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# **Stay Safe**

# Welcome to the August edition...

Life keeps changing at the moment with local lockdowns, quarantine rules, and contradictory safety advice but one thing's for sure – we all need to support our local community.

Keep an eye out for local vulnerable people who need help, whether it's food or just some company. And support local businesses too as most have suffered over these last few months.

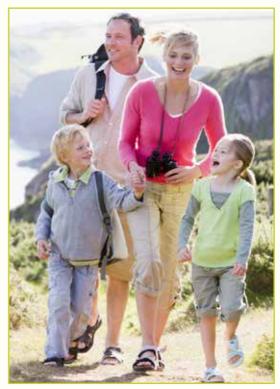
For those of you that are having some time off over the Summer, have a look at what's going on nearby on page 6 and I hope you enjoy the lovely weather - while it's here!

Until next month,

7rl

Zoe Reece Tel: 07557 220585 Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com www.knowleanddorridgedirectory.com

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Locally designed by: hotlobster design Itd Printed by: Norwood Press

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#### useful services

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# local events

There's still a wide range of interesting events taking place this Summer - you might just need to travel a bit further afield to find them.



### Harry Potter & The Philosopher's Stone Outdoor Cinema Experience

#### 27 August Warwick Racecourse

Can you imagine watching a film outdoors on a hot summers evening with your snacks and blankets? Don't imagine it, come and experience it! Gates open 7pm. For tickets visit www.eventbrite.co.uk

## National Metro & Mini Show

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## Coombe Abbey Woodturner's Festival of Crafts

#### 12-13 September Coombe Abbey, Coventry

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# Is it safe to...

#### Eat out?

Coronavirus doesn't appear to spread through food. COVID-19 travels in respiratory droplets, which means you could get sick if an infected person coughs or sneezes near you. Even being in close proximity to someone speaking increases your risk of contracting the virus if they are infected. Restaurants are understandably keen to encourage customers to return. Lowest risk: Take-away - Food is delivered or picked up and carried off site. Moderate risk: On-site dining outdoor seating, reduced seating capacity and tables placed at least 2m apart. Moderate-high risk: On-site dining indoor seating, reduced seating capacity, and tables placed at least 2m apart. Check ahead. Satisfy yourself that safe practice

is being adhered to. Ask if waiters and staff

will wear face coverings while on duty, and if seating follows social distancing requirements. Ask if you can pre-order so that your meal is ready when you arrive. This reduces time spent in the proximity of other people. Check the current level of COVID-19 in vour community. If the level of community transmission is low it's safer to eat out, but it's sensible not to eat indoors if you or anyone you live with is aged over 65 or at risk of severe illness. If you go out with friends from other households don't share food or drink. Contactless payment is the safest option. The best way to prevent the spread of the coronavirus or any germs is to wash your hands properly and regularly. When you're done with your meal, and when you get home, wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

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# Where can you find the best Christmas Markets.

What could be more festive than a stroll around a Christmas market in a beautiful city? It's the perfect way to get you in the yuletide spirit! From Bath to Budapest and everywhere inbetween, if you are looking for some serious Christmas inspo, then sit down, grab a glass of glühwein and take a look at our round up of the best Christmas markets to visit this winter.



#### Strasbourg, France

Nestled in front of the aweinspiring Strasbourg Cathedral, this bustling market is one of the oldest in Europe and was voted the number one Christmas market in 2015. Visitors can expect to be transported into a winter wonderland as they browse the myriad of stalls selling Christmas ornaments, toys, food and mulled wine.

#### Bath, UK

The award-winning Christmas market is spread out across the picturesque Georgian streets of Bath. From personalised



presents and hand-crafted Christmas decorations to festive treats and pretty interiors, you can't fail to find that all-important gift for your loved ones. Artsy types can even try their hand at Christmas crafts which includes wreath making.Weary shoppers can take a dip and rejuvenate at the Thermae Bath Spa and admire the glorious views from the rooftop pool.

#### Prague, Czech Republic

You won't go hungry when visiting the Christmas markets of Prague. From traditional treats to modern artisan cuisine, there is something tasty for everyone. Both markets at the Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square are bursting with colourful stalls where you can buy traditional crafted goods such as embroidered lace, dolls and wooden toys.

#### Copenhagen, Denmark

If you are looking for hygge, a pre-Christmas break to Copenhagen's delightful Christmas markets ticks all the right boxes and then some. Shop until you drop in the cosiest of settings which



includes cute little wooden houses, snow-covered trees and sparkling lights. If you are in town on 13th December, you can witness the intriguing Santa Lucia parade which sees kayaks sail through the canals decorated in festive lights and decorations. It may not be an obvious time to be thinking about Christmas markets but as many of you will not have had a holiday yet this year, this could be a welcome break and get some Christmas shopping done too. There are Christmas river cruises where you can take in several markets and enjoy the journey in between. There are some good deals out there right now and you can pay a deposit and pay by direct debit monthly until just before you go.

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# Frying pan Pizza - Yes really - it's so good!

