

LOVE LIFE WITH A LUSH LAWN

Lawns do wonders for our wellbeing. That's why we've devised three programmes of year-round treatments to keep your grass a cut above.

From controlling weeds and moss to bringing out the green, we'll help you to look after the lawn that looks after you.



GreenThumb
LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE

Discover more at
greenthumb.co.uk

0121 705 6395 solihull@greenthumb.co.uk



Scan here

Cullen

Plumbing & Tiling

17 Whitacre Rd, Knowle
cullenplumbingandtiling@gmail.com
Tel: 07896 862 916
Established in 2005

City & Guilds
Qualified

- Full bathroom and ensuite design and installation to the highest standards with complete project management from start to completion
- Kitchen Sinks and Taps, Dishwasher and Washing Machine Installation
- Central Heating & Radiators
- General Plumbing Maintenance & Repair
- Showroom Finish Wall & Floor Tiling for bathrooms, kitchens, hallways and conservatories
- Specialist in ceramic, porcelain, natural stone tiling
- Business built on recommendation and reputation

All Work Guaranteed

Reliable Honest Service

References and Portfolio of Work Available



Call Alex Cullen
NOW on 07896 862 916
For a free no-obligation quotation

Knowle Domestic Plumbing Service & Appliance Repairs

All Plumbing Work Undertaken

- ***Burst pipes/leaks***
- ***Taps, Sinks, Waste Units***
- ***Ball Valves, Overflows***
- ***Tanks, Cylinders, Immersions***
- ***Toilets, baths, Showers***
- ***24 Hour Emergency***

Appliance Repair Services

- ***Washing Machines***
- ***Dishwashers***
- ***Tumble Dryers***
- ***Electric cookers***
- ***Vacuum Cleaners***

£10 OFF for first time customers with this ad.
Valid until: 10th March 2023

***12 month guarantee, same day call-out
special rates for OAP's***

Office: 01564 730183
Mobile: 07770 698196

Love is in the air!

Welcome to the February edition.

If you're looking to spoil your loved one for Valentine's Day then why not treat them to a night out, rather than buying yet another box of chocolates?!

Whether you fancy soul music, a classic musical, or a fun tribute act, there's something for everyone – just check out page 6 to see what's happening in the local area. But if you prefer dogs to humans then head up to Crufts instead for a little bit of puppy love!

And if Valentine's Day will just pass 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

Tel: 07557 220585

Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com

www.knowleanddorridgedirectory.com

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



THE LOCAL BUZZ
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SOLIHULL AREA



What's all the buzz about!

Want to get the most out of Solihull?

- » Enter competitions
- » Discover local events
- » Find offers
- » Find local businesses

Then visit www.thelocalbuzz.co.uk



Locally designed by: hotlobster design ltd **Printed by:** Norwood Press

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS MAGAZINE

No thirtyone

www.nothirtyone.co.uk



Going Green in 2023

We love this stunning Boot Room in a warm, earthy, deep forest green with gold ironmongery and plenty of useful storage.

Celebrating 10 years in Knowle in 2023!



01564 770587

31-33 Station Road, Knowle, Solihull B93 0HL
Ample parking available



Proud to be part of the Knowle community since 2013.

Call to book your appointment and start your dream kitchen journey with us!

FRANKE

NEFF

DEKTON

WARMER

Miele

LEGRAND

GRANITE
WORKTOPS

KOHLER

SIEMENS

BOSCH

SCHÖCK

REVIVE
ROOFING & BUILDINGS SOLUTIONS

Over 30 years' experience in the roofing industry



Roofing

Whether you need a repair, a new roof, or your guttering replaced, we offer honest advice, professional workmanship, and competitive prices.

Solar Panels

If you'd like to reduce your energy bills, we can install solar panels so you can generate your own electricity.

12
YEAR
Guarantee

Promise To Our Customers

We guarantee to offer a dependable service, with outstanding quality at realistic prices. Your satisfaction is our priority.

