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Village Edition - March 2025

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Welcome...

We would personally like to thank all you readers for taking the time to sit and read our magazine each month, it's very much appreciated.

In this edition we have a new editorial, the 1st of many, on "money finance" see page 22... Plus all our usual great monthly content - All brought to you FREE - **EVERY MONTH.**

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Ps: don't forget Mothers Day on the 30th - and if you need any help or inspiration for that special gift for Mum, take a look at pages 6 & 7 for some great ideas for that special person.

Don't forget to keep our handy little book safe throughout the month, because you never know when you might need an emergency trades person!!

Until Next Month

Sherri

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ARTWORK DEADLINE: 19TH OF EACH MONTH

Telephone: 01522 394438

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FILMS

MARCH'S PICKS

THE ALTO KNIGHTS

In cinemas: March 21, 2025

Director: Barry Levinson

Starring: Robert De Niro, Cosmo Jarvis, Debra Messing.

Alto Knights tells the story of Vito Genovese and Frank Costello, a pair of Italian Americans who run two separate crime families in the mid-20th century. Genovese attempted to assassinate Costello in 1957, although Costello retired from the mob.



SNOW WHITE

In cinemas: March 21, 2025 **Director:** Marc Webb

Starring: Erin Cressida Wilson, Dorothy Ann Blank, Richard Creedon.

In this live-action adaptation of the 1937 Disney animated film, Snow White (Erin Cressida Wilson), takes refuge in the forest in the house of seven dwarfs to hide from her stepmother, the wicked Queen. The Queen is jealous because she wants to be known as "the fairest in the land," and Snow White's beauty surpasses her own.



BLACK BAG

In cinemas: March 21, 2025 **Director:** Steven Soderberg

Starring: Cate Blanchett, Michael Fassbender, Tom Burke.

When intelligence agent Kathryn Woodhouse is suspected of treason, her husband - also a legendary agent - faces the ultimate test of whether to be loyal to his marriage, or his country.





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
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- *No bleeding
- *No skin breakage
- *No chemicals or acids
- *More advanced than algae & seaweed
- *1 treatment is equivalent to 3 traditional microneedling sessions
- *Results within a week (as opposed to 4 weeks)
- *vegan



For more information or to book your first SQT Bio Microneedling session, visit us on Facebook or Instagram, email envyboutiqueaesthetics@hotmail.com or call/WhatsApp on 07771 774392.

