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# easter eggs-travaganza!

## Welcome to the April issue of The Knowle & Dorridge Directory.

Hope your house is full of chocolate, ready for Easter weekend! There's lots of other events coming up too – Shakespeare Day is on 23 April and St George's Day is on the same day too. And The Core Theatre in Solihull have kindly offered our readers 2 free tickets to see 'All Folk'd Up' in May – just see page 62 for details.

If you've started getting out into the garden now that the weather's better have a look at our gardening section on pages 53-56, where you'll find some useful tips and some help from local and reliable companies. And if you're thinking of moving house, see the great offer from Simon Burt estate agents in the centre pages.

Wishing you all a happy Easter.

Zoe

**Zoe Reece**

**Tel: 07557 220585**

**Email: [zoe@dorridgedirectory.com](mailto:zoe@dorridgedirectory.com)**

**[www.knowleanddorridgedirectory.com](http://www.knowleanddorridgedirectory.com)**



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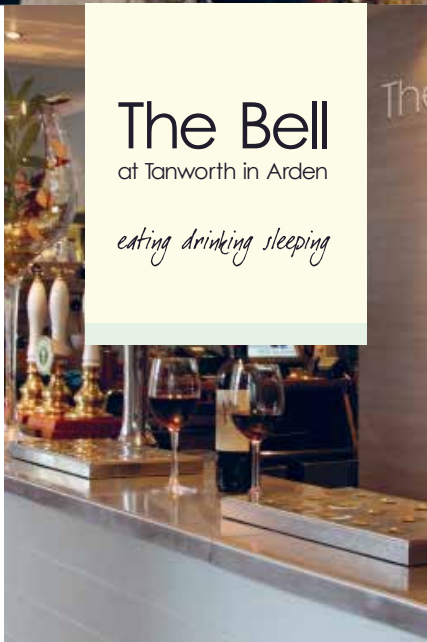
**The Bell Inn** The Green, Tanworth in Arden, Warwickshire, B94 5AL  
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Chartered Architects Gary Winn RIBA and Dean Poulton RIBA are Progression Architects and have been based in Solihull since 1992. They are about to celebrate 25 years in practice.

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At Progression we are also Chartered Town Planners and members of the Royal Town Planning Institute. We specialise in dealing with planning applications and negotiating with the Local Authorities. We also prepare, submit and attend Planning Appeals, where applications are refused, putting our case forward from an applicant's point of view.

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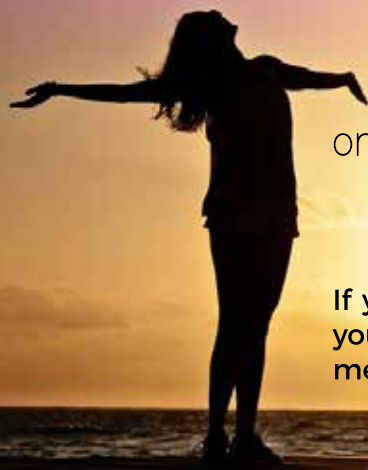
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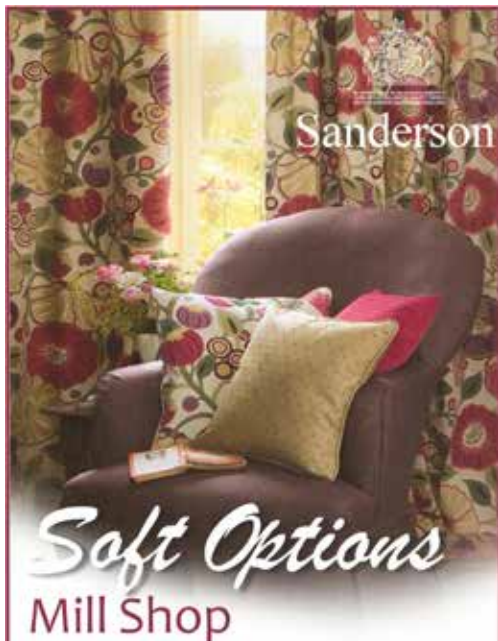
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# what is the Internet of things?

The 'internet of things' refers to electronic devices connecting to each other using the internet.

It's a way to collect information and improve efficiency. Take as an example, a Fitbit or other fitness-tracking device. These give you an indication of how many steps you've walked or ran in a day, your heart rate, calories burned and so on. You can also sync one to an app on your phone, or to an online account. Then you can check your progress over a week, how you compare to other people you're sharing information with, how many calories you've burnt off and so on. If you also sync your account up with 'smart' scales,

it'll keep track of your weight and BMI, to give you a fuller picture of your health in one place.

