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Summertime...

As I sit writing this we're in the middle of a proper heatwave but who knows what the weather will be doing by the time this reaches you! Hopefully it's still warm and sunny so everyone can get out and about and enjoy themselves.

The Solihull Summer Fest is coming back to Tudor Grange Park on 27th-28th July and with acts such as Level 42 and The Vamps it's definitely worth getting your tickets booked.

There's lots of other great events coming up too, but not everyone gets to hear about them so check out page 6 for more information on Touchwood's Urban Beach and The Beech House's Garden Party. Just turn up and enjoy!

Until next month,

Zoe

Zoe Reece

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community events

Touchwood's Urban Beach

6th July – 24th August

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Local residents will once again be transported to sun, sand and serenity as Solihull becomes awash with African vibes thanks to this year's safari theme! Throughout the summer, guests of all ages will be able to relax in the deckchairs, build sandcastles and enjoy a vibrant programme of activities and entertainment.



Solihull Sort Of Jazz Festival

19-21 July

The much-loved Solihull 'Sort Of' Jazz Festival is back! Enjoy a great selection of bands on the main stage in Mell Square, and tingle your taste buds with a selection of foods from around the world at the accompanying Continental

Street Food Market. Visit www.solihullbid.co.uk for more details.



Solihull Summer Fest

27th – 28th July

Tudor Grange Park

This 2-day festival in the heart of Solihull returns for the 4th year running and features a diverse mix of music genres. Each day runs from 12 midday until 10.30pm with live music, street food vendors, bars, entertainment and an exclusive VIP area.

Jam Rock

2nd August

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Garden Party

3rd August

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- **Jellybeans** – held monthly on a Thursday morning for story-time and rhymes for the under 5's 10.45am -11.30am
- **Monday Story Times** - Weekly story time and rhymes for toddlers and pre-school children 10.30am-11.00am
- **Under – fives** Rhyme Times at 2pm every Friday
- **Knowle Knit and Natter Group** – held monthly on a Tuesday 10.30am -11.30am
- **The Reading Café** – Monthly on a Friday morning 10.30am -11.30am
- **Self-Running Family History Group** – Monthly on a Tuesday 2.15pm -4.00pm
- **Reader's Circles** – Knowle Readers Circle meets monthly on a Friday 2.15pm
- **Knowle Library Self Running Readers Circle** monthly meeting Tuesday 11.00am -12pm
- **Poetry Group** - Monthly on a Tuesday 11.00am -12.00pm
- **Scrabble Club** - Adult Scrabble Club Fortnightly – Thursday 2.00pm

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The Women of Wimbledon

Home-grown champions from the past

The Championships, Wimbledon is the most famous tennis event in the British sporting calendar. It was first contested in 1877 and played on outdoor grass courts at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (AELTC) in the Wimbledon suburb of London, United Kingdom.

The Ladies' Singles tournament began

in 1884, and the women's game has developed massively over the last century. We are all familiar with the incredible Williams sisters, but our own Nation has a pretty impressive history in the Women's singles, which is often overlooked by the British media.

Dorothy Round Little won her first title in 1934 — the same year as her British male counterpart Fred Perry also won his first. She won her second Wimbledon title at age 29 in 1937. A devout Christian, she often refused to play on Sundays. She published two books, *Modern Lawn Tennis* and *Tennis For Girls*. After her retirement in 1939 she worked as a coach, journalist, and president of the Worcester Lawn Tennis Club.

Florence Angela Margaret Mortimer

Barrett beat another English player Christine Truman Janes to become Wimbledon's women's singles champion in 1961. She was aged 29 and partially deaf.

Ann Haydon-Jones had already won the French Open and U.S. Open twice before winning Wimbledon in 1969. She first showed her talent as a young girl. Her father was a table tennis champion and he encouraged her competitive spirit. She played the famous **Billie Jean King** several times but never beat



her until her win at Wimbledon. **Haydon-Jones** was also the first left-handed female singles player to win the championship.

Virginia Wade was a maths graduate, famed for her powerful serve. She defeated **Billie Jean King** at the US Open, earning her first Grand Slam title. She went on to win the Australian Open in 1972, and in 1977, nearly a decade after her first victory, Wade would become Wimbledon's last British singles winner for 36 years. The year she won, defeating Dutch player Betty Stöve at Wimbledon was the Queen's Silver Jubilee and Queen Elizabeth II herself was present to enjoy her victory.

It remains to be seen whether current British number one **Johanna Konta** can better her semi-final performance in 2017 to add her name to the list of amazing female British tennis players who have held the Wimbledon trophy aloft.

