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Contact Me



Constituency office:

631 Warwick Road, Solihull B91 1AR

 0121 711 7029

 saqibbhatti.org.uk

 saqib.bhatti@parliament.uk

Please note my office remains open as usual, and we are conducting surgery appointments, so do not hesitate to book a slot.

This advert is funded by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA) for the purpose of assisting Saqib Bhatti MP in the performance of their Parliamentary duties.

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Joyous June!

Welcome to the June edition...

There's a whole load of great music and outdoor events coming up - see page 6 - fingers crossed the weather's good to us and we can get our shorts and sunglasses on!

Or maybe you're busy getting your garden summer ready or preparing to move house. If you need help getting your garden landscaped, your drive re-done, or your bathroom or kitchen updated then have a look to see if one of the local and reliable businesses who advertise in here can help. Wishing you a great month ahead. Until next month,



Zoe Reece

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community events

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Ballet, Ultravox, Visage, Tears For Fears, ABC, Japan, Yazoo, Human League, Eurythmics and more. Tickets £28, to book call 0121 704 6962.

Knowle Party in the Park

28 June

Knowle Park

Get ready for an electrifying experience at 2025's Party in The Park! Prepare for a day filled with legendary tunes and exhilarating performances that promise to make this event truly unforgettable. The line

up includes Peter Andre, Scouting for Girls, and 2 Weeks Notice. More info at www.knowlepartyinthepark.co.uk

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a good read

By Natasha Donovan

Only The Innocent

by Rachel Abbott

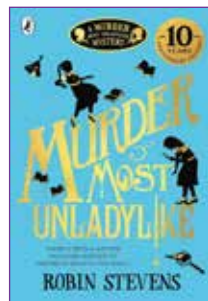
Rachel Abbott is a consummate storyteller with a knack for peeling away the perfect facades her characters present to the world. *Only the Innocent* is a gripping psychological thriller that delves into the complexities of guilt, innocence, and the dark secrets people try to bury. The story centres around the mysterious death of a young woman, found murdered in her home, seemingly without a trace of the killer. The case is handed to Detective Tom Douglas, a seasoned investigator with a keen eye for details and a deep commitment to finding the truth. As Tom digs deeper, he uncovers a web of lies surrounding the victim, who led a seemingly perfect life. Friends, family, and colleagues all claim innocence, but each of them harbours a hidden truth. Among them is Olivia, a woman whose past is tightly linked to the victim's. She becomes embroiled in the investigation, though her own secrets raise suspicions about her involvement in the murder. The story twists and turns as Tom navigates a maze of false leads and buried emotions, all while questioning whether he can trust anyone, including those closest to him. As the investigation reaches its peak, startling revelations about the victim and the suspects begin to surface, leaving Tom (and the reader) wondering if anyone is truly innocent. Tom is no maverick detective. His team are a dedicated and tight-knit group. The details of police procedures offer a fascinating insight into how good policing works, but they never get in the way of the plot. If you fall in love with Tom and his team you're in for a treat because there are ten more books after this one; each as intricately plotted as the last.



Murder Most Unladylike

by Robin Stevens

This is the first book in the captivating *Murder Most Unladylike* series, blending mystery, friendship, and adventure in a delightful setting. The story follows two schoolmates, Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong, who attend Deepdean School for Girls in 1934 England. Daisy, the fearless and clever leader, and Hazel, her thoughtful and observant companion, form the Wells & Wong Detective Society, determined to solve any mystery that comes their way. When the school's gym teacher, Miss Bell, is found dead under suspicious circumstances, Daisy and Hazel take it upon themselves to investigate, despite the potential danger of going against the grown-ups' advice. The girls quickly discover that Miss Bell's death is not an accident—it's murder. But the more they investigate, the more secrets about their school and its staff begin to surface, and the deeper they find themselves entangled in a web of mystery. As the duo navigates the clues, they must rely on their wits, bravery, and unshakeable friendship to uncover the truth. Along the way, they learn that not everything is as it seems, and that even in the safest of places, danger can lurk just around the corner. *Murder Most Unladylike* is a fast-paced mystery that will have young readers hooked from the first page to the thrilling final reveal.