**Smart homes** - Smart home devices are becoming increasingly common. They let you control your heating, hot water, lights and other technology while you're out of the house. Let's say you're running late from work. You realise you're going to miss your favourite TV programme, so you use your phone to set it to record. You also postpone the heating coming on, and turn a light on so it looks like someone is home. At least you know your security cameras will send an alert to your phone if they detect any movement.

On the way home, you nip to the supermarket, but can't remember whether you need milk. A couple of clicks and your smart fridge has sent you a photo of its contents. After buying the milk, you turn your heating on, and set your coffee machine to have a brew ready for when you get in.

**Smart health** - The internet of things isn't just about making our lives a bit easier. Trials are underway to see how it could help people with pre-existing medical conditions. Medical devices that patients use at home can collect data to give healthcare providers a better picture of a patient's day-to-day health. Doctors can even be sent an alert if measurements go above or below a safe level.

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### Methodist Church Hall

**B93 8NY**

135 Mill Lane, Dorridge / Solihull  
Thur 9:30am

### Shelly Farm Community Centre

**B90 4EH**

Farmhouse Way, Monkspath, Shirley,  
Solihull  
Thur 12:30pm

### Solihull Womens Institute **B91 3DG**

W I Hall, 745 Warwick Road, Solihull  
Tues 9:45am  
Wed 12:00pm

### Solihull Indoor Bowls Club **B91 3LE**

Brick Kiln Lane, Solihull  
Tues 6:15pm

### Shirley Institute **B90 2AX**

Church Road, Shirley, Solihull  
Wed 9:45am, 5:30pm, 7:00pm  
Fri 9:00am

### Shirley Community Association **B90 3AD**

The Shirley Centre, 274 Stratford  
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# unusual easter traditions

How will you celebrate Easter?  
If you need ideas check out  
these unusual traditions...

**P**ace Egg Plays were once a widespread way of celebrating across rural England. Performed on Good

Friday the drama involves a form of a combat between a villain named Old Tossplot and the hero St George. Historically the actors were working class men and women who toured the villages performing in pubs and on the street as a way of earning extra money.

In the plays someone is always killed, this may be St George or a Turkish Knight known as Bold Slasher. The poor fellow is however revived by a comic doctor, linking to the Easter themes of death and rebirth.

The use of the word Pace is linked to the Latin word Pacha which translates to Easter. The egging part comes from the fact that performers were given eggs which were wrapped in onion skins and carefully boiled. They'd receive other gifts too,

including money as an incentive to perform by the crowd. Some believe the phrase 'to egg someone on' originates from when rival groups of performers found themselves in the same village and traded insults, had wooden sword fights or even try to steal each others Pace Eggs.

The Pace Eggs were sometimes rolled but the practice of egg rolling has become a tradition all on its own both in the UK and abroad. Usually hard boiled eggs are decorated and rolled down a grassy hill with an ensuing competition to see whose egg can roll fastest and remain unharmed.

The exact symbolism of egg rolling isn't clear, but as eggs have links to the Easter and Spring themes of rebirth, renewal and fertility this seems to provide some reasoning for it.

If you are looking for a



different type of activity on Easter Monday, then you might like to consider the traditions of Whipping Monday linked to countries such as Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

In Slovakia women are doused by men with water and whipped with braided willow branches. This is said to symbolise youth and strength and make women healthy for the Spring. The men then get a reward from the lady in question which is a dyed egg, a ribbon tied around their whip and for adults an invite in for some food and vodka. Some men also receive coins. In the Czech version there is no water. Just the whipping and here the implement is called the pomlázka and the tradition ends at noon. I think I'll stick with egg-rolling!

**Whatever you end up doing,  
have a Happy Easter!**

# community events

## Solihull Spring Craft Fair

**High Street and Mill Lane, Solihull**  
**22 April 9am - 5.30pm**

Visit this craft market for a chance to purchase handmade items from home and abroad. The market showcases the work of local artists and jewellery designers, as well as offering artefacts from Morocco and other overseas locations. Clothing, garden furniture and street food are also available.