By Tracey Anderson

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Pool Power!

By Sarah Davey

Stay cool in a pool this summer

Kids love to splash in a pool on a hot summer's day. If you are thinking of buying one, we have some top tips.

Inflatable pools - These are easily inflated so can be up and filled as soon as the sunshine appears. Smaller inflatable pools are ideal for toddlers and can be inflated by one person with a good set of lungs, but larger pools can accommodate the whole family - you will probably prefer to inflate these with a pump!

Quick up pools - These are super-easy to set up. Spread the pool out and inflate the top ring. The design of the pool means that as you fill it with water the

sides of the pool will rise up. These are particularly good if storage space is tight.

Frame pools - Sturdier pools with a bigger bathing area. Frame pools are ideal for larger families and groups of teens. Look for rust-resistant galvanised metal frames; heavy-duty PVC and polyester 3-ply walls; beams and joints that pin or snap together for fast, easy construction. A filter pump to keep the water clean, and a repair patch kit to mend small tears or punctures.

Site your pool on a level surface, with plenty of room to make it easy and safe to get in and out. **Remember, toddlers and young children should be supervised at all times.**





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For your chance to win these tickets, visit the Core Theatre website page for this event - www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk - to find the answer to this question:

Who's hosting this event?

Email your answer to: thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk – and please put 'Jazz and Jokes' as the subject line.

Closing date for entries is 15th August. The winner will be drawn at random and notified by email after this date.

Please note there is no cash value nor exchange for this prize so please don't enter if you cannot attend the date shown above.

About the show:

Thrill to the sounds of Vintage Jazz and Swing with this latest version of the Barnhart-Huxley Hot Five, featuring the blistering trumpet and swinging vocals of London jazz legend Enrico Tomasso. Rico and George Huxley will create the hottest combo since Louis Armstrong met Sidney Bechet! Add flautist/vocalist Anne Barnhart for some sass and class, the ebullient Jeff Barnhart channelling Fats Waller as he strides across the keys, and Graham Smith, the most in-demand drummer in the Midlands, and you have an evening of jazz and hilarity to remember for ages to come!

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Anguilla - a stunning island, a well kept secret!

Anguilla is 100 miles northwest of Antigua, 50 minutes by air but can also be reached from St Kitts & Nevis and British Virgin Islands. It is a British overseas territory with a wealth of culture, history, amazing beaches, fabulous restaurants and world class accommodation.

What I especially love about this fantastic place is it's simple sophistication and it remains uncrowded even in summer. **No large cruise ships stop here**, there are no all inclusives, no jet skis or chain restaurants.

You may be forgiven for thinking that doesn't sound great but it means that the local cuisine has thrived and is highly regarded throughout the Caribbean. **It oozes old style Caribbean heritage** and culture, with a passion for music and their national sport of boat racing.

The beaches are exceptional and all 33 of them are public.

Anguilla is the northernmost of the Leeward Islands. The island is flattish and rugged, 16 miles long and its widest point is 3 miles. It covers an

area of 35 square miles and the population is 14,750. It has so much to offer from sailing, kite surfing, scuba diving, paddleboarding, surfing to hiking, cycling, golf, yoga and birdwatching.

Anguilla has 6 offshore cays which are uninhabited but easily reached by boat where you can indulge in BBQs beach shack dining, go on nature based tours or even enjoy snorkelling.

The official language is English, it's 4 hours behind UK, no visa requirements and the currency is the Eastern Caribbean dollar but US dollars are widely accepted too.

There is so much I could tell you about this island but I need a few more pages! If you would like to know more **please don't hesitate in emailing me.**



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The Appeal of the Summer Fete

By Karen Campbell

Summer surely isn't summer without a village fete. Part country fair, part a sale of home-grown and locally made produce, part a celebration of community, the English village fete is a social institution, barely changed since the 1920s.

The Village fete is enshrined in our literary history, from The Famous Five, to PG Wodehouse and Agatha Christie, the Village fete has provided the perfect backdrop against which to set a drama or two, and never attend any fete in Midsomer which is also attended by Inspector Barnaby! If you want a measure of how well a village is thriving in 21st Century Britain, take a look at its **summer fete**. More of us are looking for a sense of community in a Britain that seems in danger of fragmenting. To that end tenth generation locals will rub

shoulders with commuters, second homers and young families, to discuss the merits of Bert's onions, Sharon's Victoria Sponge, and whether young Tyler will win the talent competition with his street dance routine.