Please call John: 07854 623 592 or Office: 0330 043 6806
to arrange your free inspection and quotation.

john@reviveroofingandbuildingsolutions.co.uk
www.reviveroofingandbuildingsolutions.co.uk



community events

Aladdin

18-26 February, Hatton

Country World

Panto isn't just for Christmas! Join in the fun at February Half Term and go on an adventure with Aladdin and his friends to find the lamp and impress the princess. Tickets available at www.adventure.hattonworld.com

Soul & Motown Live Tribute

24 February, The Village

Hotel Solihull

Sing along to your favourite

Motown and Soul tracks.

Tickets are £30 and include a 2-course meal.

You can book your tickets at www.ivvy.co.uk/event/49WPZ3/

The King & I

28 February – 4 March,

Alexandra Theatre Birmingham

The King and I is the greatest musical from the golden age of musicals – with one of the finest scores ever written including Whistle a Happy Tune and Shall We Dance. Tickets can be bought at www.atgtickets.com



Crufts

9-12 March, NEC

Join The Kennel Club as they celebrate their 150th year and watch thousands of dogs compete for the world-famous title of Best in Show, witness fantastic displays and competitions and browse hundreds of shops full of products for both you and your canine companion. Tickets from www.thenec.co.uk/whats-on/crufts/



Bootleg Bee Gees

25 March, Knowle

British Legion

The Bootleg Bee Gees will have you up on your feet and dancing in no time as they perform hit after hit to perfection. Book your tickets at www.tributenightpromotions.co.uk

THE LOCAL BUZZ
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SOLIHULL AREA

FOR DETAILS ON
MORE EVENTS
IN SOLIHULL
PLUS MUCH
MORE...

Check out our new website www.thelocalbuzz.co.uk

Need A New Roof?

We Specialise in High Quality Roof Installations

Our Services For Our Customers Have Just Got Even Better

★★★ We Are Now Installing Solar Energy Panels ★★★

That's right, our customers can now start to reduce their energy bills. Receive 10% Discount off our Solar Panel Installations booked in December & January if undertaken with any new roof installation.

All Aspects of Building Renovations



Rubber & Glass Fibre Approved Installers



Go Green • Save Energy • Save Money



Brand New Showroom Open to the Public
Call to book an appointment

Certified Velux Skylight Installers

Newly Accredited with the Government TrustMark Scheme

Main Roof Replacements



Velux Skylights



Mortar Free Verge, Ridge and Valley Systems



Chimney Rebuilds & Repairs



Flat Roof Skypods



NEED IT? FINANCE IT! MAKING MORE POSSIBLE

AMAZING 0% FINANCE OPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE

We can now offer all qualifying homeowners the ability to spread the cost of all of your roofing projects. Packages can be tailored to suit your requirements, offering you the chance to get that dream project completed now!

10% Discount with this advert in December and January on certain products



Specialists in High Quality Roofing Installations

Over 35 Years Experience providing services to Solihull and surrounding villages



*COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE BUILDING & ROOFING SERVICES LTD T/A Michael Kavanagh Building & Roofing Services are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FKN 945058. We act as a credit broker not a lender and offer finance from a panel of lenders. Your personal rate will depend on the loan amount and term you request and your personal circumstances. Representative examples: Cash price £8,500, less a deposit of £2,125. Total loan amount £6,375. Repayable by 59 monthly repayments of £133.83 with a final payment of £133.42. Total charge for credit £1,654.38. Total amount repayable £8,029.39 (includes £2,125 deposit). Interest rate 9.48% per annum fixed. Representative APR 9.9% fixed.

0121 663 1778 / 0800 056 59 90 / 07932 335 294

Email: info@michaelkavanaghroofing.co.uk

Website: michaelkavanaghroofing.co.uk

Office: Earls Court, Warwick Street, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6ET

Check out our reviews
TrustATrader.com

We Accept all Major Credit & Debit Cards



YOUR ROOF • OUR PASSION • QUALITY IS EVERYTHING WE DO • DON'T ROOF WITHOUT US

WANT TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

Then you need the time and systems in place to allow you to do this. We work with small and medium sized businesses, enabling them to work as effectively and as profitably as possible.

Whether you need accountancy advice or hands-on support with your year end accounts, business or personal tax returns, VAT returns, payroll or bookkeeping then get in touch for a free, no obligation chat.

Unsure about business deadlines?