## Hockley Heath Car Boot Sale

**Box Trees Farm, Stratford Road, Hockley Heath B94 6EA**  
**Sunday 23rd April**

Aims to re-open on 23 April 2017. Please be aware that the car boot is subject to agreeable weather conditions. Any enquiries text or phone 07563 712 718. [www.hockleyheathcarboot.com](http://www.hockleyheathcarboot.com)

## Antiques & Collectors Fair

**The National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Bickenhill, Solihull B92 0EJ**  
**Sunday 30 April, 9am - 3.30pm**  
 Shepherd & Williams are very

proud to present the National Motorcycle Museum Antiques & Collectors Fair in Solihull. Set inside the luxurious and iconic Motorcycle Museum, this is a fantastic day out and the ideal opportunity for you to find something perfect to complement your home, collection or wardrobe! Up to 120 tables - free parking - on-site café! Entry £3, Concessions £2 (Children Free). 0781 622 0136 / 0774 897 2938 [www.swfairs.co.uk](http://www.swfairs.co.uk)

## Knowle Fun Run

**Sunday 21 May**

Entries are open for May's Knowle Fun Run. Now with a choice of 5k or 10k runners have no excuse not to get fit for Solihull's longest running Fun Run. Help to raise funds for Prostate Cancer UK, Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, Motor Neurone Disease Association and local causes; or run for your own cause. Enter online at [www.knowlefunrun.org.uk](http://www.knowlefunrun.org.uk).

**Inspire Stitched Textile Group 10th Anniversary Exhibition**  
**St. Swithin's House, Barston**

**Friday 16 & Saturday 17 June, 10am - 4pm**

A celebration of work created over the last 10 years, which features a wide variety of embroidery, stitched textiles and mixed media pieces, using contemporary and traditional techniques. Admission is free. There is parking, wheelchair access and refreshments.

## Great Spec-Collect 2017

**Throughout Spring Knowle and Dorridge Lions want your old spectacles**

Your old pairs of used glasses will be collected, sorted and distributed as far as eye clinics in Papua New Guinea, Ghana, Nigeria and Nepal. Don't worry if your spectacles are broken because they will be recycled for their scrap metal and the funds used to support eye related projects in the UK and overseas. Knowle and Dorridge Lions are being supported by our local opticians: Alan Tyler in Dorridge, Bannisters Eyecare in Knowle, ad Vision Express in Knowle. Please take your old glasses to any of these opticians until 31 May.

## KNOWLE LIBRARY

- **Jellybeans** - held monthly on a Thursday morning for story-time and rhymes for the under 5's
- **Alphabet Club** - and story-time session for the under 5's, held on alternate Mondays at 2 - 2.30pm
- **Knowle Readers Circle** - meet monthly on Fridays at 2.15pm
- **Knowle Society** - available each Saturday morning for

local history enquiries

- **Under-fives Rhyme Time** - every Friday at 2pm
- **Coffee mornings** - on the first Thursday of the month at 10.30 - 11.30am
- **New monthly Saturday Craft Club** - for ages 10 - 12 years at 11am - 12noon

[www.solihull.gov.uk/Resident/Libraries/Find-a-library/](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Resident/Libraries/Find-a-library/)  
[knowlelibrary](http://knowlelibrary)

## Car boot sale



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in Palestine, or in Cappadocia (now in central Turkey), and brought up in Palestine. His father was a Roman soldier, and when his parents died, George decided he would travel to Nicomedia (Turkey) to join the Roman army. He served for several years, progressing up the ranks to become an imperial guard of the Emperor.

George was a devout

Christian, and was tortured and executed for refusing to give up his Christian faith. It's believed that he was killed on 23rd April 300AD, which is why St George's Day is celebrated on April 23rd each year.

So where does the dragon come into it? The legend of George and the dragon dates back hundreds of years, to the 11th century, if not earlier. According to the legend, a dragon was terrorising a small village. The villagers would sacrifice their children to appease the dragon. One

day George was riding past the village and met a young princess, whose turn it was to be sacrificed. George rescued the girl and offered to slay the dragon for the villagers, if they would convert to Christianity. They agreed, so he killed the dragon.

Today the Feast of St George is celebrated in countries across the world, including Palestine, Syria, Hungary and the Czech Republic. If you're taking part, perhaps you could adopt the old English custom of wearing a red rose in your lapel on St George's Day.



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# a good read

reviews By Willow Coby

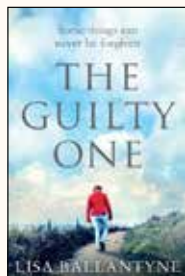
## The Guilty One

by Lisa Ballantyne

It is true that the premise of this book may put some people off: eight-year-old Ben is found dead in a park and eleven-year-old Sebastian is arrested and charged with his murder. With echoes of other high profile cases it does ask us to question how our behaviour as adults can lead to horrific consequences.