#### Ingredients

#### Base

500g Strong white bread flour (But if you have any Italian 00 flour, it's is even better). 1½ tsp dried active yeast. I did not have this throughout lockdown and used rapid dried yeast instead. I found that the rise time was quicker (2 days vs 4 days) so this might actually be a bonus.

- 1 tsp table salt
- 1 tsp sugar

#### Topping

- 1 400g tin chopped plum tomatoes
   1 pack buffalo mozzarella
- 1 bunch basil

Extra-virgin olive oil, to drizzle Plain is great but you can add any toppings you like. We made Pepperoni, ham and sweetcorn, and ham and pineapple.

#### Method

ix the flour, yeast, salt, and sugar then stir in 325ml water to a smooth dough. Cover and put in the fridge for two to four days. Remember rapid yeast will activate faster and may only require two days, or even one if you're in more of a hurry. Tip on to a lightly floured surface. Divide into four roughly equal portions, shape into balls, cover and leave for two hours. While the dough is rising take the cheese and toppings out of the fridge so that they come to room temperature. Empty the tomatoes into a saucepan over a medium heat and simmer for about 30 minutes, until they form a thick sauce. Season this to taste with salt and a pinch of sugar. Once the dough has proved, flatten it into pizza bases to fit your pan. For

Preparation time: Rise 2-5 days (yes this takes a little forward preparation but it's so worth it.) Cooking time: 5 minutes + 35 mins Makes 4 pan-sized pizzas



reference my pan has a 26cm base. Heat the cast iron frying pan or skillet over a moderate-high heat. It's ready when you drop a little water into the base and it instantly hisses and bounces. Preheat the grill to between moderate and high. Lightly flour your hands then stretch the dough into a rough round, keeping the edges a bit thicker. Cook in the pan until the top starts to dry out then add some tomato sauce and mozzarella. Wait a minute before adding any other toppings. Leave in the pan until base begins to char. The first time I chickened out but as I got into the groove the subsequent pizzas were much better. When you're happy with the bottom switch the pan to under the arill until the cheese bubbles and the edges brown. Finish with a few basil leaves. These really are the next best thing to a pizza from a pizza oven or a proper pizzeria.

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#### **book** review

# a good read reviews By Willow Coby

#### The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

Coming 30 years after her best selling The Handmaid's Tale, readers certainly had a long wait for this sequel. The success of the recent television series has certainly brought in new fans, anxious to know what happens and whether Gilead will ever be brought down. Here



Atwood tries to give us some answers.

For those not familiar, the original novel told the story of America in the not so distant future where a totalitarian state has been established in the east of the country after a civil war. Women's rights have been taken away from them and are subjugated in this patriarchal society. This sequel tells us what happened next from the perspective of three women: Aunt Lydia, familiar to readers from the first novel, Agnes, a young woman living in Gilead, and Daisy, a young woman living in Canada. Here we learn something of how Gilead came to be in flash back accounts from Aunt Lydia, how the outside world sees Gilead, and the life-changing decisions that are made for young girls in Gilead by society. As a fan of the original I found this to be a aripping read that did not detract from the power of the 1985 novel. Is it a satisfying ending? Is everything resolved with the end of Gilead? That would be telling too much, and I'll leave it up to you to make that discovery.

#### Theatre Shoes by Noel Streatfield

If you have a child who loves to perform – dancing, singing, acting – then this is the book for them! Noel Streatfield is best known for her novel Ballet Shoes and this one is often overlooked. Whilst it may not have the classic status that the Ballet Shoes does this is still well worth reading.

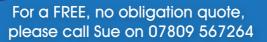


Originally published as Curtain Up this follows the story of Sorrel, Holly, and Mark. After the death of their mother, and the disappearance of their father during whilst serving in the Navy, the siblings are sent to wartime London to stay with their grandmother who they have never met. They find themselves in a world they have never experienced as they discover that their grandmother (and their mother) used to be a famous actress. She seems keen that the children follow in the family tradition, even though they have no experience, and they find themselves enrolled at Madame Fidolia's Academy of Dancing and Stage training. Fans of Ballet Shoes will recoanise this as the stage school attended by the Fossil girls. Sorrel soon discovers a passion for performing, staring as Ariel in a production of The Tempest. Mark is determined to join the Navy like his father - despite being a talented singer - whilst Holly, shines at dancing. Readers of Ballet Shoes will notice a similarity with the paths of the Fossil children, and they do indeed make cameos. Ultimately this story is about coming to terms with loss and discovering an extended family, albeit with the smell of the greasepaint and a pirouette or two.