There's a whole host of deadlines and legislative requirements you have to meet as a business owner, whether you're a sole trader or employ staff. We can advise on what you need to do and by when, whether you're new to self-employment, are taking on a partner, need to submit personal or business or VAT returns, or need to streamline your payroll operations.

t: 07880 035 853
e: alex@ajsaccounting.co.uk
www.ajsaccounting.co.uk

AFFORDABLE

Our company services start from just £75 per month - a worthwhile investment when you see all the ways we can save your business time and money.

RELIABLE

We're here to support, advise, and make a difference. We're local, experienced, and dedicated to helping you improve the profitability of your business.

PERSONAL SERVICE

We're a small company and we like it that way – it means we have time to build strong, effective working relationships with all of our clients.



Stephen Smith & Son Plumbing & Heating Services

WORCESTER
Bosch Group
Accredited
Installer



Gas Safe reg no: 198187
Natural Gas, LPG & Oil



**Tel: 0121 247 4957
or 01564 200119**

**10 years Manufacturer's Warranty
on all Worcester Greenstar
gas boilers installed***

www.stephensmithandson.co.uk

"Family business. Local and reliable."

Work carried out includes:

- Boilers / Radiators
- Natural Gas - LPG and Oil Installation and Repair
- Landlord Gas Safety Inspections/Certificates
- Boiler Servicing
- Hot Water Cylinders (vented and unvented)
- System Powerflushing
- Cold Water Tanks
- Shower Installations / Repairs
- Pipework
- Underfloor Heating

*Worcester Bosch terms apply



**DORRIDGE
DOORS**

THE GARAGE DOOR SPECIALISTS

**A Father And Son Business With
Over 25 Years Experience...**

We are a genuine family business and have been working in and around Dorrige for over 25 years. We pride ourselves in a high standard of work and customer satisfaction.

- Up and over doors
- Quality roller doors
- Insulated sectional doors
- Repairs & servicing
- Automatic operators



★ Trustpilot ★★★★★ 4.5

See our reviews!

Yell.com ★★★★★ 5.0



01564 335513



www.dorrigeddoors.co.uk



Build On Our Experience

If you need a local, reliable and reputable builder for your new build project, renovation work or extension then talk to Miller Hughes.

We've been transforming, converting, and building new houses and substantial extensions in the Midlands for over 20 years and have an incredible portfolio of work we're really proud of.

To find out how we can help you, please get in touch.



**Commercial & Domestic
Building Contractors**



01789 400500

www.millerhughes.co.uk
enquiries@millerhughes.co.uk

**MILLER HUGHES
CONSTRUCTION LIMITED**

Improve, Don't Move!

Maximise the value of your home.

- SPACE-SAVING - MAXIMISE YOUR GARAGE HEADROOM
- SECURITY-ENABLED AUTO-LOCKING SYSTEM
- CHOICE OF 21 COLOURS TO MATCH YOUR HOME
- REMOVAL AND RECYCLING OF YOUR OLD DOOR
- DEDICATED AFTER-CARE TEAM

GAROLLA

ROLLER
SHUTTER
DOORS



01564 340 013

LINES OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

www.garolla.co.uk



BESPOKE ELECTRIC DOORS MANUFACTURED IN THE UK

**FREE
FITTING**
PAYMENT ON
INSTALLATION

PRICED
EXAMPLE **£895**
COMPACT • UP TO 2.4M

GAROLLA ★ PREMIUM
Increased Security • Double Insulation
One-Touch Close

PRICED
EXAMPLE **£1,990**
PREMIUM • 3.4M • ANTHRACITE

Dorridge Chiropractic Clinic
Dorridge Surgery
The Basement, 3 Avenue
Road, Dorridge, Solihull,
B93 8LD



Experiencing Back Pain?