However, it is a very well-written and gripping novel. The focus of the story is Daniel, a solicitor chosen to represent Sebastian in court. Despite the child being quite difficult to warm to, Daniel sees something of himself in the boy and he begins to recall his own childhood as the son of a drug addict, who spent most of his time in foster care. Here the narrative splits and we discover his story in the mid-1980s interspersed in the current day court case.

Ballantyne successfully transports us back to a cold farm in the North of England where Daniel finally finds the warmth and love he has been looking for in the shape of his foster mother, Minnie. She immediately takes to this boy that no one else wants and an unlikely relationship develops between them. What becomes apparent though is that something went very wrong with the relationship and as an adult, facing the death of Minnie, and the trial of young Sebastian, Daniel is forced to confront his own childhood whilst we are left wondering who the guilty one really is.



## The Bad Beginning: A Series of Unfortunate Events

by Lemony Snicket

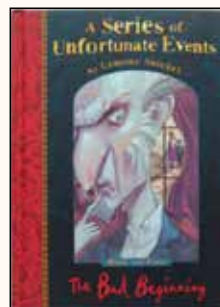
There are some children's books that invite you in. Literature has long been used to escape from the real world and children's literature is no exception. Whether it is an escape to a magical boarding school where you realise you are someone special, or a fantastical journey down

a rabbit hole, you can expect to be welcomed into the new world for the next 200 or so pages.

Not so here. There is a very clear warning that you do not want to learn of the terrible events that will occur to the three Baudelaire children. But tell a child not to do something and they most certainly will and so this novel – the first in the series – has been a hit with readers since it was first published in 1999.

With a new adaptation premiering on Netflix it seems a perfect time to return to the original story. Set in a timeless version of our world we are introduced to the Baudelaire's: Violet, Klaus, and baby Sunny. Their life is turned upside down when their parents die in a house fire and they are sent to live with Count Olaf, a mysterious man who lives in a crumbling mansion and owns a theatre troupe.

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Answers on page 60



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# savings accounts explained

Whether you're saving for a holiday or a rainy day, there are lots of ways you can earn interest on your money, from peer-to-peer lending to fixed rate bonds. The most popular options include:

## Cash ISAs

Cash ISAs let you save up to £20,000 a year tax free. Fixed-rates ISAs tend to earn you more interest than easy-access ones, but you will have to pay a penalty if you withdraw money early. The new Lifetime ISA is for people under 40 who are saving for their pension, or for a first house. You can save up to £4,000 a year and the government will top it up by 25%.

## Bank accounts

Some bank accounts are currently offering higher rates of interest than savings accounts. At the time of writing this article, Nationwide was offering 5% interest on balances up to £2,500, for the first year, for people paying in at least £1,000 every month. However, to use a bank account to save money in, you might want to open a separate account. That way your savings won't disappear on paying the bills. Keep an eye open for offers. Lots of

banks will offer you a bonus for opening an account, but you might have to pay in a minimum amount each month.

## Savings accounts

Savings accounts aren't paying huge levels of interest at the moment, but they are still worth a look. Regular savings accounts, where you put a fixed sum away each month, usually pay a little more. And ones where you lock your money away for a set time pay more again. The interest rate is still pretty low in most cases though, so you might want to consider other options first.

## It's not just about the AER

AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate. It shows you the percentage of interest you'd earn if you left your money in an account for a year. While the AER is certainly an important deciding factor, it's not the only thing you'll want to consider. Other questions to ask yourself include:

- Whether you want to be able

to get to your money straight away if you need it.

- How long you're planning to save for.
- Whether you want a guaranteed return or are prepared to take a risk in the hopes of making more money.
- Whether you want to save regular amounts each month, or lump sums.
- How you want your money to be invested.
- Whether the organisation aligns with your values (e.g. will it invest your money in animal testing, or green energy projects)?
- How good the customer service is.

[www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com) is a good place to visit to find out the latest 'best-buys'. It also gives information about customer satisfaction rates.



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## a taster of what's on in april & may...

### CINEMA



#### A Quiet Passion from 7 April

The story of 19th Century American poet Emily Dickinson is brought to vivid life in a remarkably sensitive biopic by director Terrance Davies, exploring her early days as a young schoolgirl, through to her later years as a recluse. Now recognised as a genius that penned some of the most important verses in American Literature, the poet was virtually

unknown in her lifetime, leaving behind a legacy of stunning, astute work that still resonates deeply today.

