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Words in the News

Flying food



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NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Transcript

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a flying waiter.

Due to a lack of staff, **restaurateurs** in Singapore have started to use **drones** to get food from the kitchens to the **diners**.

The robots fly over the heads of customers on paths **charted** by a computer.

But are these foodies ready for service without **the human touch**?

Vocabulary

restaurateurs

people who own or run restaurants

drones

unmanned flying machines

diners

people who eat in a restaurant

charted

planned or mapped out

the human touch

being friendly and warm to other people

Watch the video online: Drone waiters

<http://bbc.in/1AWACzU>

Exercise

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from news reports. Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

restaurateurs / drone / diners / charted / the human touch

1. Locations of public toilets in the capital should be _____ in a map before 2012, according to a report.
2. _____ in Surrey have been targeted by thieves who broke into their cars parked in the grounds of a restaurant.
3. Asian _____ in Glasgow say they have invented a new curry that will become the nation's favourite dish.
4. "There is nothing wrong with making smarter use of technology to help people manage health conditions... However, it is always important to ensure technology is only used where it delivers real benefits and to recognise that it is no substitute for _____."
5. The Chinese manufacturer of a _____ that crashed into the White House lawn earlier this week is taking action to prevent repeat incidents.

Answers

1. Locations of public toilets in the capital should be **charted** in a map before 2012, according to a report.

Source: Call for London 2012 toilet map
<http://tinyurl.com/qy6ap99>

2. **Diners** in Surrey have been targeted by thieves who broke into their cars parked in the grounds of a restaurant.

Source: Robbers target restaurant diners
<http://tinyurl.com/oxkkdre>

3. Asian **restaurateurs** in Glasgow say they have invented a new curry that will become the nation's favourite dish.

Source: New curry craze in Glasgow
<http://tinyurl.com/kjcuqrg>

4. "There is nothing wrong with making smarter use of technology to help people manage health conditions... However, it is always important to ensure technology is only used where it delivers real benefits and to recognise that it is no substitute for **the human touch**."

Source: 'A robot is my friend': Can machines care for elderly?
<http://tinyurl.com/ljp8uq3>

5. The Chinese manufacturer of a **drone** that crashed into the White House lawn earlier this week is taking action to prevent repeat incidents.

Source: Drone maker DJI bans Washington flights after White House crash
<http://tinyurl.com/pgnlb5y>