

Big Truck, Big Trip, Big Help!

A huge truck has gone to Ukraine, packed full of things from a care home in Northamptonshire, England. Beds, cupboards, chairs and more were given away after Clare House in Silverstone closed. Thirty helpers worked together to load the truck. It was filled with over 530 boxes, and then set off to a hospital in Odesa, a city in the south-west of Ukraine. The beds and chairs will be used in the hospital for people with eye conditions and will also help older people who need extra care. 'We are immensely grateful for this huge donation,' said Nataliya Lawson from Help Ukraine BAMK. 'It will make a real difference to people in Ukraine



Pictured: A truck like this was filled with beds, chairs and other things to help people in Ukraine. **Source:** Canva.

during this very difficult time.' One helper said they were shocked when the massive truck arrived at Clare House – it was so big, it needed almost everyone in Silverstone to load it! The truck's trip to Ukraine is very long, about 1,850 miles – that's more than 28,000 football pitches end to end! ***Have you given away something you didn't need anymore? What was it?***

Girls Rule the Board!

Two 10-year-old girls made chess history this summer. Chess is one of the oldest board games in the world. Both girls beat grown-up grandmasters – the best chess players of all! In Liverpool, England, Bodhana Sivanandan, aged 10, beat 60-year-old Pete Wells. She is the youngest girl in Britain ever to win against a grandmaster. Bodhana started

playing chess during the Covid-19 pandemic and has already won world titles for under-8s. Malcolm Pein, manager of the England chess team, said Bodhana is 'on course to be one of the best British players ever.' In the USA, another 10-year-old girl, Keya Jha, beat grandmaster Bryan Smith at a big event in Ohio. Keya also does taekwondo and table tennis – and now she is a chess star too! Keya called her win 'a dream come true.'

Have you played chess before? If not, would you like to?



Pictured: A chess board. **Source:** Canva.

Why do we vote?



We vote because we can make changes to society. This helps us make it a better place for everyone to live.

Aliyah

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Un-fox -gettable Sculpture

A tree, knocked down by strong winds during Storm Darragh in 2024, has been turned into a giant pouncing fox! The 6m sculpture, in The Lost Gardens of Heligan, Cornwall, was made from the wood of a 150-year-old Cornish Red rhododendron. The project, named



Pictured: Lowarnes sculpture. **Source:** The Lost Gardens of Heligan on Facebook.

Lowarnes (Cornish for vixen), was inspired by a photograph of a resident fox taken on the Heligan estate. It has been described as 'a glorious celebration of Heligan's wildlife'. The animal's fur was created from around 600 hand-split pieces of wood that will change colour over time! Laura Smit-Chesterfield, director of visitor experience at the gardens, explained, 'As the sculpture ages, the wood will fade to a lighter, more silvery tone which reflects what happens to vixens' fur after they have become mothers.' **Do you know of any other art projects that have reused natural materials? Do you have any ideas that could use wood created by storm-felled trees?**



Pictured: Lowarnes sculpture. **Source:** The Lost Gardens of Heligan on Facebook.

It Pays to Recycle

Imagine a cafe where you don't pay with money, but with plastic waste instead! That's exactly what's happening in a city in India, called Ambikapur. The people in Ambikapur came up with an ingenious idea, called the Garbage Cafe. If you collect just 1 kilogram of plastic rubbish (around the same weight as a bag of sugar) and take it to the cafe, you get a delicious hot meal! This helps address two big problems at once: helping people who are hungry and keeping the city clean. Rashmi Mondal, a visitor of the café said, 'I can get food for my family in exchange for the plastic I collect. It makes all the difference in our lives.' She is happy she can help her family and help the planet at the same time. Ambikapur is already known as the 'city of no landfills'. A landfill is where all our rubbish goes to be buried, which can be harmful to the Earth. People in Ambikapur are so good at recycling,



Pictured: Roti.
Source: Canva.

they don't have any landfill sites. The Garbage Cafe is another fantastic way they make sure every last piece of plastic is collected and recycled. The cafe helps feed about 20 people every day, which means they collect about 20 kilograms of plastic waste. That's a lot of rubbish being stopped from damaging the environment and a lot of happy, full tummies!

Is using rubbish as a form of payment a good idea? Would it be effective where you live? Why?

Why do we vote?



I like voting because it makes me feel heard.
Sasha

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