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More Than Music

The Enduring Magic of Glastonbury Festival

From Wednesday 25th – Sunday 29th June, the quiet fields of Worthy Farm in Somerset will be transformed into something extraordinary: a sprawling, kaleidoscopic world where music, art, activism, and counterculture collide. The Glastonbury Festival isn't just a music event - it's a rite of passage, a cultural institution, and for many, a pilgrimage. With its roots in the 1970s hippie movement and its heart still firmly tied to values of community and expression, Glastonbury has grown into the world's most iconic festival. But what exactly sets it apart from the rest?

Glastonbury's story begins in 1970, when dairy farmer Michael Eavis hosted the first event, inspired by a nearby open-air Led Zeppelin gig. For £1 (that's £13.50 in today's money), attendees were treated to performances by Marc Bolan and free milk from the farm's cows. From these humble beginnings, the festival has grown into a massive five-day celebration of contemporary performing arts, drawing over 200,000 attendees and showcasing everything from world-famous headliners to circus performers, poets, and political speakers.



At the heart of Glastonbury is its atmosphere - an intoxicating mix of hedonism, creativity, and open-mindedness. It's the kind of place where you can dance to a secret sunrise DJ set in the woods, listen to a talk on climate activism, take part in a yoga class, and then catch an historic Pyramid Stage headline act, all in a single day. Unlike many festivals focused solely on lineups and brand sponsorships, Glastonbury feels like a living, breathing community with its own ethos and soul.

Part of what makes the atmosphere so unique is its sheer scale and diversity. While the Pyramid Stage might grab headlines, some of Glastonbury's richest experiences lie away from the spotlight - in the immersive wonderland of Shangri-La, the tranquil Healing Fields, or the radical activism of Left Field. It's

this multi-dimensional nature that allows festivalgoers to curate their own experience, from wild partying to introspective escape.

Glastonbury is also deeply intertwined with social and environmental causes. It has long supported campaigns for Greenpeace, Oxfam, and WaterAid, and places a strong emphasis on sustainability - encouraging attendees to reduce waste, go plastic-free, and respect the land. In an era of increasingly commercialized festivals, Glastonbury stands out by staying true to its activist roots.

And then there are the special moments - career-defining performances by legends like David Bowie, Radiohead, Beyoncé, and Stormzy - that become etched in music history. These sets often transcend entertainment, becoming cultural milestones that reflect broader societal shifts.

Glastonbury isn't just about who's playing - it's about the experience, the ideals, and the sense of belonging. It's a place where, for five days, reality is suspended and something deeper takes hold: a shared belief in the power of art, community, and the possibility of a better world.



MAY HALF TERM 24 MAY - 1 JUNE

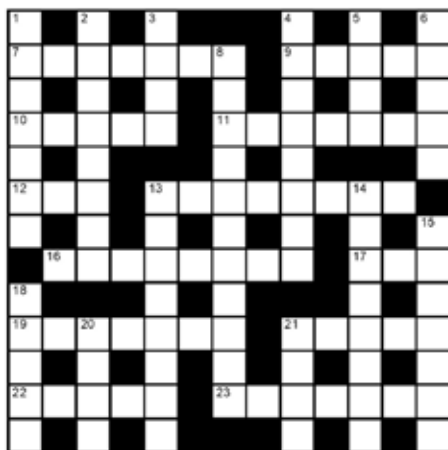
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crossword



