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Joyous June!

Welcome to the June edition

There's a whole load of great events coming up – from festivals to art experiences. Fingers crossed the weather's good to us and we can get our picnic blankets out!

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,



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What happens if I die without a will?

If someone dies without a will then their estate will follow the rules of 'Intestacy' – Hannah Tait, Partner at Solihull-based law firm Shakespeare Martineau, explains...

What does it mean to have died intestate?

Dying 'intestate' means that a person has passed away without a valid will, so the order of priority in terms of who inherits what is outlined in the Administration of Estates Act 1925, which in effect creates a 'virtual will' to decide how that person's estate is distributed.

Who will inherit the estate?

In England and Wales, assets held jointly, such as joint bank accounts and some joint property will pass automatically to the surviving owner. If there is only a spouse or civil partner and no children, then they will inherit everything else. Where there are children, the spouse or civil partner will inherit the personal possessions and the first £322,000 of the estate, with the balance being equally shared between the spouse or civil partner and the children. Where there are children but no spouse or civil partner, then the children inherit everything. If there is no spouse or civil partner or children, then grandchildren, followed by parents, siblings, nieces/nephews, grandparents, aunts/uncles or cousins will inherit, in that order.

What happens with property?

It depends on how it is held; if property is held jointly, as beneficial joint tenants, then the share belonging to the person who has died will pass to the surviving owner automatically. If they held it as tenants in common then their share will pass under the rules of intestacy.

Do you need a solicitor?

It is always possible to write a will or administer an estate without legal assistance. However, this can be very time-consuming and sometimes complicated. It's also very easy to get wrong, to misunderstand what is needed, or simply not to know the best option until it's too late. This can result in unnecessary tax charges, people benefitting who you hadn't anticipated, or situations that are difficult to unwind.

Using a specialist might seem expensive, but going it alone can often cause more stress and money wasted in the long run.



For more information call 0330 024 0333
email hannah.tait@shma.co.uk or visit www.shma.co.uk

Shakespeare Martineau Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Solihull, B91 2AA

community events

"Remember When...?"

29th June 2pm, Knowle Village Hall

The Knowle Village Hall Association invite you to "Remember When...?". Vintage Vocalist Amy Price will be presenting a nostalgic programme of songs from the 1940's to the 70's, guaranteed to jog your memory. Refreshments will be served during the interval. Tickets £10 (admission by ticket only) from 01564 779445 or 01564 779898.

Dorridge Cricket Club Family Fun Day

7th July 2pm, Dorridge

Cricket Club, Grange Road, Dorridge

Dorridge Cricket Club is holding a family fun day and opening its new ground at Grange Road. There will be live music, pop-up food stalls, a BBQ and bar, cricket taster sessions and two cricket matches taking place. Everyone is welcome.

Dolly Parton Tribute Night

13th July 7pm, Shirley British Legion

Join in for a night of toe-tapping tunes, dazzling costumes, and unforgettable memories as they pay tribute to the one and only Dolly Parton! Tickets from ticketsource.co.uk



Solihull Summer Fest

20-21 July, Tudor Grange Park

Grab tickets now for an epic festival experience filled with music, art, food, and unforgettable memories! Tickets from solihullsummerfest.co.uk/

Beyond Van Gogh – The Immersive Experience

1 August – 1 September, The NEC

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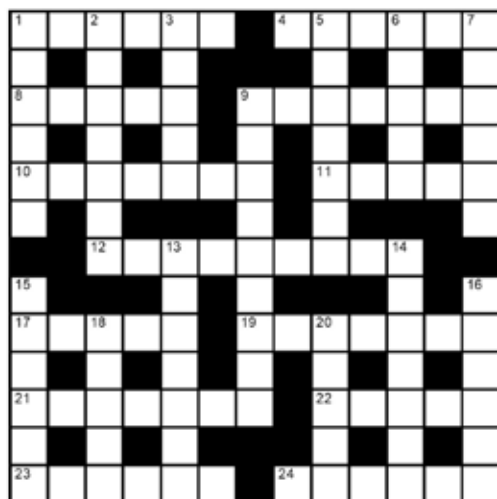
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crossword