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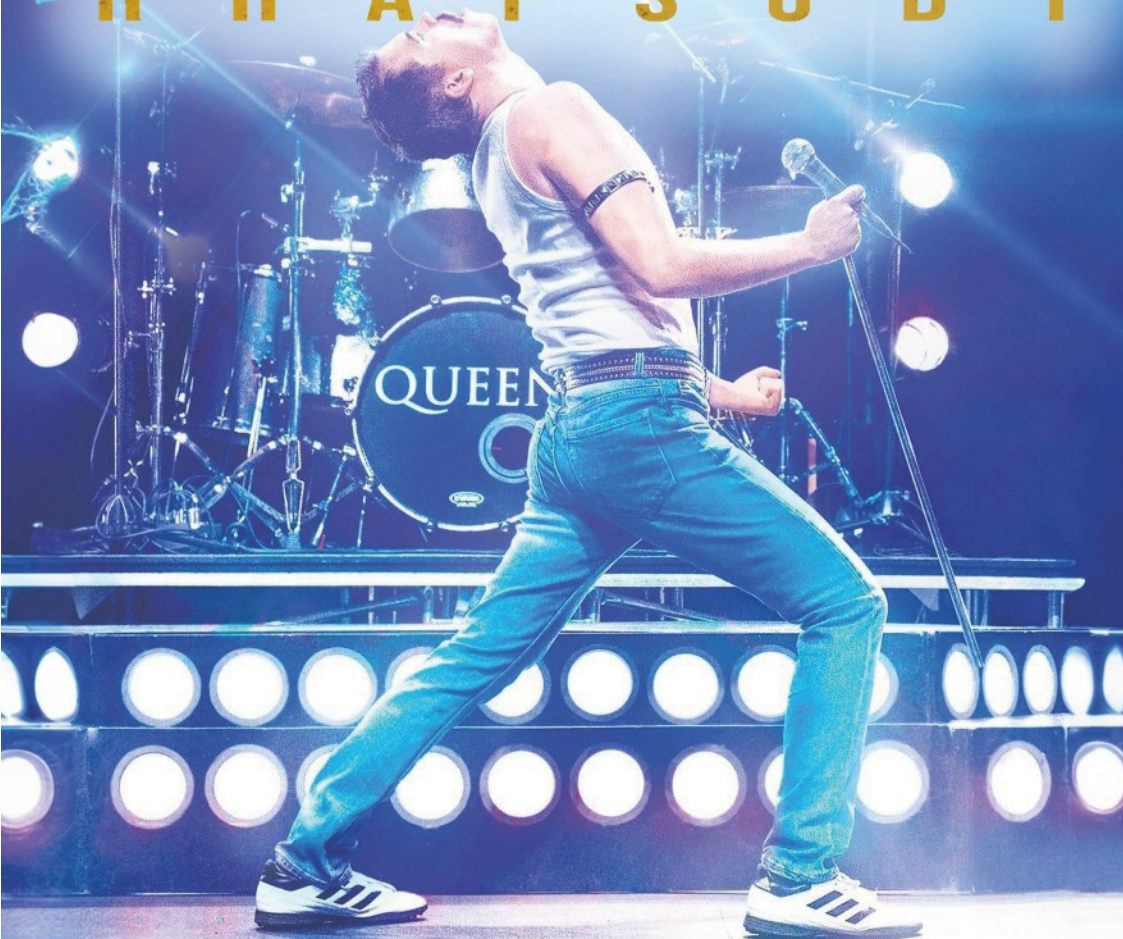
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Chicken shish kebab

Inspired by the Turkish shish, this is a very simple, delicious kebab that anyone can make, using a blend of fragrant spices.

Ingredients

- 6 free-range skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- 2 tablespoons natural yoghurt, plus extra to serve
- 2 teaspoons baharat spice mix, plus extra to serve
- Olive oil
- 1 bulb of garlic
- 2 red onions
- 2 lemons
- 1 x 400g tin of chickpeas

Method

1 Place the chicken thighs in a bowl with the yoghurt, spice mix, one tablespoon of olive oil and a pinch of sea salt and black pepper.

2 Halve the garlic bulb across the middle, then remove one clove and finely grate half of it into the bowl. Peel and quarter the onions, and finely grate in a couple of the outer petals. Finely grate in the zest of one lemon and squeeze in the juice. Toss together well, then either use right away, cover and leave to marinate in the fridge for 2 hours, or ideally overnight.

3 To cook, preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas 6. Slice eight thin rounds from the remaining lemon, then double skewer the lemon slices and chicken thighs evenly across two metal skewers. Rest them over a high-sided roasting tray that's slightly smaller than the skewers (so that the meat is suspended above the tray). Put the garlic bulb halves and red onion quarters in the tray, then roast for 45 minutes, or until gnarly and cooked through, turning halfway, and adding the drained chickpeas at the same time.

4 Once the chicken is done, transfer the shish to a board to rest. Squeeze the sweet roasted garlic out of its

skin and back into the tray, then toss with the chickpeas and onions and portion up.


5 Cut between the skewers all the way down, to get the contrast of gnarly outside and juicy inside, then serve with a dollop of yoghurt and an extra sprinkle of baharat spice.

Serves: 4

Prep: Not too tricky

**Cook: 55 mins
plus marinating**





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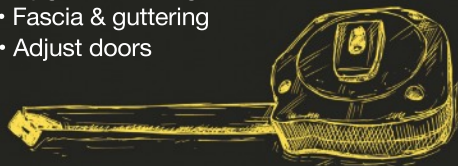
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It happened this month...