clues

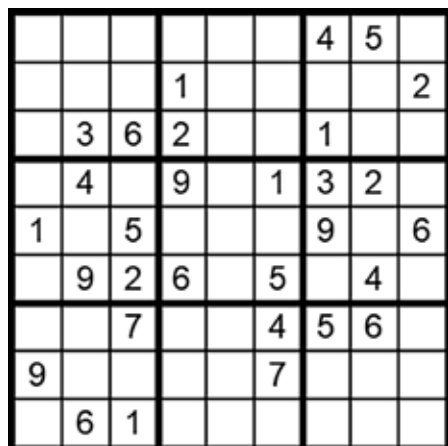
Across

- 7 Baby of the King of Beasts (4,3)
- 9 French word for red (5)
- 10 Ground meat (5)
- 11 In the customary way (2,5)
- 12 Large flightless bird (3)
- 13 Observing (8)
- 16 Undoes a necklace (8)
- 17 Cereal similar to wheat (3)
- 19 Tranquil (7)
- 21 Flash of light (5)
- 22 Patriarch, veteran (5)
- 23 Fearful, concerned (7)

Down

- 1 Sleep (7)
- 2 Change for the worse (8)
- 3 Unit of measurement for land (4)
- 4 Squats close to the ground (8)
- 5 Hindu spiritual teacher (4)
- 6 Largest instrument in a string quartet (5)
- 8 Establishment that offers facials and pedicures (6,5)
- 13 Large destructive woodland blaze (8)
- 14 Storyteller (8)
- 15 A little hungry (7)
- 18 Made an effort (5)
- 20 Type of yeast-free bread (4)
- 21 Put in order (4)

answer on page 24

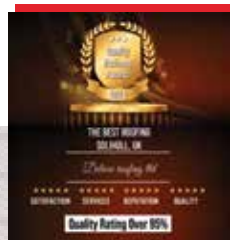


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answer on page 24



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answers on page 24

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Crossword Solution
from page 20



Sudoku Solution
from page 20

useful numbers

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mindbenders

from page 21

Strawberry Hazelnut Shortbreads

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Ingredients

For the hazelnut shortbread:

4 oz (110 g) hazelnuts
5 oz (150 g) softened butter
2½ oz (60 g) unrefined golden icing sugar, plus extra to serve
2½ oz (60 g) rice flour, sifted (or use dried semolina)
5 oz (150 g) plain flour, sifted, plus a little extra for rolling out

For the strawberry purée:

8 oz (225 g) fresh strawberries, hulled
1 level tablespoon golden caster sugar

For the strawberry filling:

1 lb (450 g) fresh strawberries, hulled, reserving 8 for decoration
7 fl oz (200 ml) crème fraîche
5 fl oz (150 ml) fresh custard
2 drops vanilla extract

Method

Toast the hazelnuts by

spreading them out on a baking tray and placing them in the oven for 5 minutes. Use a timer so they don't burn. When cool, grind them to a sand-like consistency in a blender, or chop finely, pop them in a polyethene bag and crush them as finely as possible with a rolling pin. Cream the butter and icing sugar together in a large bowl until light and fluffy, then gradually beat in the sifted flours or semolina, followed by the ground hazelnuts. Bring the mixture together to make a dough. Place this in a polythene food bag and leave it in the fridge to rest for about 30 minutes. Then roll it out on a lightly floured surface to a thickness of about 5 mm (¼ inch). Use a 9cm cutter to make 16

rounds of shortbread dough. Arrange the biscuits on the baking trays and lightly prick each one with a fork. Bake for 10-12 minutes. Remove them from the oven and leave to cool on the trays for 10 minutes before removing them to a wire rack to cool completely. Place the purée fruit in a bowl, sprinkle them with the sugar and leave for 30 minutes. After that, purée them in the food processor, then press them through a nylon sieve to remove the seeds. Cover and set aside. Whisk the crème fraîche in a mixing bowl with an electric hand whisk until it becomes stiff, then add the custard and vanilla extract and whisk again until thick. Cover the mixture and chill until just before serving. Reserve 8 strawberries for decoration. Roughly chop or slice the remainder. Spread equal quantities of the cream mixture over the biscuits, then arrange the strawberry pieces on top of eight. Spoon some purée over each one, then sandwich with the remaining cream-covered rounds. Now place a reserved strawberry on top of each one and finish off with a light dusting of icing sugar.

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