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## crossword

	1		2	3	4	5	6	
7					8			
9				10				
11			12					
							13	
		14		15	16			
	17							
18						19		
20					21			

## clues

#### Across

- 7 Place for gambling (6)
- 8 Char, sear (6)
- 9 Reed instrument (4)
- 10 Hikers (8)
- 11 Ficus Elastica! (6,5)
- 14 Alternative to skirt and jacket. (7,4)
- 18 Without punishment or injury (4-4)
- 19 Animal prized for its fur (4)
- 20 Chopping these will make you cry (6)
- 21 False, incorrect (6)

#### Down

- 1 Port (7)
- 2 Ascend (4)
- 3 Medic (6)
- 4 In addition (2,4)
- 5 Engagements, gigs (8)
- 6 Chilling, creepy (5)
- 12 Pub seat (3,5)
- 13 King of Beasts' baby (4,3)
- 15 Civil disorder (6)
  - 16 Good look (informal) (6)
  - 17 Perfume, fragrance (5)
  - 19 Insect attracted to light (4)

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

# 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 41

# useful numbers

Health		
NHS non-emergency	111	L
Dorridge Surgery	01564 776262	Ic
Knowle Surgery	0121 796 2777	Te
Solihull Hospital	0121 424 2000	ic
Spire Parkway Hospital	0845 850 1451	A Te
Council		0
Solihull Council	0121 704 6000	K Te

Utilities

Electricity power cut	0800 6783 105
Gas leak	0800 111 9999
Severn Trent Water	024 7771 5000
Severn Trent Water (emergencies)	0800 783 4444

#### Travel

National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50
Network West Midlands (buses)	0345 303 6760

LOCAL COUNCILLORS DORRIDGE & HOCKLEY HEATH lan Courts Tel: 01676 535490 icourts@solihull.gov.uk

Andrew Mackiewicz Tel: 01564 230294 amackiewicz@solihull.gov.uk

Ken Meeson Tel: 01564 777772 kmeeson@solihull.gov.uk

#### KNOWLE

Diana Holl-Allen MBE Tel: 01675 443112 dhallen@solihull.gov.uk

Jeff Potts Tel: 01564 774804 jpotts@solihull.gov.uk

Alan Rebeiro Tel: 01564 200047 arebeiro@solihull.gov.uk

## local police contact for knowle & dorridge

Sergeant Mike Lloyd

Telephone: 101 ext 892 6037 Email: rural@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk



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25 Athos Business Solutions	8 0333 400 7876	<b>Fa</b> 31
<b>Bathrooms</b> 34 Cullen Plumbing & Tiling	g 07896 862916	Fu 2
<b>Beauty</b> 5 Skulpt Aesthetics	07990 583580	<b>G</b> ( 5
<b>Builders</b> 9 RG Contractors 19 Solihull Property	01564 757575	7 7
Maintenance	0121 745 4422	8 11
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Carpets & Flooring		27
15 Acorn Floors 35 D.A. Mander & Son	0121 693 3301 01564 700200	33
Ourse considered		44
Care services 22-23 Avery /7	01564 732400 32660 / 332233	<b>G</b> 1 38
33 Home Instead	01564 330395	
Cleaning Services		Hc 37
<ol> <li>Clean the Drive</li> <li>Zero Dry Time</li> <li>Dorridge &amp; Knowle</li> </ol>	01564 340259 0121 769 0439	<b>He</b> 14
Domestic Cleaning Services	07809 567264	He
Conservatory Roofs		,
9 Ensign	01527 69296	Ki
Doors and windows		32
13 Clearly Better Windows 17 Window Fix	0800 048 5223 0121 704 1339	La
18 Garolla garage doors		14
Estate agents 26 DM & Co	01564 777314	<b>Lo</b> 12
	0.004 ///014	
External wall insulation 13 Rockwarm	024 7634 5554	<b>Pc</b> 21

Fascias & Gutters 31 Proline	0800 956 1315
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Gardens and Drives       5     Garden Design Studio       7     Clean the Drive       7     Pond & Lake       Management     8       8     Oakland Group	07960 772307 01564 340259 01564 316001 01564 758608
<ol> <li>Gardens 2 Glow</li> <li>RG Contractors</li> <li>Dimension Landscape</li> </ol>	0121 366 9799 01564 757575
& Driveways 27 Central Drives Landscapes	0121 733 1463 0121 702 1456
<ul><li>33 KSD Ground</li><li>Contractors</li><li>44 Solihull Tree Care</li></ul>	0121 243 1225 0333 577 5733
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<b>Languages</b> 14 Beech Languages	01564 739621
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Painter & Decorator 21 Bill Boyce	0121 744 0040

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171	& Heating DMC Plumbing	01564 200119 07792 296728
	Cullen Plumbing & Tiling	
Do	ofina	
1	<b>ofing</b> N Bird & Son	0121 743 6324
	C Stevens Roofing Prestige Multi-Trades	0121 733 1276 07886 922280
50	Fresinge Multi-frades	07000 722200
	<b>icitors</b> Wallace Robinson	
24	& Morgan	01564 779393
Tili	na	
	Cullen Plumbing & Tiling	07896 862916
Tra	vel Agent	
	Not Just Travel	07565 534524

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

**Suduko Solution** from page 39



crossword Solution from page 39

	polmumice Big Big Islis
	Solution to Mind benders
1.	Home stretch
2.	Mother-in-law
3.	Count me out
ni	ndbenders

from page 17

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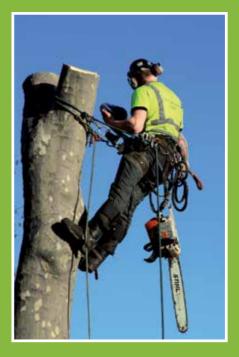


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