Let's face it, where else can you buy a pot of rhubarb and ginger preserve, enter a competition to guess the weight of a cake, bounce on a bouncy castle and throw a wet sponge at the vicar...or scoutmaster... or head teacher, or all three if you're lucky?

Village fetes are alive and well in Britain, and I for one am very happy about that. I have just moved from the town to a village and intend to enter my scones in the baked goods competition this year. I doubt I'll win but it's the taking part that matters.

Now I wonder if there will be a murder...

a good read

reviews By Willow Coby

A Lily in the Light

by Kristen Fields



A child going missing is every parent's worst nightmare. And many books have been written with this as the main plot device, as the parents try to cope with events that follow. However, this debut novel approaches it from a different angle.

Esme is 11 years old and for her, ballet is life. She is on the brink of every young ballerina's dream as she is told that she is ready to go 'en pointe'. But this joy is snatched from her one evening as the family gather to enjoy a meal. Suddenly, and inexplicably, Esme's four-year-old sister Lily disappears. The family starts to fall apart, but as readers we experience this through the eyes of Esme, not her parents.

In the second half of the novel the action switches to Paris eight years later where Esme is performing as a ballerina. We learn of the intervening years. How Esme felt that she lost so much more than a sister; she lost her parents too. She has used dance to take herself away from it all. Until she receives a phone call from her older sister, on the other side of the Atlantic.

Are the family about to learn of Lily's fate, and how will they bring themselves together, healing divisions and unspoken accusations?

The Tiger who Came to Tea

by Judith Kerr



Sometimes days play out in endless repetition. Nothing exciting ever happens. But what if one day the unexpected occurred?

Just like any day Sophie is having tea in the kitchen with her mother, when the doorbell rings. They wonder who it could be. The milkman with his milk float? The grocer on his bike? Or Sophie's daddy? What they are not expecting is a large tiger, who joins them at the table. Just what will happen when a tiger comes to tea?

This classic children's picture book is now more than 50 years old and yet it still continues to enchant children. A simple story and delightful illustrations make this a favourite among many young readers. A TV adaptation is due to air at the end of 2019 but do make sure you share the original with your children first. Judith Kerr, who wrote and illustrated over 30 other books, including the Mog series, died in May this year aged 95. It seems a perfect time to celebrate her life.

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a taster of what's coming up...

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The Queen's Corgi

from 5th July

Rex lives a life of luxury as top dog but when he causes a diplomatic incident during an official dinner with the President of the United States, he falls into disgrace. Betrayed by one of his peers, Rex becomes a stray dog in the streets of London. How can he redeem himself?



Horrible Histories: The Movie – Rotten Romans

from 26th July

Atti is a Roman teenager with brains but very little brawn. When one of his schemes falls foul of Emperor Nero,



Atti is forced to join the army and sent to cold, wet Britain. Things go from bad to worse when Atti is captured by Orla, a feisty teenager desperate to prove herself as a warrior.

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Gangsta Granny

31st July & 1st August

Be prepared for some shocking granny behaviour at this outdoor adaptation (in Brueton Park) of David Walliams' bestseller. Who knows what a senior citizen might think of next ...as

a boy, bored at his grandma's house, stumbles across some shocking news about his granny once being a jewel thief!

Romeo & Juliet

17th July

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet will be performed in the lakeside setting of Brueton Park, Solihull. Set in the here and now, and mixing in some modern language, music, and technology, this production explores how one of the most celebrated tales of passionate love would play out in the 21st century.



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Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream

July is National Ice Cream Month. Celebrate with this homemade raspberry ripple.

Preparation time: 20 mins

Cooking time: 10 mins

Serves: 12

Ingredients

250g raspberries
225g caster sugar
2 large eggs
4 egg yolks
600ml double cream
Raspberries or other fruit for serving

Method

Place the raspberries in a pan with 2 tbsp of the sugar. Cook on a medium heat until sugar dissolves into the pulp. Simmer for 5 mins until thickened, then push the pulp