clues

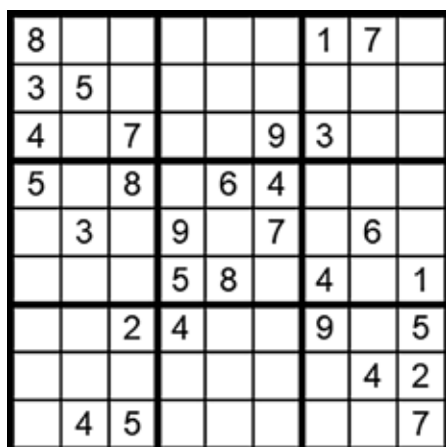
Across

- 1 Small round stone (6)
- 4 Pristine (6)
- 8 Large black bird (5)
- 9 Zeal (7)
- 10 Type of large military ship (7)
- 11 Rectify, revise (5)
- 12 Scarlet food dye (9)
- 17 Yellow/brown (5)
- 19 Gleaned (7)
- 21 Sparkle, shine (7)
- 22 Barbecue (5)
- 23 Cantankerous (6)
- 24 Burns supper dish (6)

Down

- 1 Robbery at sea (6)
- 2 Temporary, makeshift camp (7)
- 3 Estate, territory (5)
- 5 Recite, recount (7)
- 6 Tally, total (5)
- 7 Make fun of, insult (6)
- 9 Outlawed, prohibited (9)
- 13 The fastest big cat (7)
- 14 Deficient, incomplete (7)
- 15 Purchased (6)
- 16 Grown ups (6)
- 18 Lift (5)
- 20 Belief, principle (5)

answer on page 26



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 26

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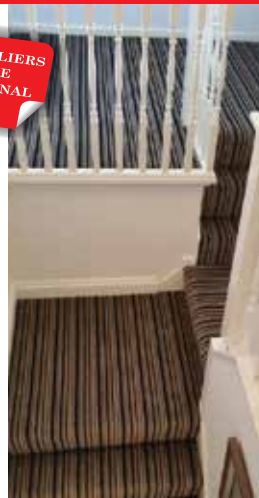
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a good read

By Natasha Donovan

The Supper Club

by Lara Williams

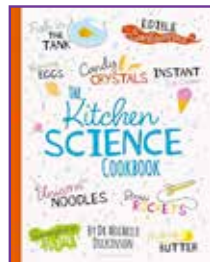
Williams' striking and vividly written novel delves into the complexities of female friendship, body image, and the act of reclaiming space in a world that often tries to diminish women. The story revolves around Roberta and Stevie, two young women who, after meeting at university, form a unique bond and establish the eponymous Supper Club – a secret society where women gather to indulge in food without guilt or judgement. Williams' writing is both sharp and tender, capturing the subtleties of her characters' inner lives with remarkable clarity. The narrative alternates between Roberta's past and present, weaving together her experiences with food, from restrictive eating to liberating feasting, and her journey towards self-acceptance. It's a structure that effectively depicts the protagonist's evolving relationship with herself and her body and makes for a relatable read. But this is more than a story about food and friendship. It is a nuanced exploration of the complexities of female identity and the ways in which women navigate a world that often seeks to constrain them. Williams tackles issues of body image and the struggle for self-identity with sensitivity and insight, making the novel both thought-provoking and deeply moving in parts. The Supper Club itself is a symbol of resistance against societal norms that dictate how women should look, eat, and behave. The descriptions of the meals are sumptuous and vivid, transporting the reader into these nocturnal gatherings where the women not only feast but also share stories, laughter, and pain. This is a story that celebrates women while offering a commentary on the pressures they face. It's a story of transformation and liberation, and a reminder of the power of claiming one's space in the world.



The Kitchen Science Cookbook

by Dr. Michelle Dickinson

This is a beautifully crafted book with a unique twist: each recipe is a science experiment that you can do at home, using the everyday ingredients you'll find in your kitchen. You don't need to be a science expert because the easy-to-follow recipes make science experiments fun for everyone. Nanotechnologist Michelle Dickinson is on a mission to show us that we can all be scientists, no matter how young or old. The book has an easy-to-follow format, and every experiment uses ingredients found in most kitchens. Kids will love following each recipe and learning about the science. When I set aside an afternoon to do a few experiments with my own kids I learned a lot too. The photos show normal families doing each of the experiments, which contributes to the approachable feel of the book. In spite of it being so accessible, Dickinson, who is a serious scientist, covers the scientific method - coming up with a prediction, testing it etc; safety precautions, and general science tips which is great for non-scientist parents like me. If you want to get your kids excited about science, this is a fabulous book.



