edge gives you 1% on bills such as council tax, utilities and broadband.

## **More interest is more interesting**

Some current accounts give you access to linked savings with significantly higher than usual interest rates. You can earn 7% with First Direct (maximum £300 per month saving) or 6.5% with Nationwide (maximum £200 per month). Again, remember you can have an account with both banks or more.

## **I'm leaving you!**

For bigger lump sum benefits, you can't beat the switching incentives available. This is where you open a new account and close your old one.

Your new bank will sort this out for you, including moving all your direct debits, and will then give you a nice welcome bonus – typically £150 to £200.

This is another benefit of being with multiple banks. If you have one you hardly use, that can be the one to ditch.

## **Is it worth paying?**

Most current accounts are free to use, provided you stay in credit, but some charge a monthly fee. However, all that do will give you some benefits, which can make or save you money in other ways. Virgin Money Club M charges £12.50 per month, giving you travel and mobile/gadget insurance, plus UK and European breakdown cover. Compared to individual policies, this is a bargain. Remember you can open a joint account with anybody (is it time to phone a friend?), and you'll both get coverage at no extra cost.

## **Will I get a bad reputation?**

Many people are concerned that applying for and holding several accounts will give them a bad credit rating. However, if you keep your credit clean (multiple maxed-out overdrafts will never be viewed favourably), it really shouldn't affect you at all. However, it's prudent to space out applications and probably best to postpone them if you are about to remortgage.

## **What about HMRC?**

Good news: these reward payments are classed as 'annual' or 'miscellaneous' payments and you won't be liable for tax on them. You must have accrued over £1,000 a year in interest payments – per person – before that's taxed.



## SANCTUARY TAX & TRUST SERVICES LTD

As the cost-of-living spirals and more of our children struggle to get a footing on the property ladder it is now more important than ever to plan our family's inheritance. The team at Sanctuary Tax & Trust explain how many families find themselves victims of avoidable losses and why simply writing a will does not guarantee our family will inherit as we wish.

For the vast majority of people, we spend all our lives working to build up wealth, through property, savings and pensions we look at providing financial security for our families and when our final day arrives, we hope these assets will pass to the people we care about the most, partners, children, relatives and friends. Traditionally, people have chosen wills to document their wishes and while writing a will is important, it does not provide any protection for the assets within it.

### Considerations when planning Inheritance

**Care Fees** – As we live longer the likelihood of needing care becomes greater and under the government's changes to the social care act should the need for care arise, we could see our asset taken down to just £23,250. The new assessment process will see everybody with property and saving over a combined value of £100,000 being required to pay for their care.

**Relationship Failure** – When passing assets purely through a will we see many leaving their assets to their children but not giving consideration to what would happen if one of their children was to divorce. This can lead to a child seeing half of their inheritance in the hands of an ex-partner and in the event of early bereavement this can lead to grandchildren being disinherited.

**Inheritance Tax** – The current IHT framework can be complex and unknowingly people can leave their children and even grandchildren with an Inheritance tax issue.

**Probate** – The cost of probate has risen dramatically over the last few years, and it can be a lengthy and drawn-out process. On average, with a will, probate will typically take 6 – 12 months to complete, without a will it could take up to 2 years.

**Its Never the Wrong Time To Do The Right Thing** – While people appreciate that inheritance planning is important many will delay seeking the correct advice. By putting off today what we can do tomorrow we run the risk of running out of time or, in the event of an illness, seeing our options being dramatically reduced.

### Why Sanctuary Tax & Trust Services?

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

### PICTOGRAMS

1. In at the deep end
2. Fancy dress
3. A match made in heaven

### MINICROSS

1	C	A	R	E	3	L	E	4	S	5	S	L	Y
U		I		O		T		E					
6	R	I	N	K	S		U		A				
R		G		7	E	N	D	I	N	8	G		
E		I						Y					U
9	N	I	N	E	T	10	Y		11	R	A	M	
T		G				12	E	Y	E				
S			13	W	A	S			14	D	U	E	

### CROSSWORD

Across: 1 Rafters, 5 Extra, 8 Textile, 9 Verbs, 10 Ridge, 11 Despair, 12 Twenty, 14 Abroad, 17 Nervous, 19 Rises, 22 Ideal, 23 Failure, 24 Noted, 25 Lighter.

Down: 1 Rotor, 2 Fixed, 3 Evident, 4 Steady, 5 Elves, 6 Tornado, 7 Assured, 12 Tension, 13 Earnest, 15 Burning, 16 Useful, 18 Oiled, 20 Squat, 21 Spear.