#### The Sense of an Ending from 14 April

Starring Academy Award®-winner Jim Broadbent, alongside a stellar cast that includes Charlotte Rampling and Michelle Dockery, The Sense of an Ending is based on the Man Booker Prize-winning novel by Julian Barnes. From acclaimed director Ritesh Batra, it is a deeply moving and uplifting story about the paths chosen in life, and the power of memory, love and forgiveness.

#### Rules Don't Apply from 21 April

An aspiring young actress and her ambitious driver struggle hopefully with the absurd eccentricities of the wildly unpredictable billionaire (Warren Beatty) whom they work for. The instant attraction of the actress and her driver defies the billionaire's #1 rule: no employee is allowed to have any relationship whatsoever with a contract actress. As the actress and her driver are drawn deeper into his bizarre world, their values are challenged and their lives are changed.

To book please visit  
[www.cineworld.co.uk](http://www.cineworld.co.uk)

### THEATRE

The Core Theatre, Solihull  
(formerly Solihull Arts Complex)

#### Whitney – Queen of the Night

5 May, 7.30pm  
Taking us on a magical



rollercoaster ride through three decades of classic hits that include I Wanna Dance With Somebody, One Moment In Time, I'm Every Woman, My Love Is Your Love, So Emotional Baby, Run to You, Saving All My Love, I Will Always Love You, and many more, this show beautifully remembers the most highly awarded female artist in the world!



#### AIDA 9-13 May

Solihull Theatre Company are proud to present the Solihull premiere of Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida, the pop musical version of the classic Verdi opera. Spanning across the ages, it tells an epic tale of love, loyalty, and betrayal, chronicling the love triangle between Aida, a Nubian princess stolen from her country and enslaved, Amneris, an Egyptian princess, and Radames, the soldier they both love. Ultimately, with love and responsibility at odds, Aida and Radames must decide to follow their hearts or lead their people.

To book please visit [www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk)







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# fuchsia perfect

I love hardy fuchsias. They are some of the most rewarding plants to grow.

They are easy to propagate, flower well and are not the least bit temperamental.

They are named after a 16th Century German herbalist and physician called Leonard Fuchs. Lots of gardeners struggle to spell fuchsia but if you think of his name and stick and 'ia' on the end you have it!

In mild areas or at the seaside they can grow into huge shrubs. Elsewhere hard frosts see off most of the top growth in winter, then new shoots burst

up from the soil in the spring, maturing into small shrubs about 2-3 feet / 60-100cm tall.

At this time of year rooted cuttings are cheap. Grow them on for a few weeks under cover, changing the pot to a slightly larger one as they grow, then plant them out in May. Choose a sunny spot in well-drained soil.

Make sure you pinch out the shoot tips frequently. It delays the flowers a little but they will become bushy little plants which produce more flowers in the long-run.

Once they are mature you can more or less leave them to it. Simply sprinkle a handful or two of fertiliser around them in the spring and again in the summer.

There are lots of lovely varieties. "Mrs. Popple" is tall with red and purple flowers. "Mrs. W. P. Wood" is paler with pearly flowers. I have a soft spot for "Whiteknight's Pearl" which is a beautiful pale pink.

If you have a smaller plot try "Tom Thumb" or "Alice Hoffman".

**Happy Gardening.**

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**Preparation time: 15 minutes + marinating time**

**Cooking time: 12-15 minutes**

**Makes: 12-16 (depending on case size)**

**recipe time**

# Easter Choc Fudge Cupcakes

**Fun to make with the kids**



## **Ingredients**

### **Cakes**

140g soft unsalted butter  
140g caster sugar  
3 medium eggs  
100g self-raising flour  
25g cocoa powder

### **Icing**

85g milk chocolate / or plain if it's less sweet icing.  
85g softened butter (I actually like salted butter for the icing but unsalted works well).  
140g icing sugar (sifted)  
Mini chocolate eggs of choice for decoration.

## **Method**

For the cakes: Heat oven to 190C/fan 170C/gas 5 and put the cases into a fairy-cake tin. Sieve the dry ingredients into a bowl. Add the remaining ingredients and beat for 2 mins with an electric hand-whisk until smooth. Divide between the cases so they are two-thirds filled, then bake for 12-15 mins or until risen. Cool on a wire rack.

For the frosting: Microwave the chocolate on High for 1 min. Cream the butter and sifted icing sugar together, then beat in the melted chocolate. Spread over the cakes and decorate with mini chocolate eggs of choice!