CHIROPRACTIC... so often the answer

Dorridge Chiropractic Clinic specialises in a variety of services tailored to your needs:

- Chiropractic
- Sports massage
- Exercise programmes
- Dry needling
- Laser Therapy
- X-ray facilities (at Solihull clinic)

Want to know more? Get in touch

01564 400 121

admin@dorridgechiropractic.co.uk

Opening hours:

Mon-Thur: 8.00am-8.00pm

Fri: 8.00am-5.00pm

Sat: 8.30am-12.00pm

Number 1 Flooring

The Flooring EXPERTS

- LAMINATES
- SOLID WOOD
- ENGINEERED WOOD
- REAL WOOD
- HERRINGBONE FLOORING
- VINYLs
- CARPETS
- LVT – LUXURY VINYL TILES
- SPC VINYL FLOORING
- ACCESSORIES



**Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 6pm
and Sunday 10.30am – 4.30pm**

0121 745 9352

www.number1flooring.co.uk
bham@number1flooring.co.uk

266-268 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 3AD





No call-out charge
Available 24/7

JUST
MOVED IN?
CALL US
FOR NEW
HOME
PACKAGES

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE, NO-OBLIGATION SECURITY CHECK AND ADVICE

Locked Out

We can gain access for you non-destructively

Emergency Locksmiths

15-30 min emergency response time
for your peace of mind

uPVC Door Lock Specialists

Our locksmiths are specialists in uPVC door
and window locks

Door/Window Handles Changed & Replaced

Stuck, broken or damaged window
handles? We can help

Lost Keys

Lost your keys? We recommend a full lock
change service for your security

Locks Changed & Replaced

Lock replacement and upgrades, all with
a 12 month guarantee

Home Security

We offer a variety of smart camera and alarm
systems to protect your property

Emergency Boarding Up & Burglary Repairs

We can offer a 24/7 emergency boarding
up and repair service



12 month parts
& labour guarantee



lewis@lockfit.co.uk

www.lockfit.co.uk/lockfit-locksmiths-knowle/

01564 627 020



All guttering cleaned and repaired from £49.99

A fully insured and highly skilled roofing company based in Solihull, West Midlands with many years experience. Deluxe Roofing Ltd is a professional, reliable roofing company with unrivalled expertise in the industry.

- **New Roofs • Flat Roofs • Minor Repairs • Fascias and Guttering**
- **Insurance Work • Moss Removal • Rebedding of Ridge Tiles • Chimneys**
- **Valleys • All Guttering Cleaned and serviced from £39.99**

OFFICE: 0121 314 99 53 FREEPHONE: 0800 747 14 61

MIDLANDS BRANCH

UNIT 70, 123 STRATFORD ROAD, SHIRLEY. B90 3ND
(MIDLANDS BRANCH), COVENTRY, SHIRLEY

WWW.DELUXEROOFINGLTD.CO.UK

The Food of Love

The way to a man's heart is through his stomach right? So I decided to cook up some culinary love magic for my boyfriend this Valentine's day, but what to choose?

He loves Japanese food so I consulted my Japanese food-loving friend Yui. She informed me that in Japan the puffer fish is considered to be a great delicacy and an aphrodisiac, but the kicker is that it contains a poisonous gland so deadly it must be removed before eating! One mistake by the carefully trained chef and the food of love can become quite literally, a matter of life or death!

I thought a safer seafood option might be

the oyster. A favourite with the Romans some oysters are able to change sex repeatedly and so are said to give you the ability to experience the male and female sides of love. Yui cheerfully imparted the 'fun fact'



that at least 12000 people a year in the UK develop food poisoning after consuming oysters, which kind of put me off a bit.

In the end I settled on making chocolate mousse. Dark chocolate contains both a relaxing sedative that lowers inhibitions plus a stimulant to perk you up. My boyfriend is a chocoholic so I'm backing a winner and better still Yui didn't point out any pitfalls...because I didn't tell her what I was making!

Happy Valentine's Day.



Beautiful Interior Doors Supplied and Installed



**Come and visit our
NEW showroom
in Studley**

Unit 1,
Haydon House,
Alcester Road,
Studley
B80 7AN

07592 303104 or
07910 289565

www.acsinteriordoors.co.uk



MIDLAND ELECTRICAL GROUP LTD

OUR SERVICE

- Domestic
- Commercial
- Industrial
- EV chargers
- New builds
- Rewires
- General upgrades
- Garden electrics

