

May 2023

NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL LOCAL NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT



NEWS INSIDE:

WAYS TO KEEP YOUR GARDEN IN SHAPE

Top end of spring tips to keep your garden fresh



CORONATION

What's on in the area for you and Friends & Family

BEST DIY HOME RENOVATION TIPS

DIY tips you can tackle yourself on a budget

Time To Sell Your Home?

TIPS FOR SELLERS IN A BLOOMING MARKET

Consider these helpful tips when it comes to selling your home.

PRICE YOUR HOME COMPETITIVELY

Bidding wars may be common in the current market. However, pricing too high can cause buyers to overlook your home.

STAGE YOUR HOME

You may think staging your home isn't necessary. However, staging your home helps the buyer to picture themselves living in your home.

HIRE A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Photos are key to draw in buyers and create interest before they step foot in your home. Light and bright photos are a must, so hiring a professional photographer will pay off in the end.



GLOUCESTER

To mark the Coronation of the King and the Queen Consort, Gloucester aims to create an unforgettable weekend with many activities for families, friends, and neighbours.

The city will be dressed in union jack flags and bunting, with Kings Square lit up in the three colours of the flag.

On Saturday 6th May, Blackfriars Priory, Ladybellegate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2HN will be screening the Coronation ceremony live at its craft gin festival, The Gin To My Tonic Craft Spirit.

Celebration continues Sunday 7th May, with The Big Lunch. Neighbours and communities are encouraged to get together and host street parties, while sharing friendship, food, and fun. More information will be shared nearer the events.

CHELTENHAM

The main **Community Coronation Celebration** will take place at Pittville Pump Room over two days, May 6 - 7.

Watch the broadcast of the Coronation Ceremony & Concert live from Westminster Abbey and enjoy two action-packed days of family fun including live music, fly past, kids activities, screening of Paddington, Prince and Princesses characters and dance sessions for all ages. On Sunday night, experience the Light Up The Nation finale when the Pump Room will be lit up in red, white and blue.

*Have a wonderful
time celebrating!*



ways to keep your GARDEN IN TOP SHAPE

No matter where you live, May is a busy time in the garden. No matter what your gardening interest/obsession—vegetables, flowers, roses, shrubs, and trees—it's time to don your work gloves and dig in.



HANGING BASKETS

Brighten porches, patios, and pergolas with a generous helping of flowering hanging baskets.



GO TROPICAL

Plant a paradise in your own backyard with tropical beauties such as hibiscus and mandevilla.



BRING ON BUTTERFLIES

Attract colorful butterflies to your backyard by planting a banquet of flowers they love. For example, nectar-rich perennials such as salvia.



MULCH, MULCH, MULCH

The best way to keep your garden healthy is to mulch your garden, preserve soil moisture during hot months, and prevent weeds.



BRING ON THE BULBS

It's a great time to plant summer bulbs such as dahlia, & gladiolus. Plant them in beds, borders, or containers to bloom all summer.



Combination

HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME
CELEBRATING

May Home Maintenance

- ✓ Get your grill in tip-top shape ready for the summer bbq's
- ✓ Check your home for electrical safety with your electrical cords for damage
- ✓ Take some time this spring to clean windows and door glass
- ✓ Now's the time to add high nitrogen fertilizer to keep your lawn looking great all summer

Show your Community Support Small Business of the Month

Signora Musolino's



Languages for Fun!

Signora Musolino's Languages for Fun!

There are so many good reasons to learn a new language. Whether you frequently go on holiday to countries where your chosen language is spoken or you are looking to advance in your career, whether you are keen to keep your brain active (language learning has been proven to delay the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease!) or are simply looking to have some fun learning with local, like-minded people, language classes could be a great thing for you to start in 2023.

Signora Musolino's Languages for Fun language classes have been built for adults who are looking to learn or improve their language skills in a fun and sociable environment.

Spanish Beginner level classes will be starting from April 2023 in Bredon, Worcestershire. Other levels and languages will also be offered soon, so if Spanish isn't your language of choice please get in touch and let me know what language and level you are interested in, and I will get back to you as soon as we go live with those classes.

COURSE DATES:

11-week course running from the week commencing 17/04/2023 until week commencing 26/06/2023.

COURSE TIME OPTIONS AND LOCATION:

Spanish Beginners 1 – Every Thursday 19:00 – 20:30 in Bredon Village Hall

or

Spanish Beginners 1 – Every Friday 10:00 – 11:30 in Bredon Village Hall

FREE TASTER SESSION AND EARLY BIRD SIGN-UP DISCOUNT!

The first Thursday 20th and Friday 21st April lessons will officially be free taster sessions for Spanish Beginners 1! If you would like to continue after this lesson, you can then pay the term fees ahead of the following lesson. Alternatively, we are also offering an early bird sign-up discount! If you sign up and pay term fees by or before the 10th of April, you will receive a 10% discount on term fees. Together with the free taster session mentioned above, this will mean a new total of £135 (only £8.20/hour) for the 11-week term!

HOW TO SIGN UP:

Please email me at signoramusolinoslff@gmail.com or call on 07568541091 and I will register you and provide payment details.