# YOU CAN BE A **PARENT AT HOME & STILL** FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS



NATALIE HEELEY

## **Are you looking for a change?**

Do you have 8-10 hours a week that you can spare to create a better future for your family?  
I run my own business online, from home, and I can teach you how to do the same!

I had a successful career when I started my family but despite working hard, I never achieved financial security... I was giving my all to line someone else's pockets. Sound familiar?

I realised that a 'traditional' career could not give me everything I wanted - it couldn't even give me the security I craved as I was made redundant not once, but twice. I needed a change...

Fortunately, I learnt how to run my own home-based business around my then 5 month old, Rosie and 3 year old, Will. Working from home, part-time, using a laptop and a mobile phone.

If you can answer yes to any of the following questions then you may be exactly who I'm looking for...

- Can you free up 10 hours per week?
- Do you have a burning desire to change your current circumstances?
- Are you a positive, outgoing person and willing to learn?
- Are you ambitious and driven to succeed?

**Do you want to run your own business whilst having the support and backup of a successful team behind you?**

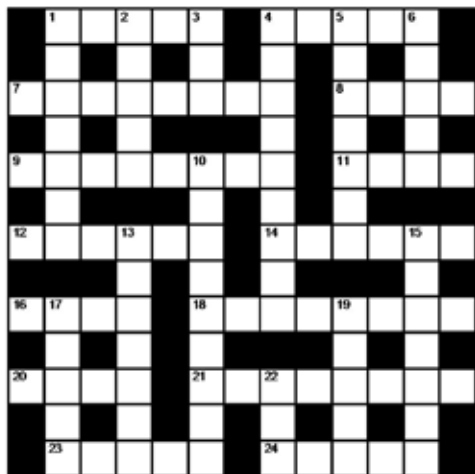
**I will provide full training, support and personal mentoring for the right candidates.**

## **Contact me and I'll explain how I can help...**

**Call 07811 123 280**

[nat@natalieheeley.co.uk](mailto:nat@natalieheeley.co.uk)

## crossword



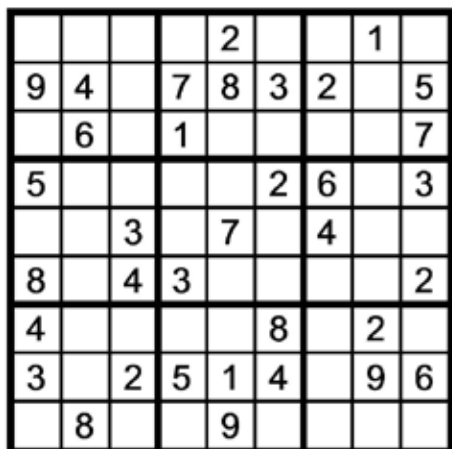
## clues

### ACROSS

- 1 Gawks, stares (5)
- 4 Registers, documents (5)
- 7 Levitating, fluttering (8)
- 8 Greek god of love (4)
- 9 Most chaotic, most unkempt (8)
- 11 Kiln or stove for drying hops (4)
- 12 Baby swan (6)
- 14 Church room (6)
- 16 Niche, hole (4)
- 18 Delirious, overjoyed (8)
- 20 Elliptical (4)
- 21 Unspoken, implied (8)
- 23 Reboot, start again (5)
- 24 Parting, leaving (5)

### Down

- 1 Store, minimarket (7)
- 2 Iron, flatten (5)
- 3 \_\_\_ Sunday - Winter sports programme (3)
- 4 Downsides, bad points (9)
- 5 Mini earthquakes, vibrations (7)
- 6 Footwear (5)
- 10 Radical, zealot (9)
- 13 Stinging plants (7)
- 15 Fence, barrier - mostly metal (7)
- 17 Romantic partner (5)
- 19 Excuse, defence (5)
- 22 Small, wrinkly dog! (3)



## 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.

**answers on page 60**

## Accountants

49 Angel Accounting 0121 251 2285

## Architects

9 Progression 01564 730191

## Bathrooms

20 EH Smith 0121 713 7100

## Blinds & Curtains

11 Soft Options 01564 783399  
25 Grange Blinds 01564 702036  
27 Tudor Rose Curtains 0121 445 2072

## Builders

19 Parkfield Building Service 0121 241 2959

## Car Services

1 Easylease 0121 693 0573  
46 Johnsons Cars 01564 454081

## Care Services

43 Lady Katherine Housing 01564 772850  
44 Bright Dawn Home Care 01564 784598  
64 Bluebird Care 0121 711 7435

## Carpets

28 Don Mander 01564 700 200  
29 Ian Hounsell 01564 772324

## Central Heating / Gas Services / Boilers

22 All Aspects 0121 243 3977

## Childcare

2 Hampton Nursery 01564 772211

## Cleaning Services

27 LAP Mobile Jet Washing 01564 776659  
40 Sparkly Oven Cleaning Company 01564 757310  
40 Classic Carpet Cleaning 0121 682 7450  
41 Dorridge & Knowle Domestic Cleaning Services 07809 567264  
41 Village Domestic Cleaning 07854 071892  
42 Arden Chimney Sweeps 07974 087549  
42 Reach & Wash Window Cleaning 07842 167986