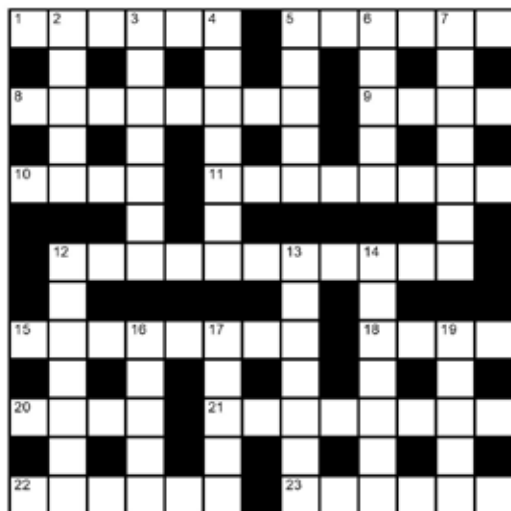
through a sieve into a bowl and discard the seeds. Place the eggs, egg yolks and remaining sugar into a bowl. Whisk with an electric whisk hand whisk to combine everything, then place over a pan of gently simmering water – the bowl should not touch the water. Beat with the electric whisk for 3-4 mins until thick and pale. Remove from heat and continue beating with the whisk until cool.

In another bowl, whisk the cream until it forms soft peaks, then gently fold into the cool egg mix until just combined. Pour the mix into a shallow container or dish that can be frozen. Just before you freeze the mixture gently swirl the raspberry puree through, cover with cling film and freeze for at least 6 hrs. Remove from the freezer about 20 minutes before serving. Place scoops of the ice cream into bowls with extra raspberries or other fruit. It's also gorgeous in cones.

Serves: 12 people
Preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes



crossword



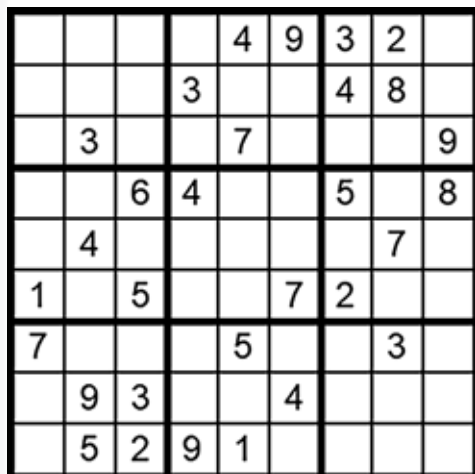
clues

Across

- 1 Academic essay (6)
- 5 Violent quarrel (4-2)
- 8 Teaching (often privately) (8)
- 9 Deliberately disobey (4)
- 10 Fix (4)
- 11 Lovingly (8)
- 12 Candidates, participants (11)
- 15 Tubular pasta (8)
- 18 Tiny rodents (4)
- 20 Flightless bird (4)
- 21 Pads used for washing pans (8)
- 22 Alcove (6)
- 23 Sunny colour (6)

Down

- 2 Abode, dwelling (5)
- 3 Highest Welsh mountain (7)
- 4 Bowling pin (7)
- 5 Commenced (5)
- 6 Grass-like plant (5)
- 7 Open or spread out (7)
- 12 Deadly poison (7)
- 13 Three-book story (7)
- 14 Figure, digit (7)
- 16 Not dead (5)
- 17 Desert waterhole (5)
- 19 Ship's freight (5)



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 46

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A Pre-nuptial Agreement offers protection

A pre-nuptial agreement is a formal document which describes what assets each party owns at the time of the marriage. It also sets out how these assets and finances will be divided in the event of divorce or separation.

Although couples marry in the belief that the marriage will be forever, it is an unfortunate fact that almost 50% of marriages now end in divorce and parties need to protect their financial position.

Pre-nuptial agreements are important where...

- One party has or is likely to have significant inheritance prospects.
- One party has significantly greater capital or income than the other.
- One party has a successful business that they would like to keep separate from personal finances.
- One or both parties are entering into a second marriage and they wish to retain their previous divorce settlement.
- One or both parties have children from a previous marriage and they wish to protect their children's inheritance rights.

The court's starting point

In deciding financial settlements, the Court's starting point is a 50/50 split of all the assets. It then considers a variety of factors in deciding whether to move from this position such as whether or not the couple have entered into any prior agreements.

Given significant weight by the Courts

Although pre-nuptial agreements are not legally-binding documents, since the landmark Supreme Court case of *Radmacher v Granatino* in 2010, the courts now give significant weight to them when assessing finances.

If it can be shown that both parties freely entered into the agreement and understood the implications of signing it at the time, then as long as it is not unfair to hold the other party to the agreement the courts should uphold it. Pre-nuptial agreements must be drafted and dealt with carefully to ensure the Court have no reason not to uphold it.



Dipika Mistry and Kathryn Ferris
Wallace Robinson & Morgan Family Lawyers

Saving you a lot of time and money

A well prepared pre-nuptial agreement could save you a lot of time and money should your marriage come to an end.

