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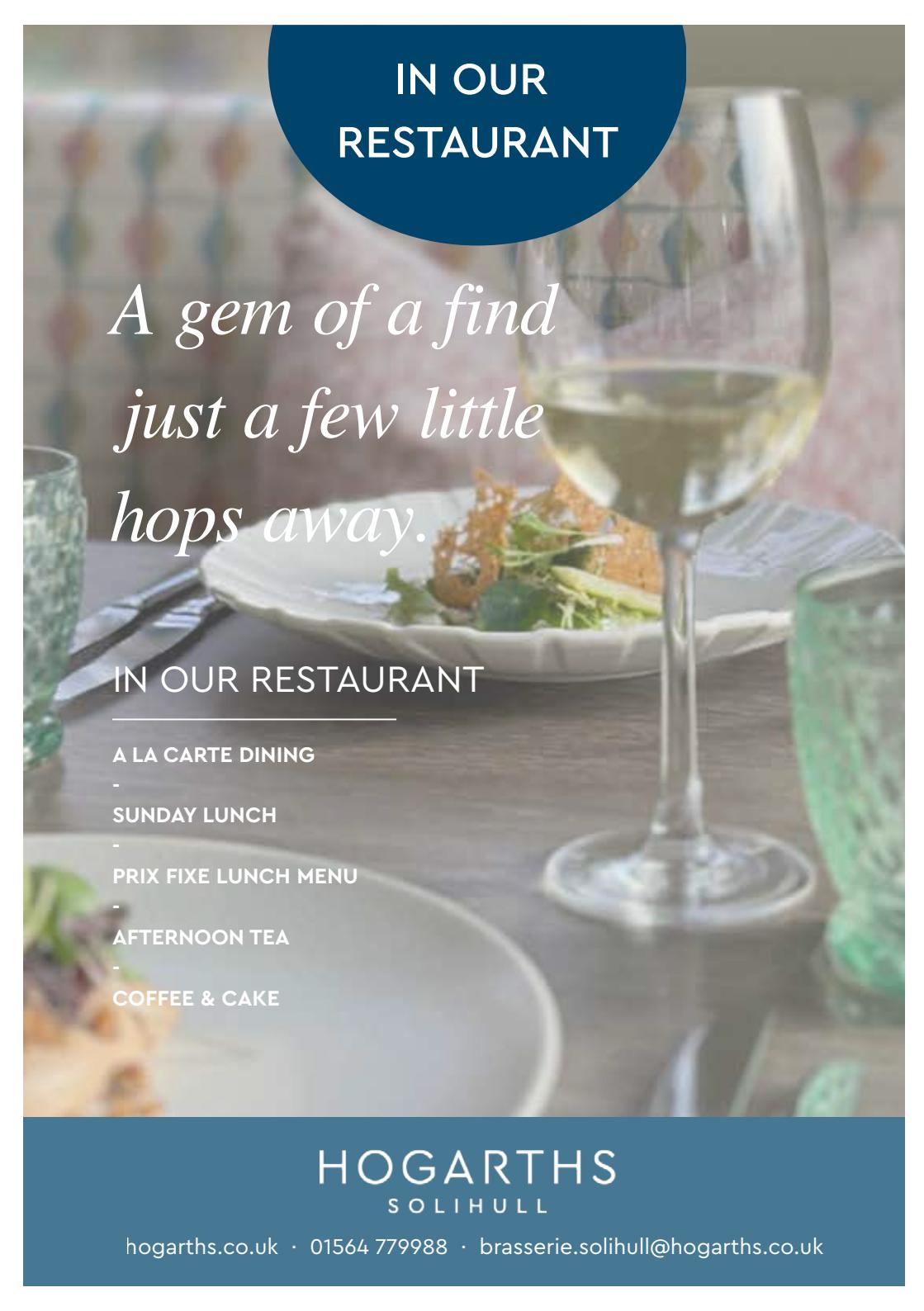


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Love is in the air!

Welcome to the February edition...

Hopefully you had a Valentine's Day full of love, whether it was love from a partner, a family member, a friend, or a pet!

But if Valentine's Day just passed you by, why not show your home some love instead? There's a wide range of local businesses and tradespeople in here who can help you improve your home, whether you need doors, driveways, or decorating...

Zoe

Zoe Reece
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A woman with short brown hair, wearing a bright yellow sweater, is shouting into a white megaphone. She is positioned on the left side of the frame, with her mouth wide open. The background is a solid pink color. To the right of the woman, the text 'GOT SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT?' is written in large, bold, pink capital letters. Below this, in smaller pink text, are the words 'ADVERTISE IN THIS DIRECTORY' and 'GET THE WORD OUT'. At the bottom right, there is a contact block with the text 'Contact Zoe Reece on 07557 220585 / zoe@dorridgedirectory.com'.

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Atlantic Nights Tribute to the 80's

27 February

The Lake at Barston

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Who are the best driving instructors in Solihull?

If you've got a teenager about to turn 17 then you're likely to be needing an instructor or driving school in Solihull. Some parents do attempt to teach their child themselves, in an effort to save money, but often give up when they realise their child hates being told what to do by them! Using a qualified, experienced driving instructor in Solihull will ensure your child learns how to drive properly and safely and can avoid a lot of heated debates!

Top rated driving instructors in Solihull

We're lucky to have a range of driving instructors in Solihull with great reviews. Here we have listed a few of them to help you pick one that meets your requirements.

