

# UK supermarkets to provide refill stations

## Record-breaking cycle attempt

**G**ina Harris is attempting to become the oldest woman to cycle from Lands' End to John O'Groats. The 82-year-old from Birmingham, is preparing to peddle the length of Britain and is raising money for two charities, Women's Aid and Refuge, along the way. She has previously ridden around parts of Europe and the USA



**Pictured:** Gina Harris  
**Source:** Gina Harris @CyclingGina Twitter page.

“ A lot of hard work and practice begins now. ”

but has called this challenge her last "big one"! She wants to highlight how important physical wellbeing is at any age. Ms Harris said, she was also taking inspiration from those who have completed the challenge before her, Donald Wells, from Hampshire, Laurence Brophy, from south Wales, and Mavis Paterson, from Dumfries and Galloway who were 87, 88 and 81 years old respectively

when they cycled the 960-miles. She also commented, "I will be riding my old steel touring bike and carrying my luggage, which has a combined weight of more than 30kg, so a lot of hard work and practice begins now."

UK supermarkets have joined forces to tackle single-use plastic packaging, by forming the Refill Coalition. Major supermarkets, including Morrisons, Marks & Spencer, Waitrose and Ocado along with supply chain solutions company CHEP, are aiming to provide refillable groceries to every UK shopper. They have all signed up to the Refill Coalition, which is planning to make package-free shopping mainstream and therefore reduce the 56.5 billion units of single-use plastic packaging sold every year in the UK. The Refill Coalition said that it would reimagine how the foods that lots of people buy, such as pasta and grains, and household products are supplied. They added, "We're delighted to be joining forces with the mutual objective of reducing single-use plastic packaging. The universal end-to-end solution being developed by The Refill Coalition presents a landmark opportunity for us to make a step change in the commercialisation of refills which we know can play a significant role in the reduction of single-use plastic packaging."



**Pictured:** An Unpackaged refill station at Flourish at Glenavon Farm, where you can stock up on rice, pulses, pasta, nuts, seeds, dried fruit, sweets, coffee beans and more.  
**Source:** Flourish at Glenavon Farm @FlourishGlen Twitter page

# Martian 'flower'

NASA has shared an image captured by its Mars Curiosity rover last month. NASA suggested that we all "Stop and smell the Martian 'flower' 🌸," as the image shows a flower-like rock! NASA explained that the 'flower,' along with the spherical rocks seen to the right, were made in Mars' ancient past, when minerals carried by water cemented the rock. The image was taken on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the 3,396<sup>th</sup> Martian day, or sol, of the mission.

Scientists say that this rock (sized smaller than a penny) and other discoveries that are being captured using the rover's Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI) camera on the end of its robotic arm, are giving them a greater understanding of the history of the Red Planet. Curiosity, which was built by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California, is a car-sized rover designed to explore the Gale crater on Mars and record its findings.



**Pictured:** The image of a flower-like rock captured by the Mars Rover. **Source:** NASA @NASA Twitter page.

Last week's topic:

## How might your life be different if you weren't able to go to school?



You wouldn't know as much as you know today. You wouldn't be able to get a good job and degree like a doctor, lawyer or engineer. With school you could make your own business using that knowledge. Rancia – age 11

I think that our lives would be so different because we wouldn't have the same opportunities to learn and make friends. Alfie - age 9

I think that even if people do not have enough money, governments should make sure that everyone can go to school and have an education so that they can follow their dreams for their future. Lucy – age 10

## Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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