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EVERY THURSDAY





The future of mobile homes

European architects put forward the case for one-room lounging

Playing with mercury in chemistry class was, for many of us, the highlight of Tuesday mornings at school.

We can only assume the same applies for Arturo Vittori and Andreas Vogler of design firm Architecture And Vision, as it's a drop of the silver stuff that inspired the pair to design this moveable pod.

MercuryHouseOne is, in effect, a mobile living room. Its sound, lights and airconditioning are controlled by an Apple iPhone application and powered by off-grid solar-powered tiles on the roof.

while speakers and a computer are included. The shell is made from glass fibre clad with ultra-light white Carrara marble, so moving the pavilion from city to city isn't akin to transporting a small quarry.

Plus, it's not just the ferrying issues that are flexible: the pod's 9 x 4.5-metre interior can be re-configured making it

work equally well as outdoor office space or bijoux living quarters.

However, we're thinking it would be ideal as a rather natty tent to make it through the wet British festivals. Now all we need is a helicopter to move the thing around.

Architectureandvision.com

GROOMING

Enrich your daily shave

King Of Shaves Azor M Alloy razor set to smooth your bathroom routine

Any help to ease the daily facial scrape is always gratefully received and, following 18 months of research, King Of Shaves has duly supplied with the Azor M Alloy wet shave razor (£6.99, including two blade cartridges).

The metal alloy and rubber handle tips the scales at 47g (compared to its 17g ancestor) so it's perfectly weighted for maximum control. It's also been designed with the company's patented 'Bendology Technology' (that's flexible hinges, to you and me) that presses the razor head closer to the face. There's also a new v2 slim blade to make hard-to-reach places easier to shave.

And there's plenty more ideas bubbling at King Of Shaves HQ. CEO Will King has revealed there will be a limited number of Azor razors made from "ceramic, carbon fibre and other space-age alloys". All hail the future of razor technology.

Boots.com



MUSIC

Christopher Lee heads into heavy metal

Acting giant shows us how to grow old in unexpected, rock-based style

Even if he hadn't made his name playing Dracula, there would always have been something unnervingly Gothic about Christopher Lee – and recent news isn't going to lighten the mood. The actor, best known to recent film-goers as tree-felling sorcerer Saruman in *The Lord Of The Rings*, is moving into new territories, having created a heavy

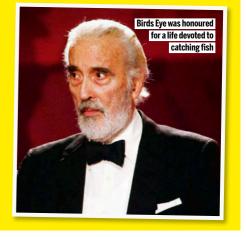
metal album retelling the life of Emperor Charlemagne.

Lee is a distant relative of 'The Father Of Europe', who governed over much of the continent until his death in 814. Surprisingly, the actor has waited until his 88th year to express his ancestor's achievements – through the medium of song. Or, to be more

precise, an operatic metal concept album. "We call it symphonic metal," explained Lee via a video message, adding, "It's pretty unexpected."

Charlemagne: By The Sword And The Cross will be released on 15 March

The actor has waited until his 88th year to express his ancestor's achievements



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