## Computer Services

14 Byte Support 0790 151 2544

## Conservatory Roofing

23 LMD 0121 285 4242

## Drives

21 Central Driveways 0121 702 1456  
39 Dimension Landscape & Driveways 0121 733 1463

## Estate Agents

32-33 Simon Burt 0121 705 4040

## Events

6 Hatton Country World 01926 843411  
63 Nailcote Hall 02476 466174

## Fascias & Gutters

27 Proline 0800 956 1315

## Fireplaces

35 Woodglow 0121 707 2306

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39 Dimension Landscape & Driveways 0121 733 1463  
53 Ideal Lawn Solutions 0121 537 1234  
54 Earlwood Garden Centre 01564 702314  
55 Garden Rose 0121 605 1137  
55 Hampton Gardening 01675 446174  
56 Oakland Group 0700 598 2828

## Graphic Design

37 Hotlobster Design Ltd 07527 190368

## Health & Beauty & Wellbeing

10 ALC Coaching 07966 980007  
11 Central England Pilates 07762 311074  
12 Equanimity CBT 0844 693 1282  
12 Elevate Coaching 07870 158848  
13 Advanced Aesthetic Services 07935 397347  
14 GK Pilates 07729 712038  
15 Weightwatchers 0345 677 7788

## Insurance

48 Edwards Insurance 01564 730900

## Interior Design

5 Joal Interiors 01675 442888  
26 Knowle Interiors 01564 772544

## Job Opportunities

58 Natalie Heeley 07811 123280

## Kitchens

20 EH Smith 0121 713 7100  
26 Cucina Kitchens 01564 783007

## Meat

18 A P Meats 01789 400115

## Memorials

36 Yardley Memorials 0121 706 2473

## Painter & Decorator

24 Bill Boyce 0121 744 0040

## Plastering

28 Spot On Plastering 01564 200250

## Plumbing

3 Knowle Domestic Appliance Repairs 01564 730183  
22 All Aspects 0121 243 3977  
25 Stephen Smith & Son 01564 200119  
34 Cullen Plumbing & Tiling 07896 862916

## Property / Land

8 Damson Homes 0121 709 0539

## Restaurants

7 The Bell Inn 01564 742212

## Roofing

24 C Stevens Roofing 0121 733 1276

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50 Wallace Robinson Morgan Solicitors 0121 705 7571  
51 Probate Solicitors 01564 758055  
52 Sydney Mitchell 0121 746 3300

## Windows & Doors

11 Flair Door Centre 0121 779 2257  
14 Windowfix 0121 704 1339  
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7	3	5	4	2	6	9	1	8
9	4	1	7	8	3	2	6	5
2	6	8	1	5	9	3	4	7
5	1	7	9	4	2	6	8	3
6	2	3	8	7	1	4	5	9
8	9	4	3	6	5	1	7	2
4	5	9	6	3	8	7	2	1
3	7	2	5	1	4	8	9	6
1	8	6	2	9	7	5	3	4

## Sudoku Solution

from page 59

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

## Crossword Solution

from page 59



## Solution to Mind benders

1. Good for nothing
2. Money is the root of all evil
3. Bottomless pit

## Mindbenders Solution

from page 42

# useful numbers

## Health

NHS non-emergency	111
Dorridge Surgery	01564 776262
Knowle Surgery	0121 796 2777
Solihull Hospital	0121 424 2000
Spire Parkway Hospital	0845 850 1451

## Council

Solihull Council	0121 704 6000
------------------	---------------

## Utilities

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Gas leak	0800 111 9999
Severn Trent Water	024 7771 5000
Severn Trent Water (emergencies)	0800 783 4444

## Travel

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Network West Midlands (buses)	0345 303 6760

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#### Ken Meeson

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#### Jeff Potts

Tel: 01564 774804  
 jpotts@solihull.gov.uk

#### Alan Rebeiro

Tel: 01564 200047  
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# **WIN 2 tickets**

## **to see All Folk'd Up**

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For your chance to win these tickets, worth £40, visit the Core Theatre website page for this event - [www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk) - to find the answer to this question:

**Which country do Folk'd Up hail from?**

Email your answer to: [thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk)

**Closing date for entries is 30 April and the winner will be drawn at random and notified by email after this date.**

### **About the Show:**

Following a hugely successful debut nation-wide Tour in the Spring of 2016, ALL FOLK'D UP are BACK with their brand new show rolling out across the UK in 2017.