CALL US TODAY

0121 238 5949



WHY CHOOSE US

- ✓ Experience
- ✓ Quality Workmanship
- ✓ Affordable Pricing



www.midlandelectrical.co.uk

info@midlandelectrical.co.uk

Packwood Tree Surgery & Garden Maintenance Est 2010

- ✓ Tree Felling
- ✓ Pruning & shaping
- ✓ Hedge Trimming
- ✓ Garden Clearance

Knowle and Dorridge Based
**Fully Insured (£2 million
Public Liability Insurance)**
NPTC Qualified

www.packwoodtree.com
07850 043159 / 01564 230560

Dorridge & Knowle Domestic Cleaning Services

- Small established cleaning and domestic help business
- Provide dedicated, friendly & trustworthy local ladies (CRB checked)
- Take pride in high standards and caring for customers' homes
- Regular service or one off spring cleans
- Ironing service available
- References available
- Comprehensive insurance
- Costs are not subject to VAT



For a FREE,
no obligation quote,
please call Sue on
07809 567264



Why not invest in a new driveway or patio to
enhance the appearance and add value
to your property?



Clay & Block Paving • Patios
Turfing (red or black)
Landscaping • Fencing • Gravel
Brickwork • Slabbing
Property Repairs
Roofing Repairs
Driveway Maintenance (pressure cleaning
& sealing - weed free)



www.centraldrivewayslimited.com

1310 Solihull Parkway, Birmingham Business Park, Solihull, Birmingham B37 7YH

Get in touch today for a FREE quotation
T: 0121 7021456 M: 07748 577687
Michael.central@icloud.com



- Central Heating Systems
- Gas Safety Certificates
- Boiler Services & Repairs
- Power Flushing
- Bathrooms
- General Plumbing work



**24-hour
Emergency
Service**

07530 818228
info@kirbco.co.uk



AP ALLOYS & BUMPER REPAIRS

*Mobile service to your
home or business*



ALLOY WHEEL REFURBISHMENT *(Full Face of Wheel)*

Vandal Scratches - Plastic Bumper Damage
Headlight Restoration - Dents + Scrapes to any panels
Stonechips- Machine Polishing
FREE Quotations - Main Dealer Approved

**Aircon
Regas**
service now
available

Call Andy now for a fast, prompt and professional service.
Or for an instant quote, text or WhatsApp images to him on:

07972 852 758



**STU'S LOFT
LADDERS**

FREE

No Obligation Quote
10 year Manufacturer Warranty

Installing Loft Ladders Since 2008

All types of loft ladders professionally installed.

Top quality 3 section aluminium loft ladder professionally fitted with pivot arm, hand rail, wide flat treads for comfort and rubber feet. Loft hatch included.

ZARGES

YOUNGMAN
ALUMINIUM LADDERS AT BIRMINGHAM COLLECTION

ABRU

manthorpe
building products

We also install loft flooring and boarding

Areas that we cover?

- Redditch • Solihull • Stratford-Upon-Avon
- Worcester • Warwick • Birmingham • Evesham

Tel: 01527 850295 • Mobile: 07712 327889

stuart@stusloftladders.co.uk • www.stusloftladders.co.uk



FREE*

Mirrored cabinet
or high raised
toilet with any
full bathroom
installation

ahm
installations



Bathing a problem? We can help

- Wet rooms
- Walk in showers and baths
- Waterproof wall panelling
- Slip resistant safety flooring
- Grab rails, shower seats & raised toilets
- Disabled Facilities Grants
- Discounts for over 60s, and EX Service personnel
- Charity work and grants



Call for our friendly advice,
free survey and quote

01564 336918

info@ahminstallations.co.uk www.ahminstallations.co.uk

*Terms and conditions apply, visit our website for more details.

Checkatrade.com
Check approved tradesmen



ENHANCE THE LOOK OF YOUR HOME

We offer
FREE
advice and
quotations

ALL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

Planning Drawings • Building Regulation Drawings
Construction Drawings • Listed Building Applications

FULL DESIGN AND BUILD SERVICES

Extensions • New Builds • House Alterations



Driveways • Landscaping • Renovations • Refurbishments • Extensions
Garage Conversions • Loft Conversions • Full Commercial and Residential Builds

WE OFFER FREE ADVICE AND QUOTATIONS NO JOB IS TOO BIG OR SMALL



Kenmoore Design, The Coach House, Kinwarton House, Alcester, Warks B49 6HA
enquiries@kenmooredesign.co.uk

[f](https://www.facebook.com/kenmooredesign) kenmooredesign [in](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kenmore-design-ltd) kenmore-design-ltd [@Kenmoore_design](https://www.twitter.com/Kenmoore_design)

01789 520013 | www.kenmooredesign.co.uk

Athos

solutions for the future...