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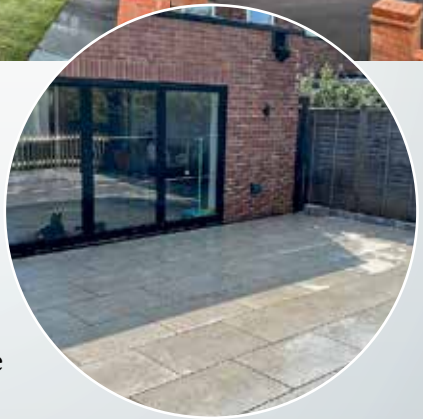
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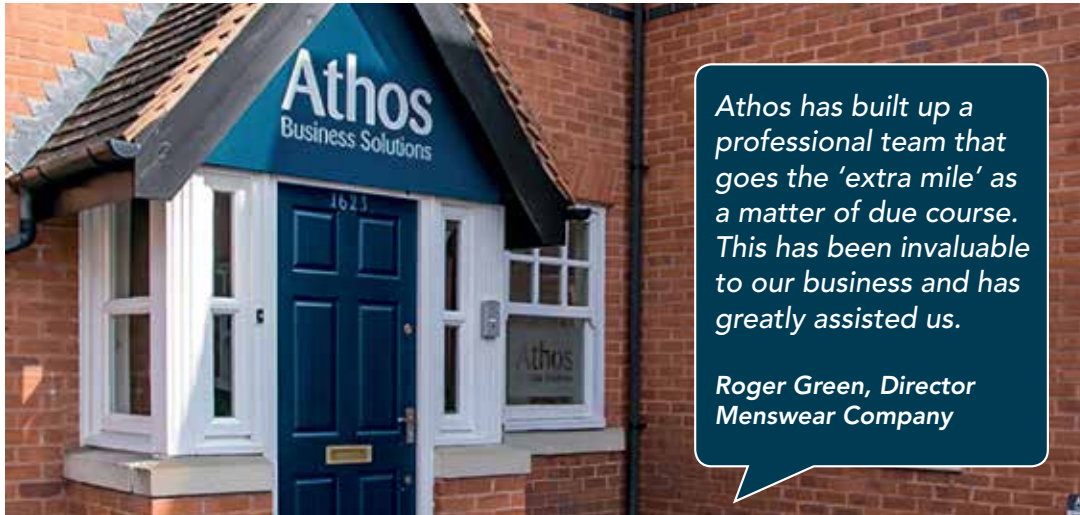
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There are more health



benefits too. They naturally deliver vitamins, fibre, and particularly high levels of antioxidants known as polyphenols - without any sodium, fat, or cholesterol. They are among the top 20 high-antioxidant fruits and are a good source of manganese and potassium. Just one serving - about eight berries - provides more vitamin C than an orange.

Strawberries also have minerals such as calcium, iron, potassium, folate, and magnesium, along with more antioxidants called anthocyanins. Those are healthful plant compounds that also give strawberries their red colour. The redder the fruit, the more antioxidants it has.

The vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants in strawberries provide important health benefits.

Allergic reactions to strawberries usually cause symptoms such as itchy bumps, tingling, or swelling of your lips, mouth, tongue, or throat. Seek medical advice if this happens.

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100ml filtered or mineral water
60g cocoa powder

For the sugar syrup

250ml filtered or mineral water
150g caster sugar

Method

Prepare the sugar syrup by placing the sugar and water into a saucepan. Bring to the boil without stirring and leave to simmer until the sugar crystals have dissolved (about 5 minutes). Remove from the heat. Melt the dark chocolate in a

heat-proof bowl suspended over a saucepan of just-simmering water. When it has melted add the 100ml water and reheat until warm. Whisk in the cocoa, then add the melted chocolate, whisking together until smooth.

Let the mixture cool, then chill it by placing the bowl of sorbet mixture over a bowl of water filled with ice cubes. Stir occasionally but don't let any water splash into the sorbet mix. For the smoothest results churn the chilled mixture in an ice cream maker until ready. If you don't have an ice cream maker then place the mixture in a shallow bowl and freeze it in the coldest

part of the freezer. Take it out every hour and whisk it to break up the ice crystals. Made this way it will have a slightly more granular texture, but it will still be delicious. Remove from the freezer about twenty minutes before serving.

Serving suggestions

Although this is lovely on its own you could try serving it with: Strawberries dipped in melted chocolate, then chilled. Rich butter shortbread (obviously not if you're on a gluten-free diet!). With a glass of coffee, chocolate or mint liqueur poured over.

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

Sudoku Solution
from page 12

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

Crossword Solution
from page 12

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