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may 2023

a community magazine and business directory
for residents of wythall & hollywood

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CORBETT ROAD, HOLLYWOOD

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SHAWHURST LANE, HOLLYWOOD

A four bedroomed link detached house in this most convenient location in Hollywood briefly comprising: porch, hallway, lounge/ diner, kitchen, utility, conservatory, ground floor wc, conservatory, master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms, family shower room, garage front driveway & rear garden.

Offers In Excess £425,000

OAK TREE FARM, JUGGINS LANE



OAK TREE FARM, JUGGINS LANE

A luxury park home on the popular site at Oak Tree Farm in Earlswood for the over 55's comprising: entrance hallway, study, kitchen and utility, dining room and spacious lounge, master bedroom with ensuite and dressing room, further 2nd double bedroom, modern bathroom, landscaped gardens and driveway.

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HOLT HILL, BEOLEY

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Marvellous May!

Welcome to the May edition

May's one of the best months of the year - we're firmly in the Spring, and have all the anticipation of a lovely Summer ahead, fingers crossed!

It's also a great time for getting your garden looking lovely and for selling your home. We've got a great range of local, reliable businesses in here who can help you get your garden ready and update any aspect of your home, from your roof to your kitchen, your bathroom to your décor, whether you're getting it ready to sell or just want to update it for your own benefit.

Wishing you a great month ahead. Until next month.

Zoe Reece
Tel: 07557 220585
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community events

Books and Bric-a-Brac Sale

**10th June, 10am-3pm,
Knowle Village Hall**

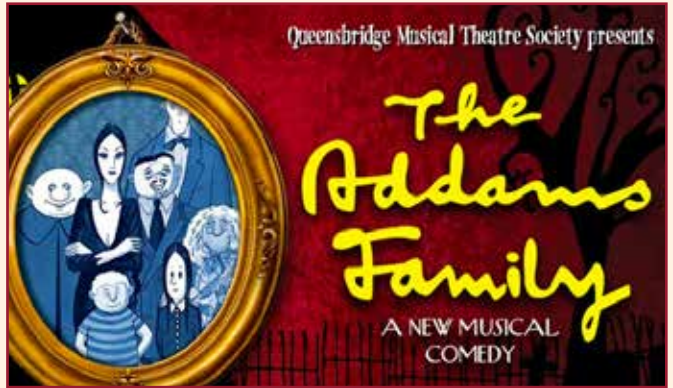
Pop in for lots of books and bargains! Come along and browse. The sale is a Knowle Village Hall refurbishment fund event.

The Addams Family

14-17 June, The Core

Theatre Solihull

THE ADDAMS FAMILY is a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, is all grown up and has a shocking secret that only Gomez knows. Call the Box Office to book on 0121 704 6962. Solihull Sporting Society Pre-Ashes Dinner 15th June, St John's Hotel Solihull Enjoy a 3-course meal and hear from the special guest speakers Geoff Miller and Legendary Aussie Fast



Bowler Jeff Thomson. Tickets £95 inc VAT / table of 10 £750 & VAT. For more details contact Dave: 0121 733 3855 / dave@radburnccc.co.uk

BBC Good Food Show Summer

15-18 June, NEC

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Fastlove - a Tribute to George Michael

25 June, Alexandra Theatre Birmingham

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THE LOCAL BUZZ
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SOLIHULL AREA

FOR DETAILS ON MORE EVENTS IN SOLIHULL PLUS MUCH MORE...

Check out our new website www.thelocalbuzz.co.uk

Summer craft fair

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Date: Sat 3rd June

Time: 12 - 5pm

Venue: Park Hall



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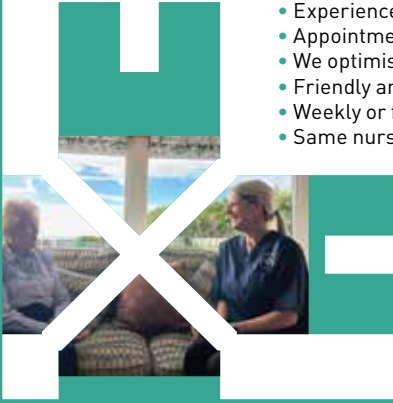
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by Dr Daphne Hazell, GP,
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The app is a fun trivia game that you can either play alone or you can challenge friends. There are six different categories of quizzes to explore and thousands of questions every day. It's Trivial Pursuit for the smartphone generation.