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Chartered Certified Accountants



Athos has built up a professional team that goes the 'extra mile' as a matter of due course. This has been invaluable to our business and has greatly assisted us.

**Roger Green, Director
Menswear Company**

- Accounts
- Tax Returns
- Payroll and Auto Enrolment
- Bookkeeping and VAT Returns
- Tax Advice
- Management Accounts

Call and make an appointment for a free initial consultation where a bespoke fixed fee quotation will be provided.

T. 0333 400 7876

Athos Business Solutions Limited
1623 Warwick Road, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands B93 9LF
www.athos.uk.com

enquiries@athos.uk.com



Myths about next of kin

If a friend or family member has lost capacity due to illness or an accident, you'd expect their next of kin to automatically be able to help them with their finances and make decisions about their care – however, next of kin is not a legal term and this is not as easy as it sounds. Hannah Tait, partner at Shakespeare Martineau in Solihull explains the common misconceptions of managing the medical and financial needs of loved ones.

Can I make decisions on behalf of a family member?

Apart from in the special case of children, no individual has the ability to make decisions on behalf of another without first being legally appointed as their Attorney under a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) or as a court-appointed Deputy. Even married couples or those in civil partnerships are unable to make decisions for their spouse or partner without these authorities in place.

What is a Lasting Power of Attorney?

Your Attorneys are nominated individuals – such as a professional, family member or friend you appoint to make decisions relating to your financial affairs as well as your personal health and welfare on your behalf, if you become unable to make those decisions yourself due to mental incapacity. Your Attorneys can step in when needed to ensure your affairs remain in good order, money can be easily accessed and to protect your assets together with articulating your personal wishes when it comes to the type of medical treatment you receive.

What is a court-appointed Deputy?

A Deputy is appointed by the Court of Protection to make decisions for someone who is unable to do so on their own. This can be a long process and is a decision made by the court, not the individual who has lost capacity. Therefore it is best to be prepared and put in place and register LPAs before mental capacity becomes a problem and the long winded Deputy route is your only option.

I have a Will – do I still need a Lasting Power of Attorney?

Yes. The Executors you identify in your Will can only make decisions concerning your Estate after you die – not while you are alive. LPAs are in effect an insurance policy against mental incapacity and ensure those who are close to you can assist you with ease and without delay.

Who should I choose to be my Attorneys?

This is ultimately up to you – but it should be someone you can trust implicitly to make decisions in your best interests; whether that be a family member, close friend or a legal professional.



For more information and support call 0330 024 0333
email Hannah.Tait@shma.co.uk or visit www.shma.co.uk

Does your company
need a **fresh approach**
to marketing?



hotlobster design offers everything a
business needs in this **digital world**.

Bespoke content managed websites, SEO, social media management,
print management, logo design, clothing, copy writing and much more.

hotlobster 
design • marketing • web • print

0121 369 1977

www.hotlobster.uk.com

Raspberry Tartlets



Preparation time: 1-2 hours
Cooking time: 10 to 30 mins
Serves: 8

Ingredients

Pastry

175g plain flour, plus extra for dusting
 2 tbsp icing sugar
 100g butter, chilled, cut into small pieces
 1 egg, beaten

Crème Pâtissière

150ml whole milk
 1 tsp vanilla extract
 25g caster sugar
 25g plain flour
 1 free-range egg
 75ml double cream
 Raspberry Topping
 4 tbsp raspberry jam
 450g raspberries

You will need 8 small 10cm loose-bottomed metal tart tins and some baking beans.