Don't miss this chance to see ALL FOLK'D UP as the boys take their audience on an unforgettable trip through decades of well-known classics adding their own unique twist as well as their very own new modern originals. This high-energy, toe-tapping, show has audiences dancing in the aisles night after night!

BRING YOUR PARTY TO OUR PARTY!

# Enjoy Party Nights

in *Rick's* & **THE MARQUEE**  
at Nailcote Hall Hotel



## APRIL 2017

Sun 16th	EASTER SUNDAY in the OAK ROOM RESTAURANT	£35.00
Sat 22nd	THE ULTIMATE 'PARTY ANIMALS' NIGHT with RANG A TANG	£35.00
Sat 29th	THE SPRING PINK BALL for BREAST CANCER CHARITIES with 'BROTHERS OF SOUL'	£49.50

## MAY 2017

Sat 6th	'LENNON AND MCCARTNEY' with THE LENNON AND MCCARTNEY EXPERIENCE	£32.50
Sat 20th	THE 'TAKE THAT' SPECTACULAR with 'TAKE@THAT'	£39.50
Sat 27th	THE 'SOUL AND MOTOWN' PARTY with DAYTON GREY	£29.50

## JUNE 2017

Sat 3rd	BACK TO THE 60'S PARTY with THE REVOLVERS	£35.00
Sat 10th	THE 'MIDSUMMER MOTOWN BALL' with THE BROTHERS OF SOUL	£39.50
Thur 22nd	ROYAL ASCOT 'LADIES' DAY in THE MARQUEE	£75.00
Fri 23rd	CHARITY ROYAL ASCOT DAY in THE MARQUEE	£75.00
Sat 24th	'BRIEFCASE BLUES SOUL BROTHERS' 'THE 'SOUL MEN' !!	£29.50

## JULY 2017

Sat 8th	'MAMMA MIA' PARTY with 'SENSATION' AN ABBA TRIBUTE	£35.00
Fri 14th	MOTOWN DIVAS SHOW with THE DREAMETTES	£32.50
Fri 21st	THE HOT SUMMER PARTY with 'FAKE THAT'	35.00

TICKET PRICES INCLUDE 3 COURSE MEAL - WE WILL CATER FOR ANY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT

## BRITISH PAR3 CHAMPIONSHIP

**TUESDAY 8TH - FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST 2017**

NAILCOTE HALL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, WARWICKSHIRE - To register for free tickets please visit [www.britishpar3.com](http://www.britishpar3.com)

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SEE FULL DETAILS

**[www.nailcotehall.co.uk](http://www.nailcotehall.co.uk)**

**BOOKING HOTLINE CALL: 02476 466174**



Nailcote Hall  
Hotel, Golf & Country Club

info@nailcotehall.co.uk  
Nailcote Lane, Berkswell, Warwickshire CV7 7DE



# Quality care in your own home



Bluebird care (Solihull) is a privately owned local business operating only in the Solihull Metropolitan borough area, with offices in Shirley. Our main aim is to deliver high quality care to vulnerable people in their own homes, so that they can remain as independent as possible and remain in the familiar surroundings that they love. Our service is available 365 days per year and from a half hour to 24 hours per day. In addition all of our carers are trained in Dementia and Alzheimer's.

We provide personal care, for example, washing, bathing, toileting, dressing, getting into bed and getting up in the morning, administering medication. Bluebird care also provides home care such as help with ironing, cleaning, cooking, shopping etc. We can also provide companionship services for people, for instance reading to them, playing board games or taken to a show or a favourite venue.

Our personalised service is provided by very highly trained carers who are recruited locally. All of our carers are CRB checked and multi referenced to give you peace of mind. Our aim is to give you the same care staff so that they can get to know you as an individual and really know what matters to you.

PMJ House, Highlands Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4ND  
**T: 0121 7117435 E: [solihull@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:solihull@bluebirdcare.co.uk) [www.bluebirdcare.co.uk](http://www.bluebirdcare.co.uk)**