Blinkist - So many books, so little time to read right? Blinkist can come to your rescue. It provides 15-minute insights into more than 4000 non-fiction books. You can either listen or read the key points distilled from the text and decide whether that's enough, or whether you want to devote the time to read the whole book.

The app also offers original content in the form of podcasts and you will receive recommendations based on what your interests are.

Duolingo - Do you want to learn a foreign language? Duolingo has got you covered,

providing courses for more than 40 different languages. As well as many popular European languages there are endangered languages like Hawaiian and Navajo, and even fictional languages like High Valyrian from Game of Thrones and Klingon from Star Trek. There is a paid version but it is perfectly possible to complete all the courses for free.

Smartphones can be used productively if you find the apps that really interest you. The ability to learn something new every day can be at your fingertips. So, what are you waiting for?

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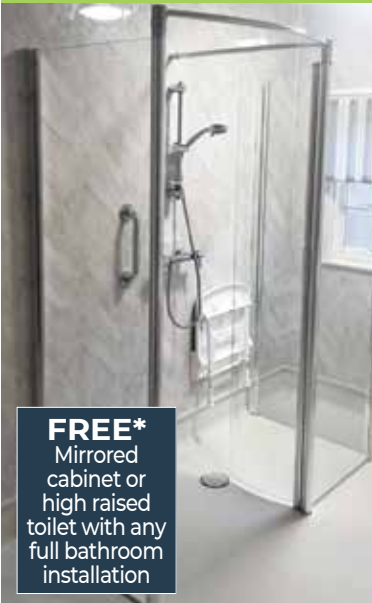
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speed freestyle figure



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answers on page 26

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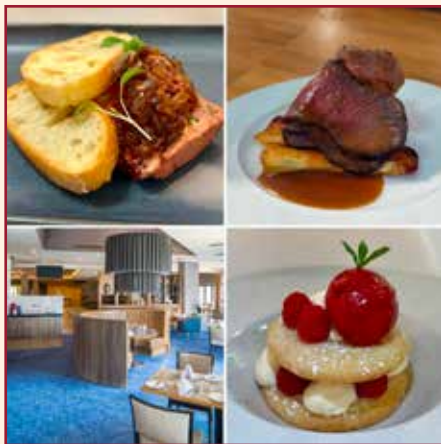


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COMPETITION

Win a Sunday lunch for 4 people at the Crowne Plaza Solihull worth £119.80!

The Lakeside Terrace restaurant at the Crowne Plaza Solihull is the perfect location to enjoy a Sunday lunch, with all the trimmings, with your family or friends. One lucky winner will enjoy a delicious 3 course lunch for 4 people in the Terrace Restaurant or on the Lakeside Terrace.



Win 2 tickets to see Dance Craze On Wednesday 21 June at 7pm at the Core Theatre, Solihull

The Dance Craze film, shot throughout 1980 and released in cinemas the following year, brilliantly captures the cultural phenomenon that was the 2Tone movement and represents an important social document of the times. It showcases the very best of the British Ska phenomenon, with exclusive live performances from The Specials, Madness, The Selecter, The Beat, Bad Manners and The Bodysnatchers.



How to enter

For your chance to win, email zoe@dorridgedirectory.com with the subject line Dance Craze or Sunday Lunch (or both!) and you will be added to our database to receive our monthly e-newsletter about offers and events in Solihull. The winners will be notified by email after the closing date of 1 June 2023. There is no cash value nor exchange for these prizes. Sunday lunch must be taken before 3rd July 2023, subject to availability and must be used in one visit. Valid at Crowne Plaza Solihull only and not transferable to any other hotels. If you do not wish the Crowne Plaza to contact you by email please state this in your entry.

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Britain's Mould Problems

Why are our homes so damp?

Britain's homes have a damp problem. Damp can cause damage to your home and if left

untreated for a long period of time, it can also cause health problems too. It's estimated that at least 20% of renters in the UK are affected by damp and mould.

The main problem is the age of the housing stock.

The UK has some of the oldest housing stock in

Europe. During the industrial revolution many houses were erected quickly in towns and cities to house the influx of workers, and many have not been properly maintained.