Method

Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
 To make the pastry, rub the flour, icing sugar and butter together until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Or place the flour, icing sugar and butter in a food processor and pulse. Then add the egg and combine until the mixture forms a ball. Place the dough on to a floured surface. Roll it out with a rolling pin. Cut eight rounds big enough to line the base and sides of the tins. Chill in the fridge for 20 minutes. To bake blind, prick the pastry bases, line the tins with baking parchment, fill with baking beans and bake in the oven for 10

minutes. Carefully remove the beans and paper and return the bases to the oven for 5 minutes, until cooked and a pale golden-brown. Leave to cool.

To make the crème pâtissière, place the milk and vanilla in a saucepan. Heat until the milk it is just scalded (just on the point of boiling). Place the sugar, flour and egg in a mixing bowl and whisk. Pour in half the hot milk and whisk until smooth. Pour in the remaining hot milk.

Pour the mixture back into the saucepan and cook over a low heat, stirring all the time, until the custard becomes very thick.

Pour into a bowl, allow to cool then cover with cling film and chill in the fridge until cold. Once cold, pour in the double cream, whisking constantly. Spoon this crème pâtissière into the tart cases and return to the fridge to chill.

To make the glaze, heat the jam in a saucepan with a tablespoon of water and whisk to combine. Strain the liquid through a sieve into a small bowl. Arrange the raspberries to stand upright on the crème pâtissière then brush the warm glaze over the top.

Bill Boyce Decorators

A family run business with over 30 years experience

- Painting & Decorating
- Internal / External
- Offices, Restaurants & Private Houses
- Reliable
- Excellent Reputation
- All work carried out to a high standard
- Free Estimates



Call Bill on 07976 810680 or Dan on 07966 275134

89 Union Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3BY
Tel: 0121 744 0040 or fax: 0121 744 0312
Email: billboycedecorators@hotmail.co.uk
www.billboycedecorators.com




Saqib Bhatti MP

Working for Meriden

Get in touch

Constituency office:

631 Warwick Road, Solihull B91 1AR

 0121 711 7029

 saqibbhatti.org.uk

 saqib.bhatti@parliament.uk



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.

Projects

Paving & Landscaping

DRIVEWAYS & LANDSCAPE SOLUTIONS

- Clay & Block Paving • Tarmacing (Red or Black)
- Patios • Brickwork • Slabbing • Gravel • Landscaping
- Fencing • Property Repairs • Roofing Repairs
- Driveway Maintenance (Pressure cleaning & Sealing - weed free)

0121 652 0145

Solihull

01926 674 782

Kenilworth, Warwick
and Leamington

M: 07961 358 367

E: projectspaving@icloud.com



We pride ourselves on
our high standards of
workmanship

We will beat any
like for like genuine
written quote

Find us on Facebook



To see our current range of work carried out in your local
area please visit **www.projectspaving.co.uk**

328 Alcester Road
Wythall B47 6JR



PHYSIO + HEALTH MATTERS

restoring your health




Using a hands-on approach and the latest technology our excellent team of highly qualified and experienced physiotherapists can help you to reduce pain, improve mobility and increase strength

Offers

Check our website for information on our latest offers

Home Visits Available

Call us or see our website for more information

21D Station Road, Knowle, Solihull, B93 0HL
 Tel: 01564 660557
 Email: reception@physioandhealthmatters.com
www.physioandhealthmatters.com



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

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 34

Kingswood School

"Where Individuals Matter"



Preparatory School in Shirley
for Boys and Girls aged 3 to 11

Open Morning - Wed 8 Feb
9.00 am - 12.00 pm

Nursery and Reception
Places Available

"Ofsted Outstanding"
(Consistently Since April 2008)

Scholarship Exam - Mon 6 Feb
9.00 am - 12.00 pm

Year 1 and Year 2
Places Available



Tel: 0121 744 7883 www.kingswoodschool.co.uk
St. James' Place, Shirley, Solihull, B90 2BA Email: info@kingswoodschool.co.uk

C. STEVENS ROOFING

EST FAMILY BUSINESS

NEW TILED ROOFS • GUTTERS
FLAT ROOFS • BRICK WORK
LEADWORK • SMALL REPAIRS
UPVC FASCIAS • CHIMNEYS



KNOWLE

SOLIHULL

01564 790008 0121 733 1276

WWW.CSTEVENSTEROOFING.CO.UK



Kids' Page



Pancake Day!