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Refurbished items promise the best of both worlds: the reliability and peace of mind of buying from a retailer, and the price of buying used. That's because they're neither new nor second-hand, but something between the two.

## What does refurbished mean?

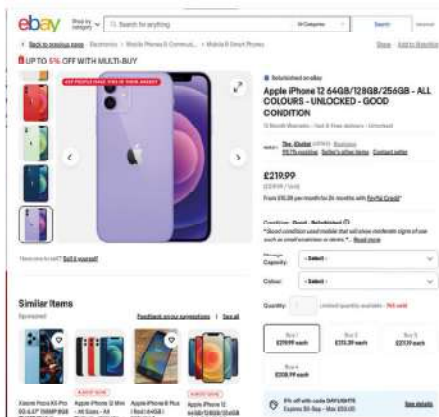
Refurbished items are products customers have returned. Sometimes that's because they changed their mind or the device arrived with a fault. Sometimes they replaced it because they damaged it or were trading it in.

These devices aren't destined for the dump but they can't be resold as new, even when any faults have been fixed. Instead, they're called 'refurbs' and sold for considerably less than you'd pay for a new item.

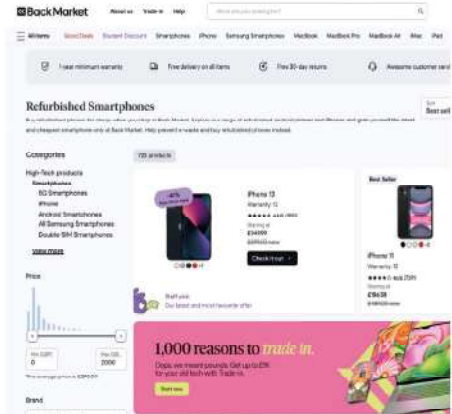
## Who sells refurbished items?

Some firms sell refurbished items directly. For example, Apple has a refurbished section on its online store. You'll pay slightly more than from a third-party seller, but you get the extra peace of mind of buying straight from the manufacturer.

Most refurbished items are sold via third-party companies through markets such as Back Market or eBay. eBay has a dedicated channel, although not all refurbs on the site are sold there: it has very specific quality and consumer protection rules that sellers must abide by.



On eBay, look for the blue "Refurbished on eBay" tick. That means the seller has agreed to meet eBay's refurb rules on warranties and returns.



Back Market is one of the UK's biggest refurb marketplaces, and there's a one-year warranty on every item.

## How do you find a good refurbished item?

Refurbished items are usually graded A, B or C. Grade A items are the best quality and cost the most; for example, a brand-new iPhone 14 is currently £579 from Apple, a grade A refurb from Apple is £579, and a grade B ('great' quality) from refurb marketplace Reboxed.co is £469. A grade C ('fair') is £449.

Grade A means nearly new. You might get a minor cosmetic imperfection but, otherwise, the device should look and work like a brand-new one, and the screen should be close to perfect. Grade B is lightly used and will have more cosmetic marks. Grade C is still working but has been well used and may have quite noticeable imperfections, such as a scratched phone back or a slightly dented tablet frame. The screen may have minor scratches or other display imperfections.

## How to buy a refurbished item

Reputable sellers will offer a warranty, typically six months to a year, and will clearly state their returns policy: you should be able to return your purchase within 14 days for any reason. Steer clear of any seller with a no-refunds policy.

On sites such as eBay, you can see customer feedback from previous buyers. It's wise to avoid sellers with low or no feedback on eBay; if you're not confident of a particular seller there are plenty of alternatives.

Lastly, spend some time looking at the refurb deals available on the product you want to buy. Most sellers charge very similar amounts; if a seller is promising Grade A items for Grade C prices that's a red flag.



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# Bobbin along

By Katherine Sorrell

Bobbins, bobbles and pompoms are all-round brilliant. These fun accents are a great way to brighten up your space.

Add interest to your reflection. This mirror features matt black metal bobbles and is also available in an oval shape. Round black bobble mirror, £195, Rose & Grey.



This beaded dinnerware is made from stoneware and hand-glazed for a luxury dining experience. MM Living Bobble collection, £208 (16 pieces), Pure Table Top.



Soft underfoot, this pretty bath mat has a non-slip backing. Tufted cotton bath mat with pompom edges, £12.99, Homescapes Online.