Houses built before 1925

were constructed with solid walls which needed insulating, but the costs were prohibitive for many homeowners and councils.

New build properties in Britain have damp proof cavity walls, but demand exceeds supply, and many renters have no option but to stay in properties unsuitable for habitation. Incorrectly installed cavity wall insulation can cause damp problems too. There are properties that had cavity wall insulation installed in



error because they were not suitable for the treatment. In these cases, the insulation can act as bridge for the moisture to penetrate its way through into the inner walls of the house. Any gaps in the walls or windows of a house, will also mean your home is more vulnerable to damp problems. The UK is a pretty damp place in general, and climate change means that while we are not necessarily experiencing more rainfall, we are experiencing more extreme rainfall, which adds to underlying problems. Condensation occurs when moisture laden air comes into contact with a cold surface e.g., a window or a wall. Normal activities such as bathing and cooking are the source of condensation. If heating is not turned on regularly or there is not sufficient ventilation, then moisture starts to build up on cold surfaces. Black mould spots as a result of condensation start to appear

and will eventually lead to more serious damp problems. High energy costs mean many people are trying to use their heating as little as possible at the moment, and this is adding to the issue.

If damp and mould are a problem in your home, contact a member of the Property Care Association (PCA) who can arrange for someone to assess dampness within your walls and check whether or not cavity wall insulation is the root cause of the problem. Any gaps in the walls or windows should be sealed as soon as possible to stop damp from penetrating its way through. A qualified structural engineer should carry out any remedial works to fix structural defects allowing moisture to enter the house. Ventilation and heating are key areas that have to be addressed to stop condensation from forming. Check your boiler efficiency. It might be worthwhile upgrading it. Proper ventilation can have a significant impact on reducing the amount of moisture laden air in your home. Ventilation can be improved by the installation of extractor fans or positive input ventilation systems.

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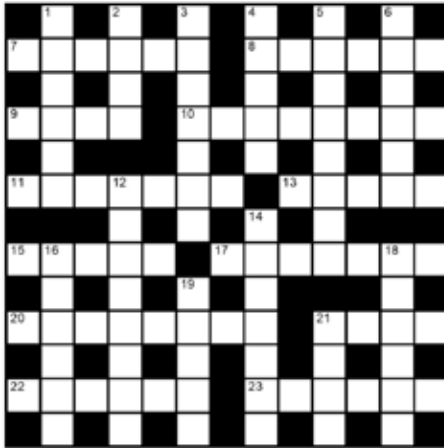


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crossword



clues

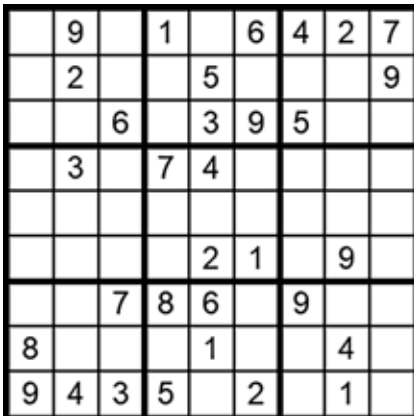
Across

- 7 Severe mental or physical pain (6)
- 8 Bowed (6)
- 9 Lease, tariff (4)
- 10 Wash, cleanse (8)
- 11 Inscription (7)
- 13 Fossilised tree resin (5)
- 15 Caustic, stinging (5)
- 17 Nicotine-rich leaf (7)
- 20 Dwellings, (8)
- 21 Blanched (4)
- 22 Forbid, ban (6)
- 23 Improve, embellish (6)

Down

- 1 Zealous, fierce (6)
- 2 Flat-bottomed boat (4)
- 3 Wreath (7)
- 4 Ambiguous (5)
- 5 Scholarly world (8)
- 6 Unit of measurement (6)
- 12 Most unshaven (8)
- 14 Bragged (7)
- 16 Church (6)
- 18 Unbleached cotton cloth (6)
- 19 Type of farm (5)
- 21 Hum, murmur (4)

answer on page 26



how to play sudoku

It's simple!

Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3x3 box, contains the numbers 1 through to 9 with no repetition. You don't need to be a genius. These puzzles use logic alone. Watch out! Sudoku is highly addictive.

answer on page 26



Mark O'Sullivan

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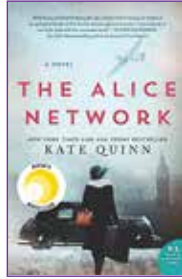
a good read

By Natasha Donovan

The Alice Network

by Kate Quinn

The Alice Network is set in the aftermath of World War II though it straddles both world wars, and follows two women, Charlie St. Clair, and Eve Gardiner, as they navigate the dangerous world of espionage in search of a lost relative. Charlie St. Clair is a young American woman who is pregnant out of wedlock. She is sent to Europe by her family to have the 'problem' taken care of. But she breaks free to search for her cousin Rose, who disappeared during the war. She meets Eve Gardiner, a former spy for the Alice Network, a secret organization of female spies, who now spends her day drunk, haunted by her past. Together, the two women embark on a journey to find Rose and uncover the truth about her disappearance. As they delve deeper into the world of espionage and the aftermath of the war, they encounter a cast of characters, including former spies, soldiers, and politicians, who each have their own secrets. The two women must navigate this dangerous world, relying on their wits and the support of each other to stay alive. The novel explores themes of friendship, loyalty, and the aftermath of war. Its powerful narrative is a testament to the bravery and resilience of women in a time when their roles were often limited. Quinn's novel is well-researched and beautifully written that will appeal both to fans of historical fiction and anyone who enjoys a page-turning spy thriller.

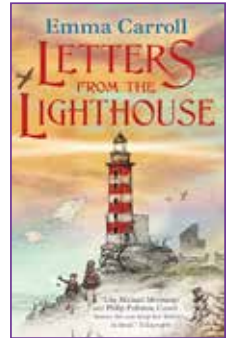


Letters from the Lighthouse

by Emma Carroll

Letters from the Lighthouse is set during World War II. The story follows two siblings, Olive and Cliff, who are evacuated from London to a coastal town in Devon. Their older sister Sukie went missing during an air raid and they have no idea where she is, though a note found in Sukie's coat pocket suggests that she was involved in something dangerous. Then, among the close-knit community where they've been evacuated, Olive discovers something which ties Sukie to a plot as dangerous as it is puzzling.

What do the mysterious letters that the children receive from the lighthouse on the coast mean? Written by a shadowy figure known only as "The Keeper", they provide Olive and Cliff with clues which send the siblings off on a dangerous adventure that takes them through the streets of the town and the surrounding countryside. Through their encounters with a spy, a resistance fighter, and a band of smugglers, they must use their wits and their courage to stay alive and uncover the truth.



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Solution to Mind benders

1. Dance on thin ice
2. Space invaders
3. Cut above the rest

mindbenders
from page 17

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3	9	5	1	8	6	4	2	7
1	2	8	4	5	7	3	6	9
4	7	6	2	3	9	5	8	1
2	3	9	7	4	8	1	5	6
6	8	1	3	9	5	2	7	4
7	5	4	6	2	1	8	9	3
5	1	7	8	6	4	9	3	2
8	6	2	9	1	3	7	4	5
9	4	3	5	7	2	6	1	8

Sudoku Solution
from page 22

A	P	G	V	A	D						
T	R	A	U	M	A	A	R	C	H	E	D
D	N	R	G	A	G						
R	E	N	T	L	A	U	N	D	E	R	S
N		A	E	E	E						
E	T	C	H	I	N	G	A	M	B	E	R
	A	D	B	I							
A	C	R	I	D	T	O	B	A	C	C	O
H	R	D	A								
H	A	B	I	T	A	T	S	P	A	L	E
P	E	I	T	U	I						
C	E	N	S	O	R	E	N	R	I	C	H
L	T	Y	D	R	O						

Crossword Solution
from page 22

local police contact for wythall & hollywood

Telephone: 101

Health

NHS non-emergency	111
Wythall Lane Surgery	0121 628 2345
Hollywood Medical Practice	01564 822642
Hollyoaks Medical Centre	01564 823182

Council

Bromsgrove District Council (main switchboard)	01527 881288
Bromsgrove District Council (emergency out of hours)	01527 871565

Utilities

Electricity power cut	105
Gas leak	0800 111 9999
Severn Trent Water (main switchboard)	024 7771 5000
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