Can you help Jamal get to the centre of the maze so he has lemon for his pancakes?



The largest pancake ever made was created in the UK in Rochdale, in 1994. It was 15 metres wide and weighed three tonnes.

You would need strong arms to flip that one!

Can you find all the ingredients for perfect pancakes in our letter grid?

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

eggs

Flour

Frying pan

Honey

Lemon

Milk

pancakes

Salt

Sugar

What do you call a person who can't flip a pancake?

A Flip-Flop!



Maze Solution

N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
D	N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F
N	A	H	I	V	E	R	P	E	R	F

Word Grid Solution



Lady Katherine Housing & Care

Rated by the Care Quality Commission as: **GOOD**

Residential Care Sheltered Housing Respite Care



If you would like to pay us a visit or discuss our current availability feel free to get in touch.

Get in touch: 01564 772415

(Chris Mundell)



FUSION
The Fireplace & Stove Specialist



We're the gas, electric, and multi-fuel stove company Solihull householders turn to for high quality, stylish domestic heating appliances, thanks to our first class products, helpful advice, and approved fitting service.

Visit our Solihull showroom to see our extensive product range and to get ideas and advice from the experts in fires and stoves.

0121 743 8540

enquiries@fusion-heating.co.uk

www.fusion-heating.co.uk

59 Hobs Moat Road, Solihull B92 8JJ

Open Monday to Friday 9.30-4.00 and Saturday 10.00-3.00

Happily Ever After

Make long term relationships work

Who doesn't know that it's Valentine's Day this month? Valentine's is marketed as being all about attracting and impressing the partner of our dreams right? But what happens afterwards...how do we preserve the magic (or at least some of it) long term? Well, researchers and counsellors have some good (and sometimes surprising) research-backed tips and tricks.

Double-dating - Friendship with other couples is good for your relationship. A study conducted at the University of Maryland found that couples who have couple friends, rated their marriages as more exciting and fulfilling. Researchers theorised that it gave each couple the chance to observe the way other couples interact and negotiate differences within the relationship.

Assume the best - According to psychologists, couples who rate their marriages as happy tend to assume their partners intentions are good, even when they are disagreeing. By giving their partner this benefit of the doubt they are able to seek clarification, learn about their real motives, and move forward.

Argue in a healthy way - Counsellors at Northwestern University and Adler University in Chicago found that an important marker of a healthy relationship is the ability to argue well and resolve conflicts. Being able to work through life challenges is an important skill and one which strengthens a relationship bond. In order to 'fight fair' keep any dispute focused on the topic at hand and don't descend into personal attacks. Topic-related fights fade quickly and pass, whereas people remember personal attacks and insults, and the hurt can remain for a long time



Text your way to happiness - An affectionate text is a way to stay connected while apart and can provide a little boost of the happy hormone dopamine to your partner. But, remember never apologise in a text message...always do that in person.

Don't prioritize material things - A study carried out at Brigham Young University in Utah found that higher levels of materialism are associated with less relationship satisfaction. The researchers' discovered that materialistic partners may be seeking happiness in possessions, rather than people, meaning they end up investing less time and energy into making their relationships successful.

Make your relationship the priority - There are so many things in the modern world competing for our attention that it's important to set aside time for our closest relationship, and to guard that time well. Schedule dates, even if it's just time for a glass of wine and a chat after the kids are in bed. Discuss an activity you'd both like to try, whether it's learning how to play chess, or salsa dancing, and then turn that into a date event. Doing new things together will give you more to talk about. 'All You Need is Love,' proclaims the Beatles song, though it would be more accurate if they'd added, 'Plus communication, respect and kindness, from both parties too!' though that would probably be a bit of a mouthful to sing!

COMPETITIONS

Win a Ladies Spa Facial

Be Still with Sara are excited to offer a complimentary Ladies Spa Facial to a lucky winner*. Not only will your face be treated to 50 minutes of pampering with their vegan and natural products but your feet will have a little pamper and moisturising mask. Be Still with Sara offer a holistic approach to their treatments, making sure that you have a safe space to de-stress and escape from daily worries. To find out more about the range of treatments available at Be Still with Sara please visit www.bestillwithsara.com



Win 2 tickets to see Romeo & