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Holidays!

Welcome to the August edition...

For those of you that aren't jetting off overseas this Summer, there's lots of great things happening locally - from folk festivals and beer festivals to popular tribute acts and hit artists.

Check out the local event guide on page 6 to see what takes your fancy. You'll also find details of the 'A Place in the Sun Live' event in case moving abroad or having a second home in the sun is on your mind.

Whether you're staying locally or exploring Europe or further afield, this Summer, have a great month and make the most of the weather and the Summer holidays, while they last!

Zoe

Zoe Reece

Tel: 07557 220585

Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com

www.knowleanddorridgedirectory.com

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A photograph of a computer keyboard with a prominent pink key that says 'Advertise' in white. A finger is pressing the key. Overlaid on the top left of the image is the text 'ADVERTISE HERE' in large, bold, pink capital letters. In the bottom right corner of the image, there is a black box with white text: 'Contact Zoe Reece on 07557 220585 / zoe@dorridgedirectory.com'.

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Shopping Village & Outdoor Markets

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Plus we have some great events planned throughout the summer, in our **NEW Market Square**. This weekend it's our **Summer Markets: Sat 30th & Sun 31st July**, visit our website for details of all upcoming events.

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community events

Moseley Folk & Arts Festival

2 September, Moseley Park

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Calendar Girls The Musical

8 - 11 September, Core Theatre Solihull

Calendar Girls the Musical, written by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth, is the award-winning musical based on the 2003 film Calendar girls which was based on a true story. Tickets from the Box Office: 0121 704 6962

A Place in the Sun Live

23 - 25 September, NEC

There will be a huge array of overseas property agents with thousands of properties to help you make your dream of owning abroad come true. The show also features a range of service companies who can provide expert advice on all types of services. Tickets available at www.thenec.co.uk

Shirley Beer Festival

23-24 September, Shirley British Legion

30+ Cask ales and ciders with live music. 12.00 noon to 11.00 pm both days. Entrance £10 includes souvenir glass, tasting notes and £5 worth of beer tokens.

Comedy Night

10 September, Knowle Royal British Legion.

Featuring some fantastic talent with headline act Danny Deegan. Danny is a comedian, writer and actor. He began performing in 2003. Visit ticketsource.co.uk for tickets.

Lada Gaga Tribute Night

8 October, Knowle British Legion

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What's on at the Land Rover Sports & Social Club



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a good read

By Natasha Donovan

The Heart's Invisible Furies

by John Boyne

Let me start by saying that this is long book, but in the deft hands of Boyne it is neither weighty nor stodgy. It's a book about the life of a fictional man, Cyril Avery, and it begins before he's even born, with his pregnant mother cast out of her strict catholic family and fleeing from her hometown.



Cyril is adopted but struggles to find his place in a loveless family. He is gay, and illegitimate, born in Ireland at the wrong time. This story weaves his major life events with world events such as the AIDS crisis, 9/11, and the ongoing prejudice towards gay men. We follow Cyril from Dublin to Amsterdam to New York and back to Ireland. Throughout his journey the reader is privy to his inner and outer struggles which serve to heighten the confusion, anger and shame that define his existence. But this is not some handwringing doom saga. Boyne brings a wicked playfulness to Cyril's self-deprecating wit, which commands both affection and empathy. Throughout the book various new characters appear at intervals, and their stories intersect and intertwine with Cyril's via a series of coincidences which on the surface might appear contrived, but when the reader reflects on the characters in their own life and the coincidences that brought them together, suddenly make sense. From the opening 'hook' to the closing paragraph you'll be rooting for Cyril, and you'll laugh and cry along the way. In the touching afterword, Boyne admits that although Cyril and his life are fictional there are many of the author's own lived experiences included in the plot. The book is all the richer for it.

Fiona's Luck

by Teresa Bateman

Illustrated by Kelly Murphy

The leprechaun king is not happy with the Big Folk who have recently arrived in his land. He feels they are soaking up too much luck. So, he exhorts the other leprechauns to gather up all the luck they can find and lock it away in a big oak chest



under his control. The Big Folk begin to suffer hardship after hardship until a clever girl named Fiona sets out to pit her wits against him. This picture book, aimed at ages 2-5, is a charming story with a clever twist. Kelly Murphy's artwork is enchanting, her use of colour and light masterfully evokes the Irish landscape, and magic lurks on every page. This will quickly become a bedtime favourite.