1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill

On March 24, 1989, the Exxon Valdez, an oil supertanker bound for Long Beach, California, struck Prince William Sound's Bligh Reef, Alaska at 12:04 a.m. The tanker spilled more than 10 million US gallons (or 37,000 tonnes) of crude oil over the next few days.

Carried by its own momentum, the ship ended up perched on its middle on a pinnacle of rock. 8 out of 11 cargo holds were punctured. 5.8 million gallons of oil drained from the ship within 3 hours and 15 minutes.

Immediate effects of the spill included the deaths of between 100,000 and 250,000 seabirds, at least 2,800 sea otters, approximately 12 river otters, 300 harbor seals, 247

bald eagles, and 22 orcas, and an unknown number of salmon and herring.

Although the volume of oil has declined considerably, with oil remaining only about 0.14–0.28% of the original spilled volume, studies suggest that the area of oiled beach has changed little since 1992.

As of December 15, 2009, Exxon had paid \$507.5 million in punitive damages, including lawsuit costs, plus interest, which were further distributed to thousands of plaintiffs. (about one-tenth of the original punitive damages).

Exxon remained hugely profitable, the process of payment was drawn out over decades, and long term damage continues and is not funded by Exxon.



1836 The battle of the Alamo

The Battle of the Alamo, during Texas' war for independence from Mexico, lasted 13 days, from February 23 - March 6, 1836. In December 1835, a group of Texan volunteer soldiers occupied the Alamo, a former Franciscan mission.

On February 23, a Mexican force numbering in the thousands and led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna began a siege of the fort. Though vastly outnumbered, the Alamo - commanded by James Bowie and William Travis and including famed frontiersman Davy Crockett - held out for 13 days before the Mexican forces finally overpowered them.

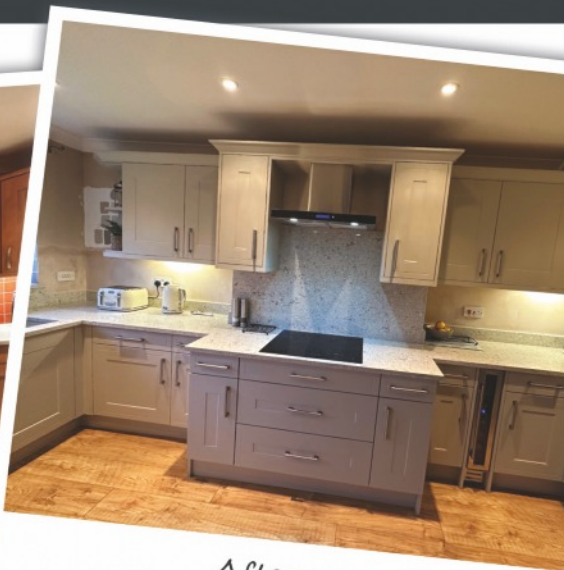
For Texans, the Battle of the Alamo became an enduring symbol of their resistance to oppression and their struggle for independence, which they won later that year.

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Soaps quiz

15 questions about British soaps
past and present



- 1 Since it first aired, Hollyoaks has been broadcast on which British TV channel?
- 2 Ramsay Street is the fictional location of which Australian soap opera?
- 3 There are over 10,000 episodes of Coronation Street. True or false?
- 4 What is the name of the daughter of Andy Sugden and Debbie Dingle in the British soap opera Emmerdale?
- 5 In EastEnders, who is the mother of Phil Mitchell?
- 6 What is the name of the pub featured in Emmerdale?
- 7 The village of Hollyoaks is a fictional suburb of which real British city?
- 8 What is the name of Danny Dyer's character in EastEnders?
- 9 Which two British medical soap operas take place in the same hospital?
- 10 Which family were at the centre of Emmerdale during the series' first two decades?
- 11 How many times was EastEnders character Pat Butcher married?
- 12 Which late EastEnders actress also starred in nine Carry On films?
- 13 Which British radio soap opera currently broadcast on BBC Radio 4 first aired in 1950?
- 14 In which city is Coronation Street currently filmed?
- 15 What year did Brookside first appear on Channel 4?



ANSWERS ON PAGE 39

10 ways to help you save

PART ONE

FROM reviewing your direct debits to switching energy supplier, there are lots of great ways you could save money each month.

It might help give you a bit of extra cash to save for a rainy day. Here's some of our top tips.

1. Set a budget

A good habit is to set a monthly budget to plan your spending. It could help you spend less and save more. With the NatWest app, you could categorise your current account transactions (e.g. household bills, groceries, eating out, travel, etc) to give you a more detailed picture of where you spend your money and help you to spot opportunities to save each month or even donate to charity.

2. Save money on frequent travel

Taking the train to work everyday? Or maybe you're a regular on your local bus route? If you're buying tickets on the day, you might be spending more than you need to. Check with your travel company to see if they offer discounted digital tickets, weekly or monthly passes or

season tickets to help you save.

3. Set a savings goal

Make a list of short and longer term goals to work towards and watch your savings grow. On average, customers save twice as much when they save towards a goal. Get ahead of the game and set-up a standing order to save a little each month too before

all your bills come out. A great strategy.

4. Save your spare change

Let your bank do the hard work for you by rounding up your everyday spending to boost your savings. When you pay with your debit card, the amount will be rounded up to the nearest pound, sending the spare change straight into your savings account.

5. Go greener

Reducing your carbon footprint has never been more important, but we spend a lot of money on gas and electricity. Installing solar panels and using a heat pump (more about these in later editions) will go a long way towards reducing your bills.

Adjusting your boiler's flow temperature and lowering your thermostat by one degree will also help.

More money saving tips next month.



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Ventilating a bathroom with no windows

Four tips to keep it under control

THERE are very few bathroom conundrums worse than spotting mould.

Not only is it bad for your health, but it's also pretty unsightly, so keeping it at bay with proper ventilation is essential. But how do you ventilate a bathroom with no windows?

1. Install an extractor fan

Regardless of whether you are using the bathroom as a place to shower and bathe or not, you'll still need airflow in a bathroom. If it's a windowless room, adding an extractor fan is your best bet. Even if you have a bathroom with a window, an extractor fan will aid humidity, particularly in winter months when a room isn't aired as often.

Make sure to select an extractor fan with a suitable airflow rate. The manufacturer's guidelines will provide



Dehumidifier

the recommended airflow rate based on the size of your bathroom. You must make sure the fan is correctly installed and vented to the outside of your property

2. Use a dehumidifier

A dehumidifier will help to combat excess humidity by extracting moisture from the air and turning it into water, which is stored in a tank that you can then empty. The larger the dehumidifier

tank, the better. If you have a large bathroom or a big family that puts the shower in constant use, a bigger dehumidifier will mean you won't have to empty it as often.

3. Try moisture absorbers

A dehumidifier is effective but costly, and if you don't have a huge humidity problem then a moisture absorber could be the fix you need.

Moisture absorbers are often disposable and contain beads which draw moisture from the air. They work well placed on a window ledge or near a sink as an extra precaution.

4. Embrace greenery

Adding plants to your bathroom can serve a handy decorative purpose - increased greenery in a typically sanitary space will make it feel much more homely and calming.

However, they have a practical benefit, too. Plants such as spider plants, peace lilies, and Boston ferns act as natural dehumidifiers, absorbing moisture and purifying the air. If you have a mould problem, English Ivy is effective as its dense foliage absorbs mould spores.



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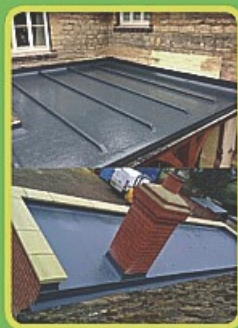
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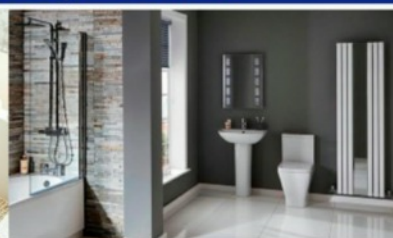
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Garden border ideas PART ONE

Beautifully frame your outdoor space

THERE'S plenty of room for creativity when it comes to gardens and borders.

Whether you're hoping to border your garden cheaply or you're looking for low-maintenance plants to fill in gaps, there's a long list of styles and techniques to experiment with.

Define it with edging

With the right garden edging ideas, you can define garden borders while making them look beautiful.

You might choose to form a natural 'dip' between planted-up soil and the lawn with a hoe, lay easy-to-use log rolling, or build low brick, stone walls.

Add volume with shrubs

Shrubs offer year-round interest and require little maintenance. Evergreens with shapely leaves are best for garden borders, and work particularly well in small spaces. However, some shrubs can grow very quickly and can become very large, meaning they'll quickly take over your garden.

Choose flowering plants for all seasons

Autumn-flowering shrubs bring a touch of joy to the garden just when we need it most. Winter-flowering shrubs like camellias and daphnes

provide a riot of colour during the winter, while snowdrops will often start to bloom even when there is still snow on the ground.

A wildflower border

Autumn is the best time to create a wildflower meadow and flowers such as yellow rattle, birds-foot trefoil, common sorrel, ox-eye daisy, red campion, red clover and yarrow and wild carrot are the best for your wildflower border.

They also create valuable habitats for insects to overwinter in. Seedheads will scatter across the patch, creating food for birds as well as seeding the earth ready for next year.

Divide with borders

As well as looking gorgeous, borders carry out a serious structural purpose in the garden. They work alongside hard landscaping elements like decking and patio, and they give a clear outline to lawns, bringing form to the space. Contrasting colours give a striking look and can help each element to stand out clearly, accentuating a strong feature.



provide colour during the colder months and many other perennials and annuals bloom during this period, too. Pansies and violas like Viola 'Sorbet F1 Midnight Glow' from Crocus



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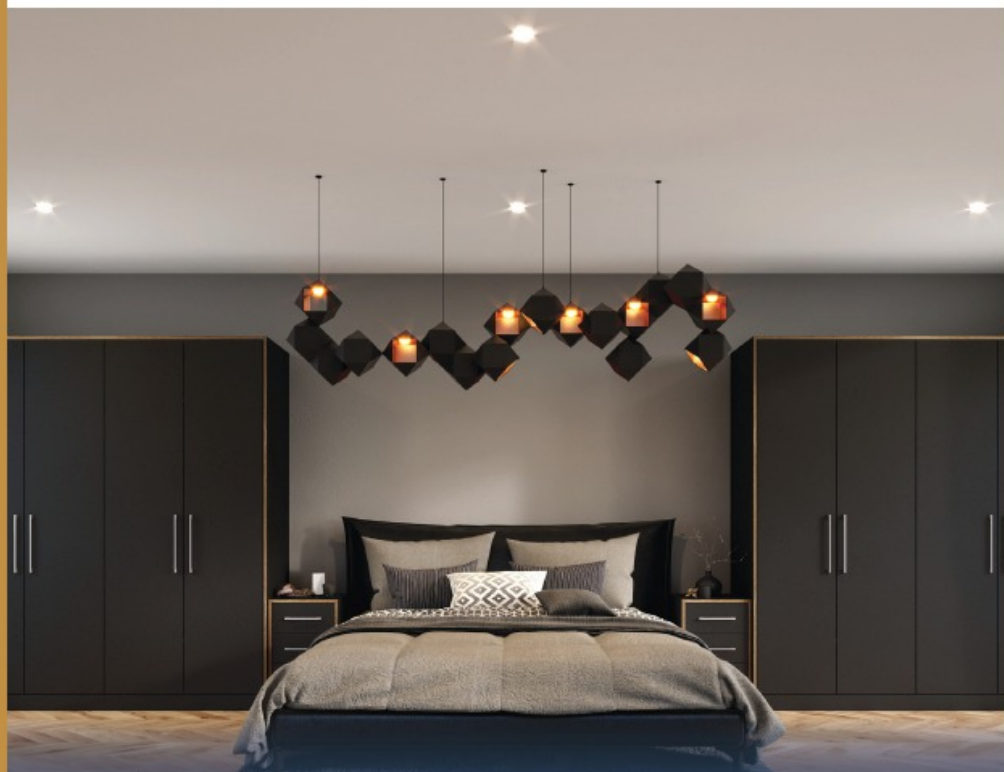
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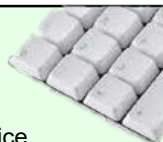
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Your Horoscopes