## Stockists

Homescapes Online: [homescapesonline.com](http://homescapesonline.com)  
Pure Table Top: [puretabletop.com](http://puretabletop.com)

Dar Lighting Group: [darlighting.co.uk](http://darlighting.co.uk)  
John Lewis: [johnlewis.com](http://johnlewis.com)  
Rose & Grey: [roseandgrey.co.uk](http://roseandgrey.co.uk)

Making storage more fun, this chest of drawers is inspired by eclectic 17th-century furniture designs. Bobbin three-drawer chest, £499, John Lewis.



All-over bobbles for an eye-catching glass shade. Hobnail easy-fit shade in green glass, with suspension light in matt black. £80.40, Dar Lighting Group.

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Quirky bobble legs complete this inviting velvet-covered armchair. Andrea velvet armchair in camel, £1,295, OKA.



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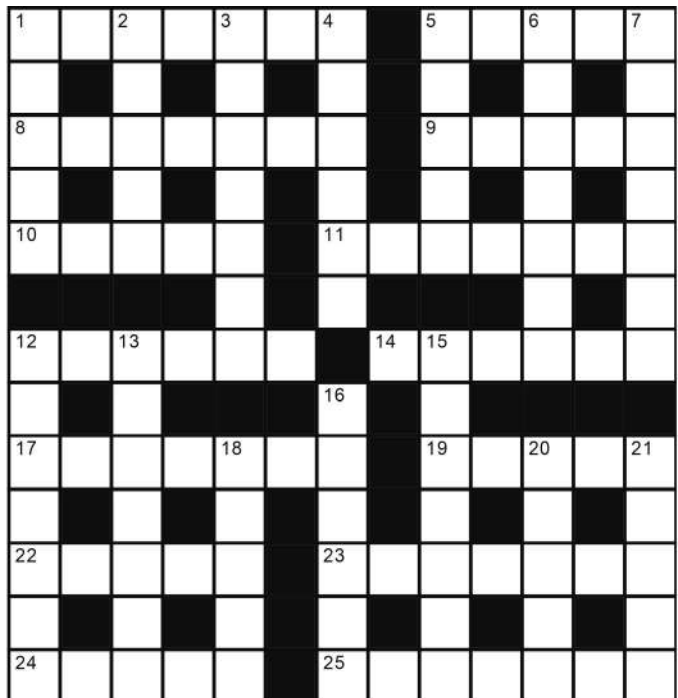
### Quick Crossword

#### Across

- 1 Main roof beams (7)
- 5 More (5)
- 8 Fabric or cloth (7)
- 9 Doing words (5)
- 10 Long, narrow hilltop (5)
- 11 Anguish (7)
- 12 One score (6)
- 14 Out of the country (6)
- 17 Timid (7)
- 19 Goes up (5)
- 22 Perfect (5)
- 23 Unsuccessful (7)
- 24 Distinguished (5)
- 25 Brighter (7)

#### Down

- 1 Helicopter blade (5)
- 2 Mended (5)
- 3 Apparent (7)
- 4 Not moving (6)
- 5 Impish fairies (5)
- 6 Whirlwind (7)
- 7 Confident (7)
- 12 Tightness (7)
- 13 Sincere (7)
- 15 On fire (7)
- 16 Practical (6)
- 18 Lubricated (5)
- 20 Crouch down (5)
- 21 Pointed weapon (5)



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# Alsager Civic Lunch Club

## Volunteer Helpers Needed Urgently



Alsager Civic Lunch Club provides lunch and a social setting for elderly members of the community. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 til 1 and are staffed entirely by volunteers.

We desperately need volunteers to help in the kitchen (home cooking experience is all that you need) and in the dining room, assisting the diners. Could you spare a few hours once or twice a month?

If so, contact:-

Anne (kitchen) via email

[Alsager.Civic.Lunch.Club@gmail.com](mailto:Alsager.Civic.Lunch.Club@gmail.com)  
or Sheila (dining Room) 07513 378398

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([www.aomshowband.co.uk](http://www.aomshowband.co.uk))

This 34 musician band has toured Europe & the USA, playing classical, musicals, jazz & pop music. The band, which celebrated it's 50th birthday in 2023, now presents a concert on

**Saturday 19 Oct. starting 7 30pm  
(doors open 7pm)  
at the Civic Centre Alsager (ST7 2AE)**

Tickets £15, available from the Home Coffee Shop, Alsager. The event includes free refreshments and a raffle.