- **Solipass** have a 5-star rating on Google, out of 179 reviews. Owner Pete Patel has over 20 years' experience in teaching and an excellent pass rate.
- **The A-Team** focuses on delivering a student-centred learning experience and pride themselves on training safe and competent drivers. They have 5 stars on Google out of 343 reviews, as well



as a 4.9 rating on Trustpilot.

- **Jason from Jason M Thorne** can help, whether you are looking to learn to drive or to improve your driving skills and knowledge. He offers standard driving lessons, Pass Plus courses, night-time driving and motorway driving lessons and has 5 stars on Google out of 21 reviews.
- **Think Safety Driving School** work across the Solihull and Birmingham area and have achieved 4.8 stars on Google out of 197 reviews. They offer lessons with male and female instructors, for manual and automatic cars.
- **Monodrive School of Motoring** have built a team of instructors that will help you achieve your goal of getting your driving licence. They have hundreds of reviews on Google, Yell.com, Facebook and Instagram with 4.9 stars on Google out of 232 reviews.
- **Debi B's Driving School** offers a female driving instructor in Solihull, who teaches first time learners, refresher courses and motorway lessons. She only teaches manual driving, not automatic, and has achieved 5 stars on Yell.com as a result of her reviews.

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Ideas for February half term in Solihull

Another school holiday?! Doesn't it feel like the kids have only just gone back after Christmas and new year? Here are some tips for a family friendly half term in Solihull this February to keep everyone happy.

For working parents - kids' holiday camps in Solihull

- The Bugs Group are running holiday camps for kids age 5-15 at Alderbrook School this February half term. Choose from football, dance or multi-sports.
- Team Super Sports operates from Solihull School and cater for 5-16 year olds who can choose from netball, rugby, football, gymnastics, cricket, hockey, and tennis.

For those on a budget

You can have great fun with a stay-at-home games day. It just needs a little planning beforehand. Make sure you have some board games at the ready - and if you don't have any, or they're all 'boring' to the kids, you could head to your local charity shop, they always have a collection of jigsaw puzzles and board games.



Other games you can play indoors include setting up your own treasure hunt, where they have to find the treasure (chocolate bar?!) by finding clues and following the trail.

Many kids love a challenge, so why not set them a reading challenge over half term where they have to read a page a day or a book over the week, depending on their ability. Or challenge them to a drawing competition - there's some great videos on YouTube where they teach you how to easily draw animals and cartoon characters.

In this technological age sometimes we forget about the simple things like card games - there's great fun to be had playing Uno, snap, Go Fish, and Rummy - the rules are pretty simple and it brings out everyone's competitive side! And if you want to get even simpler just grab paper and a pen and play hangman or noughts and crosses. If you've

got any leftover paper why not Google some origami ideas and see if you can create origami animals or hats.

Ideas on where to go if it's raining

It's always handy to have some ideas at the ready for those rainy days this half term in Solihull when no-one quite knows what to do with themselves.

If you fancy mini golf or bowling you could try Spinners in Touchwood, and if you build up an appetite while you're there, you could enjoy one of their pizzas afterwards.

Wrap up warm and head to Planet Ice in Solihull - just turn up for a skate or maybe book some lessons and stop your kids from looking like Bambi on ice!

For those feeling active head to Flash Climbing Centre in Solihull. They offer a range of classes to suit all ages and abilities, from complete beginners to budding young competition climbers.

Cineworld in Touchwood is another good option - it always feels such a treat to watch the latest movie on a big screen with a bag of popcorn that always seems to get everywhere!



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Care at home & Care Homes

If you are concerned about the welfare of a friend, partner or family member who may be struggling with living alone, or maybe their partner can't look after them properly, then it could be time to assess your options and seek some help.

Care at home

If you're not sure if your loved one needs home care in Solihull, then ask yourself a few questions about the individual concerned. Are you worried that they cannot wash and dress themselves properly? Are you concerned they're not too mobile around their home? Might they be in danger of having a fall? Do you think they might not be eating properly? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you might want to look into home care in Solihull where carers can come in as often as required to help improve the individual's quality of life.

- Solihull home care companies that have 5 out of 5 star reviews on Google include Right At Home Solihull, Helping Hands Home Care Solihull, Solihull Home Care, Home Instead Solihull, Homecare For You, and Belmont Homecare Services
- Other Solihull home care companies with at least



4.5 out of 5 stars on Google are A Star Care Services, Dove Home Care, Bluebird Care Solihull, care4now, and Solihull Care Ltd

Care homes

When is it time to get your loved one into a care home in Solihull? It's likely to be the best option if the individual is struggling with living alone, even with help from friends or carers, or has a medical condition that needs they need regular attention, day and night. If you're unsure, the best thing to do is to contact a couple of local care homes in Solihull and request an assessment. They can talk to you about the individual and their needs, will probably suggest a home

visit, and can advise on the best options available, as well as the associated costs. The Care Quality Commission is a regulatory organisation body that inspects and oversees healthcare providers in England to ensure they meet legal standards and provide quality care. They rate care homes, and other healthcare providers, into one of four areas – Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement, or Inadequate.

- The Royal Star & Garter Care Home in Solihull received an Outstanding rating in the CQC's last inspection, and when we last checked this was the only care home in Solihull to have received this top rating.
- Other care homes in Solihull with a 'Good' rating include:
 - Solihull - Ardenlea Grove, Ardenlea Court, The Grove, Rayner House
 - Knowle - Knowle Gate, Birchmere House, Birchmere Mews, Job's Close
 - Shirley - The Priory, Elizabeth House, The Pines, Fountains, Swalls Meadows Court, Connaught House, Blossomfield Grange
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