Aries (March 21 - April 19)

During this period, you will be very sensitive, and the hormones will go crazy. If you have a permanent partner, you will have both very pleasant moments full of love, as well as disagreements, especially in planning your future together.



Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Now is the right time to muster the courage to overcome the obstacles that have been holding you back for a long time. You will also be very sociable and thanks to your pleasant demeanour you will gain many fans. So meet people and make new contacts, maybe you will meet someone interesting.



Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Almost everything will be a piece of cake for you, so don't be afraid to try handicrafts and various sports activities and feel free to start some minor home improvements. Your creativity in planning leisure activities exceeds the expectations of both yourself and your loved ones.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

In this period, you will be more prone to colds, so rest and do not overdo it unnecessarily; you will not miss anything. On the contrary, you have a great chance that you will come up with a good idea, which you will be able to implement later, thanks to physical and mental well-being.



Leo (July 23 - August 22)

With great enthusiasm, you will embark on everything that comes your way, and you will excel in everything. This can upset your surroundings, which will be envious of your success. In the company of others, you will stand out with great communication skills and a sense of humour.



Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

Your memory will be very good during this period, so open up to new information and try activities demanding analytical thinking. At the same time, you can look forward to a big dose of creativity, so don't be afraid to experiment.



Libra (September 23 - October 22)

If you feel like you haven't moved anywhere for a long time, it's time to do something about it. If you've been thinking about moving, don't worry and go for it. If you are thinking of changing jobs, you are most likely to find something that you will really enjoy



Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

Your need to share your feelings will be very strong, so if there is nobody you could open your heart to, you will tend to be melancholic or even depressed. Be careful as those states could eventually lead to mental and also physical issues.



Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

You will radiate positive energy, which will attract your friends and close ones, so they will feel a need to spend time with you. Your diary will fill up with meetings with your friends, you will become very popular, mainly because of your unique sense of humour, so you will not have much time for yourself.



Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

You will have to deal with feelings such as that you are always attracted to the wrong person and will stay alone forever. Do let those feelings fill you up; it is not true. Those feelings are just taking over in moments of despair. So try to focus on something else and invest your energy in creative activities.



Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

You can dive into learning something completely new that was always a big challenge for you. Furthermore, your mind will be open to a spiritual world as well, so make time for meditation and try to focus mainly on your long term problems; now you have a big chance to solve them for good.



Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

You should not hide your doubts, and you should try to talk about them with your partner now. In this time period, your acts will be affected by the energy you radiate. Follow your feelings and try to solve everything in good time, so you do not go into some depressive states or hurt someone else.

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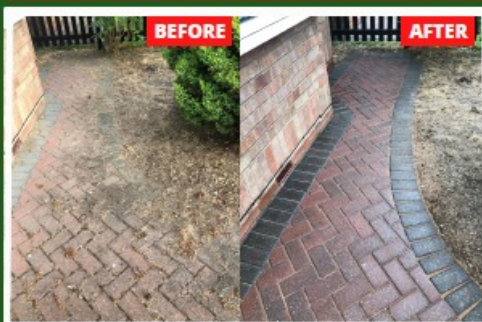
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Welton - Skellingthorpe
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YOUR LOCAL

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- 2 COMPLIMENTARY GUTTER CLEARANCE**
We can also fix any broken guttering or clean the soffits, fascias or the gutters.
- 3 APPLY MARKET LEADING BIOCIDAL CHEMICAL**
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