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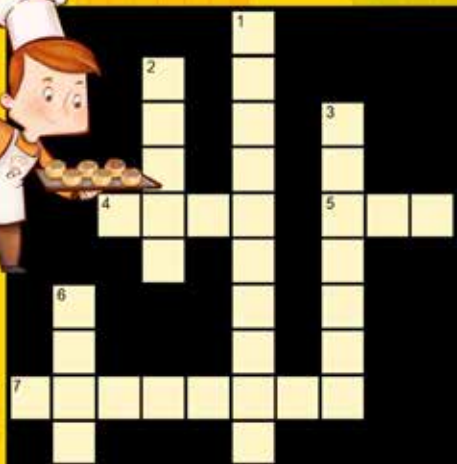
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Kids' Page

Brian the Baker has been busy. Can you fill the crossword with everything he's made?



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DOWN



The Cupcake Conundrum

Bella baked some cupcakes. She gave half of them to her best friend Bria. Then she dropped half of the remaining cupcakes on the floor and only had six left. How many cupcakes did Bella bake in the first place?



Why did the student eat his homework?
The teacher told him it was a piece of cake.



Baking Crossword Solution

The Cupcake Conundrum Answer
Bella baked 24 cupcakes. She gave half (12) to Bria and was left with 12 cupcakes. When she dropped half of these that left

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No Fault Divorce Is Here At Last

**The new legislation for no fault divorce was introduced on 6 April 2022
- it has completely overhauled the law, which had been long overdue.**

No blame

There are always many reasons why people get divorced. The problem that the old law created was that blaming one person for the breakdown of the marriage meant a divorce started negatively, and this could have lasting implications on the way that the rest of the divorce case progressed, and the wider family. The need to lay blame at either person getting divorced is now gone.

Keeping amicable

Divorces often involve children as well as financial matters, so it's really important to try and ensure that relations are kept as amicable as possible to avoid costly and antagonistic proceedings. Everyone wants to move forward with their lives once the divorce has started, and the new law will help you do this.

It is now even possible for a couple to start the divorce jointly if they wish. The process and terminology has also been simplified which is also helpful as it will reduce the confusion and stress in a process which is difficult as it is.

The process

Once the divorce starts, a date is given when the minimum allowable period of 20 weeks will occur when it will be possible to apply for a conditional order (previously called a decree nisi).

This is an important stage in the divorce because it means that you are able to ask the court to make a financial order or confirm a financial settlement, which you have agreed.

It is usually preferable not to apply for the divorce to be finalised until all financial matters have been concluded in a court order. It is important to get a clean break order at the end of the divorce case too, so that no claims by your former partner can be made against you in the future.

Whilst it is possible to start your divorce yourself online, it is always a good idea to get legal advice about financial matters concerning your separation.



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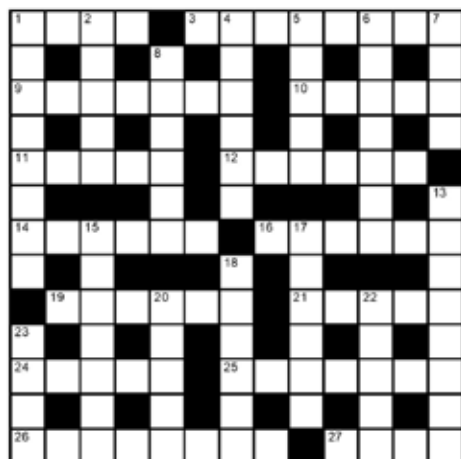
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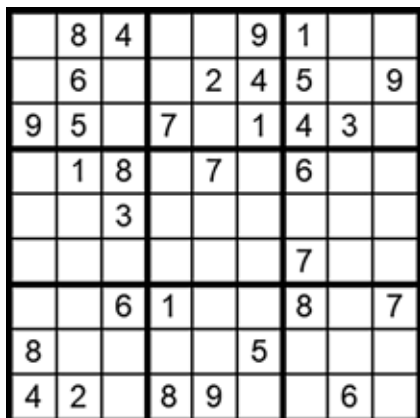
clues