If you are getting married, contact us to talk to one of our family law solicitors who can advise you as to whether such an agreement will be right for you.

Co-habitation Agreements

If you are not getting married but are planning to share a home with your partner, you may want to consider a co-habitation agreement. As the law does not afford the same protection to cohabiting couples, there are a number of things which should be taken into consideration when setting up home outside of marriage, including:

- Whether the home should be held as joint tenants or tenants in common, and how the parties' contributions to the purchase price can be protected
 - Whether a life insurance policy should be taken out
 - Whether the parties need to make a Will and, if so, what provisions should be made for each other.
- Under the intestacy rules unmarried partners will not inherit upon the other's death, and so this is an important thing to consider.

The legal position regarding any children will also be affected by the fact the parents are not married. A cohabitation agreement sets out arrangements to apply both whilst the parties are living together and on the breakdown of the relationship.

How we can help

Wallace Robinson & Morgan Solicitors have the expertise to help draw up an appropriate agreement that both you and your partner are happy with and one that the courts will uphold.

We will make sure that both of you have obtained independent legal advice and fully understand the implications of the agreement.

We will make certain that both of you have given full and frank financial disclosure and ensure that the agreement is realistic and fair.

Our specialist family lawyers can advise you as to whether these agreements are right for you.

Head of the Family Law department, Kathryn Ferris is a qualified Collaborative Family Lawyer and offers the benefits of this revolutionary approach to her clients. Dipika Mistry, is an accredited Law Society Family Law solicitor. Kathryn and Dipika are both members of "Resolution", an organisation that promotes constructive, non-confrontational methods to resolve family issues.

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Black-eyed Susan

By Rachael Leverton

You might not know its name, but you are probably familiar with the Rudbeckia. A late summer perennial daisy. It's sometimes called Coneflower or Black-eyed Susan.

It flowers from early August to late September and I find it a valuable addition to the late summer garden. It does particularly well in full sun in rich, well-drained soil. You can sow them as annuals indoors in spring to set out after frost or plant as perennials in spring or autumn. Divide every 3 to 4 years and deadhead to avoid self-seeding, though personally I see self-seeding as a bonus trait in a plant! Mildew can be an issue on the foliage but can be avoided if you don't overcrowd the plants. Watch the young foliage because slugs and snails find it tasty. Once the plants are established this isn't a problem.

Rudbeckia 'Golden compass' produces masses of classic bright yellow and black Rudbeckia flowers on a bushy plant. It grows up to 70cm in height and can be grown from seed as a half-hardy annual or a short-lived hardy perennial.

Rudbeckia fulgida is the classic 'Black-eyed Susan', with sunflower-yellow flowers and a very black central cone. It does better in damper ground than many of the varieties so choose this one if your garden is less well-drained.

I love Rudbeckia 'Prairie glow'. It is a stunning plant and good for adding height as it grows to 1.5m. Its huge



6cm diameter flowers have warm orange petals with yellow tips.

Rudbeckia 'Irish eyes' is a more unusual variety with a yellowish rather than brown cone, as well as yellow florets. It repeats flowers from July through to October.

If your soil is on the dry side, try Rudbeckia fulgida 'Deamii'. It produces shining, golden flowers with jet-black cones from early September to late October and into November. It has slightly smaller flowers, but they are lovely, and abundant.

Rudbeckias naturally grow in dry savannahs, grassland prairies and in the glades of rocky upland forests across North America but they have become a much-loved bushy stalwart of the herbaceous border and will delight from late summer right through the autumn.

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

Sudoku Solution
from page 34

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

crossword Solution
from page 34



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SUMMER FEST

2019

OFFICIAL EVENT PARTNER



**Birmingham
Airport**



27TH - 28TH JULY 2019
TUDOR GRANGE PARK

SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2019

LEVEL 42

THE VAMPS **HEATHER SMALL** THE VOICE OF M PEOPLE

Sugar Hill Gang

Ms **DYNAMITE**
IMAGINATION

FEATURING **LEE JOHN**

TREVOR NELSON

BLONDE

DJ SET

SUPPORTED BY **MITCHELL BRUNINGS** *JK AS* **ROBBIE**

SUNDAY 28TH JULY 2019

THE HUMAN

LEAGUE

THE PROCLAIMERS

GO WEST

BAD MANNERS

SUPPORTED BY
TRIBUTE ARTISTS

MERCURY
— QUEEN TRIBUTE —

GARRY PEASE AS

Rod Stewart

FOR TICKETS VISIT: **WWW.SOLIHULLSUMMERFEST.CO.UK**