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MINI MAG

FEBRUARY ISSUE

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Valentine's Day only officially became associated with love in the 13th Century.

At the end of the 5th century, Roman Pope Gelasius officially declared February 14th 'St Valentine's Day". It wasn't until the middle ages, however, the holiday became associated with love and romance, a tradition that started from the belief in England and France that birds start their mating season on February 14th!

The first Valentine wasn't sent until the 15th Century

The oldest record of a Valentine being sent, according to History.com, was a poem sent by a French Medieval Duke, named Charles, to his wife in 1415. Charles sent his sweet poem to his partner whilst he was imprisoned in the Tower of London at just 21 years old.

Americans spend a lot on Valentine's for their pets...

Around 27.6 million American households gave Valentine's Day gifts to their pet dogs last year, and more than 17.1 million picked up gifts for their cats. Last year, according to Finder.com, Americans spent around \$751.3 million on presents for their pets!

There are many different 'Valentine's Day' celebrations around the world

Many Latin American countries know the day as 'El Dia de los Enamorades (Day of Lovers) or 'Dia del Amor y la Amistad' (Day of Love and Friendship). Although couples do still exchange presents, the day is more focused on showing gratitude to friendship.

In Japan, it's customary for women to give presents to men on February 14th, with the quality of chocolate representing their true feelings (according to Fortune). One month later, on March 14th, men repay the favour with the increasingly popular 'White Day'.

FREE INSTANT ONLINE VALUATION

We've had a good start to 2021, and we've definitely hit the ground running – despite the most recent lockdown covering the whole of England!

We're still open as normal, and things are starting to look up; with infection numbers going down, and the vaccine being distributed all over the UK, getting back to normality is finally on the horizon.

The sales market has continued its steady flow into 2021, and with the end of the Stamp Duty Holiday nearing, our sales team are continuing to work very hard to get these deals across the line before the time runs out!

For the lettings team, we're seeing more and more good quality applicants searching again after a miserable winter plagued with lockdowns and new restrictions. There's always plenty of great applicants, as long as the asking price is set at the right level. So if you're considering letting out, or selling your property - why not use our free instant online valuation tool and see what your property could be worth in just 60 seconds!



FALL BACK IN LOVE WITH YOUR HOME





BEFORE

AFTER

We've all spent a lot of time in our homes recently and if you are finding you are no longer enjoying the space you have - here are some great tips for bringing that spark back!

1) Freshen Up

It's amazing what a fresh lick of paint can do! It can transform a feel of a room from cold to cosy with a stroke of a brush.

Perhaps you have dark walls, why not lighten them up with a neutral colour.

There are plenty of lovely soft white greys, blues or even dusky pinks to choose from.

2) Declutter

We would all love more space and there is no quicker and easier way than to 'out with the old and in with the new' but go easy on the new!! You don't want your new found space to be replaced with more "stuff" that will just end up causing clutter

4) Lighting is Everything

Overhead, uplighters, down lighters... there are plenty of ways to create an ambience in your home. For darker spaces or even offices you will want more light so upgrade that lightbulb! In the evenings why not give the overhead a miss and light up the room with side/table lamps and watch your room transform into a nice and cosy space.

Feet up, glass in hand and relax...!

5) Get Creative

Is it time for a new kitchen but short of funds? Then why not upcycle. Painting cupboard doors and tiles can really update a look of a kitchen. Whilst you're at it change the door handles too.

6) Plants

This will truly bring life into your home. Not only this but plants absorbs toxins, boost your mood, reduce stress, increase productivity, concentration and creativity.

If you're not very 'green fingered' or maybe you don't have enough space for plant pots, why not opt for some small succulents instead!

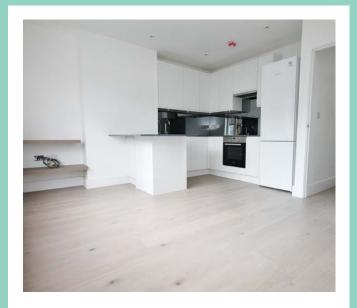


COOMBE ROAD £900pcm
A STUDIO flat with BALCONY and PARKING and located within a short walk of both the

HIGH STREET and STATION. EPC rating D.



CAVENDISH AVENUE £2000pcm
This end of terrace THREE BEDROOM
property is ideally located for good
TRANSPORT links as well as LOCAL
AMENITIES. EPC rating D.



ELM ROAD

A FOUR BEDROOM split-level apartment located within easy access of New Malden STATION and HIGH STREET. EPC rating B.



FAIRACRE £1,395pcm
A newly redecorated 2 bedroom flat
within the "Groves" area of New Malden,
moments away from New Malden High
Street and Station. EPC rating C.



VALENTINE'S DAY COCKTAIL

WE'VE COME UP WITH A DELICIOUS VALENTINE'S THEMED COCKTAIL FOR YOU TO TRY THIS YEAR...

FANCY FRENCH 75

INGREDIENTS

- 50ml Gin
- 125ml Champagne
- 5ml Sugar Syrup (1 tsp sugar will do)
- 10ml Lemon Juice
- 10ml Grenadine

For the garnish:

- Lemon Zest
- Strawberries

To make the garnish:

Slice the lemon zest into long, thin wires. Wrap this around something thin, for example a cocktail stirrer, and hold until it becomes a twirl.

Cut the strawberries into heart shapes (3 will do), put on a cocktail stick, and rest across the top of the glass.

To start, pour the gin, lemon juice and sugar into a cocktail shaker, fill with ice, and shake gently.

Strain the mixture into a champagne flute. Fill the rest with champagne carefully - it may bubble up!

Swirl gently with a cocktail stirrer, and garnish with the lemon zest, and strawberries across the top.



CHESTNUT GROVE £975,000

A superb FOUR bedroom TWO bathroom SEMI DETACHED family house with SOUTH FACING GARDEN, GARAGE and OFF STREET PARKING located in a central "GROVES" location. EPC rating D.



GRAFTON ROAD

£599,995

A beautiful TWO DOUBLE bedroom period house with a LARGE SOUTH FACING GARDEN, two reception rooms and a further STUDY room. EPC rating D.



SYCAMORE GROVE

£460,000

A superb TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM first floor MAISONETTE located in the popular "GROVES" area of NEW MALDEN. EPC rating C.



WESTBURY ROAD

£685,000

An excellent THREE BEDROOM semi detached house with wooden flooring throughout, OFF-STREET PARKING for two cars, a well maintained south facing GARDEN and a conservatory. EPC rating D.

VALENTINE'S DAY RIDDLES

Carbon and Hydrogen went on a date together, and immediately decided to go on a 2nd date. Why?

A holiday island is full of people, and yet there is not a single person in sight. How?

What starts with E, ends with E, and only has one love letter in it?

This is young, romantic, sometimes platonic and sometimes shallow, and it's named after mans best friend. What is it?

Because they bonded so well!

They're all married!

An envelope!

Puppy love!