**100% OF THE PROFIT WILL GO TO  
THE CHRISTIE CHARITY,  
including The Christie at Macclesfield,  
which serves South Cheshire & parts of  
North Staffs.**

Supporting

The Christie  
Charity





# ALSAGER ANIMALS IN NEED



2

CC REG No. 519969 [www.alsager-animals.net](http://www.alsager-animals.net)

Please support your local Animal Rescue

Next Coffee Morning 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024. 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.

Alsager Civic Centre - Admission 50p

We help with stray & abandoned cats & dogs and find their forever homes. We also provide a rehoming from home service.



The Christie  
TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT CANCER

## ALSAGER FRIENDS OF THE CHRISTIE



**PIE**  
and  
**PEAS**

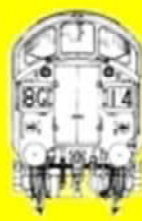
**JAZZ AND PIE AND PEAS SUPPER**  
WITH ERIC NEWTON AND FRIENDS  
**ALSAGER GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
WED 13TH NOV, 7PM FOR A 7.30PM START  
£20 INC SUPPER

TICKETS CAN BE BOUGHT FROM SASH, LAKESIDE CHIPPY, THE GOLF CLUB AND HELEN'S EMPORIUM (CONGLETON ROAD SANDBACH)

For more information please call Dylis on 01270 361 543



**ALSAGER  
RAILWAY**  
ASSOCIATION



**MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION**  
**CREWE**



**9th & 10th November 2024**

**10:00am – 5:00pm (4:00pm Sunday)**

**Legends, Bentley Motors Ltd,  
Sunnybank Road, Crewe.**

**CW2 8WD**

**Adults: £9 – Accompanied under 16s: Free**

**Refreshments**

**Disabled Access**

**Ample Free Parking**

**[www.alsagerrailwayassociation.co.uk](http://www.alsagerrailwayassociation.co.uk)**

**Supported by:**



# ALSAGER LIBRARY

Telephone Number 01270 375325 [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/libraries)

## OPENING HOURS

**MONDAY 10AM TO 5PM**  
**TUESDAY 10AM TO 6PM**  
**WEDNESDAY 10AM TO 5PM**  
**THURSDAY 10AM TO 1PM**  
**FRIDAY 10AM TO 5PM**  
**SATURDAY 9AM TO 1PM**

## Adult Events

### 2nd Tuesday Murder Club

#### Thriller Book Group

**Tuesday 8th October 2:30pm**

\*

### Coffee Morning

**Drop in for coffee and a chat.**

**Every Wednesday 10am and  
12pm**

\*

**All Above Drop In Sessions**

## **LEGO Spike**

**If you like Lego and Coding You will  
love Lego Spike.**

**Learn fun STEM concepts and  
make LEGO bricks come to life!**

**Starts Tuesday 01 Oct 3:45 to 4:45**

**Age 6—11**

## Family Events

**Monday 11am**

**Rhyme time**

\*\*\*\*

**Monday 3:30 to 4:30pm**

**LEGO Club**

\*\*\*

**Tuesday 1st October**

**4pm to 4:30pm**

**Junior Book Club**

\*\*\*

**Friday 11am**

**Stories and Songs**

\*\*\*\*

**Friday 2pm**

**Baby Bounce**

\*\*\*\*

**Friday 3:30pm to 4:30pm**

**Children's Games Club**

\*\*\*

**Saturday 5th October**

**11am**

**Family Stories and Songs**

**All sessions are free of  
charge and no booking  
required.**

Anthony Rose conductor  
Ian Riddle organ/piano  
Laura Embrey violin

**Ceramic  
City Choir**

*Glorious*

# ELGAR

Sea Pictures | Te Deum | Pomp and Circumstance

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 7.30 PM

Stoke Minster

Reg Charity No. 257932

Tickets: £15, Students £7.50 (under 16s FREE)

Tickets available from choir members, via our website:

[ceramiccitychoir.org.uk](http://ceramiccitychoir.org.uk) and on 07854 639854 or 01782 392171

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**Concrete or wooden posts • Large panel choices  
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# CHESHIRE TREE SERVICES



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**Fully Insured**

[www.cheshiretreeservices.co.uk](http://www.cheshiretreeservices.co.uk)



Phone Bryan on:

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Mobile: 07875 010255

Phone Ben on:

**01270 879486**

Mobile: 07531 101025

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Regular/ Biweekly Cleaning ,  
Specialist Deep Cleaning  
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Inside Windows / Frames / Blinds

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**MaidInCheshire - Cleaning Service**