- 1 Daring (4)
- 3 Three babies born together (8)
- 9 In the wrong (2,5)
- 10 Fibbing, falsifying (5)
- 11 Inuit canoe (5)
- 12 40th president of the United States (6)
- 14 North American wild dog (6)
- 16 Male parent (6)
- 19 Champagne (slang) (6)
- 21 Distant suns (5)
- 24 Large bird of prey (5)
- 25 Spear-like whaling weapon (7)
- 26 Male singing voice (8)
- 27 Couple (4)

Down

- 1 Invisible winter driving hazard (5,3)
- 2 Elevated (5)
- 4 Come back (6)
- 5 Lively dance (5)
- 6 Inscription on gravestone (7)
- 7 Pungent herb (4)
- 8 Pail (6)
- 13 Captive (8)
- 15 More juvenile (7)
- 17 Ridiculous (6)
- 18 Large snake (6)
- 20 Baa, sheep noise (5)
- 22 Fragrance (5)
- 23 Edge of the pavement (4)

answer on page 36



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 36

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Wine o'clock!

Ever wondered about your wine?

Did you know that there are around 60 species of vine but only one that bears the fruit which when fermented produces wine? From that one species come all the different varieties used in wine production today.

Evidence of Palaeolithic grape pips uncovered at archaeological sites indicates humans were eating grapes as early as 7000BC. Some 3500 years later Egyptians and Phoenicians planted the first vineyards and tended the vines.

At first grapes were grown only for eating so it is likely that the first wine was made accidentally. In the full sun of the Middle East, it would have taken just a few hours for ripe juicy grapes to begin to ferment. Fermentation is the process by which the natural sugars in the fruit, aided by the natural yeast present in the bloom on the grape skins are turned into alcohol. It must have been an incredibly happy accident because before long wine was being made throughout the Mediterranean.

Wine manufacture today bears a lot of similarities to those used in the ancient methods of viticulture (winemaking). In Egypt grapes were collected in wicker baskets, then trodden in huge wooden vats to kickstart the fermentation process. The crushed grapes, juice and skins were poured into loosely corked earthenware jars and left to finish the fermentation process. Finally, the mixture was filtered, flavoured, and poured into sealed amphorae.

In spite of the similarities, we would be horrified now at what passed for wine back then. Wines were preserved using additions such as heavily sweetened date juice, honey, and spices, and even pepper.

By the Middle Ages, the preference was for full-bodied fortified wines (similar

to modern sherries and ports). These were stored in wooden casks.

Winemaking then evolved through the centuries. Producers learned that vines grown on thinner mountain soils seemed to produce superior wines to those grown on the richer plains.

As stated earlier, all European vines originated from the same species, and unfortunately this made them vulnerable to pests and diseases (a similar problem affects banana producers nowadays). When a highly destructive aphid called the grape phylloxera reached Europe at the beginning of the 20th century it decimated almost all of the Old-World vines in a few short years.

That might have been the end of commercial wine production, but science came to the rescue. Scientists discovered that American vines were resistant to the aphid, and they managed to develop healthy plants by grafting European varieties on to American rootstock. This helped preserve the European wine industry, but also helped the Americans improve their own industry, because prior to this their native vines had produced inferior wine. All of today's Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon wines are produced from 'rescued' vines!

Manufacturers can now choose from a wide variety of grapes, and modern winemaking techniques have made wines more standardised and reliable. In recent years though, there has been a move back to artisan winemaking by passionate manufacturers who want more individuality, uniqueness or 'terroir'.

So, treat your glass of Chardonnay with extra respect as you raise it in a toast to and say 'Cheers!'



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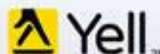
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Mindbenders

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summer phrases?

TRAVEL
CCCCCCCCC

HEAT

SFRUS

answers on page 36

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3. Surf's up

mindbenders

from page 34

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

Sudoku Solution

from page 28

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

Crossword Solution

from page 28



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