Featured Listing

BLENHEIM DRIVE | BREDON

Extended Link-Detached Home | 4 Bedrooms | 18'2 Living Rm | 12'11 Conservatory | 18'1 Dining Rm | 15'4 Kitchen | Cloakroom | Bathroom (with separate shower) | GFCH | DG | Parking | 16'7 Garage | Established Garden

GUIDE PRICE £425,000

Union Jack cake recipe

Method

1. To make the sponge, preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4. Use a tiny knob of the butter to grease a 20x30cm/8x12in cake tin and then line with baking paper.
2. Put the butter, caster sugar, vanilla and lemon zest in a large bowl. Beat with an electric whisk until the butter is pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs, one by one. Add the flour, baking powder and soured cream and use a spatula or metal spoon to mix to a smooth batter.
3. Scrape the cake mixture into the tin and bake for 22-25 minutes until a skewer poked into the centre of the cake comes out clean. Leave the cake to cool in the tin for 10 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
4. To make the icing, place the butter and icing sugar in a large bowl. For a lemony icing, add the lemon juice and milk or for a plain icing, just use milk. Beat with an electric whisk until smooth, pale and fluffy, then spread smoothly over the top of the cake with a spatula.
5. To decorate, use the strawberry slices to make the central cross of a Union Jack on top of the cake. Add the raspberries to form the diagonal lines at the corners. Fill in the rest of the gaps with blueberries. The cake will keep in an airtight tin in a cool place for 3 days (do not place in the fridge). It is best decorated on the day of serving as the cut strawberries will bleed into the icing over time.

Ingredients

For the sponge

- 150g/5½oz butter, well softened
- 250g/9oz golden caster sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 lemon, zest only (use the juice in the icing, see below)
- 4 free-range eggs
- 300g/10½oz self-raising flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 200g/7oz full-fat soured cream

For the icing

- 125g/4½oz butter, well softened
- 375g/13oz icing sugar
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tbsp milk
- about 150g/5½oz medium-sized strawberries, hulled and sliced
- about 150g/5½oz raspberries
- about 200g/7oz blueberries

Yummy!!



BEST DIY HOME *Renovation Tips*

Home renovations don't always require a big budget. With some planning and know-how, you can DIY your way to functional, updated spaces without spending a fortune.

1 UPDATE A BATHROOM

Add new life to an old bathroom without a major remodel. Start by removing old wallpaper or repainting in a fresh new color. Update the lighting to fit your style, and trade old hardware for a new sink faucet, towel bars, and vanity pulls.

2 PAINT (ALMOST ANYTHING)

Nothing creates an instant facelift quite like a fresh coat of paint. Create a feature wall by painting one wall in the room a contrasting color. Or Update your kitchen cabinets by painting them in on-trend colors.

Start your project!

3 ADD STORAGE

Create your own built-in storage using unfinished stock kitchen cabinets you can find at the hardware store. Upper cabinets tend to be less expensive than lower cabinets and can be configured in a variety of widths and sizes to create a custom look.

4 CREATE A HOME OFFICE

Working from home is here to stay, so it might be time to invest in upgrading your space. You don't need an entire room — plenty of people are turning a quiet corner, nook, or even a closet into a home office.

5 MAKE IT STICK

Peel-and-stick tiles are a quick and easy way to update floors, walls, and backsplashes. With proper installation, peel-and-stick tiles can last anywhere from five to 25 years.



Tips on how to WIN A BIDDING WAR

1

DON'T DISCUSS CHANGES TO THE HOME

If they hear the first thing you are going to do is change it, they might be less inclined to accept your offer, due to emotional attachment to the house.

2

PRESENT AN ALL-CASH OFFER

Yes, cash is definitely KING when it comes to buying a home. An all-cash offer is almost a done deal, so the seller doesn't have to wait to see if their buyer will be approved for a mortgage, etc.

3

SUBMIT A PRE-APPROVAL LETTER

A pre-approval letter will show the seller you are financially able to buy their home. Compared to other buyers don't have a pre-approval letter.

4

OFFER A FLEXIBLE CLOSING DATE

This one is huge. Offer a flexible closing date. If the seller needs extra time for whatever reason before moving, they might need a flexible closing date and offer you the bid due to this.

5

CHAIN FREE

If you can, get yourself in a position that you do not need to sell a property and you are ready to go!



Win your home!

**Make Sure You Are Up To Date With
New Instructions!**

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O'Connell Property Agents.....

are your trusted, family-run independent estate agent covering Gloucester, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and surrounding villages.

We first opened our doors in 2007, with our two passions in mind 'People & Property'. Ever since, we've used our over 50 years of collective experience in the Gloucestershire housing market to offer an award-winning, personal service for all your property needs.

Here at O'Connell Property Agents we thrive on great customer service and to be your local friendly, approachable agent, whether you are a buyer, vendor, tenant or landlord.....we are here to help!

We are known for our differences as we treat every client personally and not like a number. We use high quality marketing with a blend of creative and intelligent technology making sure all our client's properties, whether for sale or to let are presented to the largest audience to ensure that your property stands out from all the rest!
We would love to talk to you about your move and needs.

Two High Street Offices



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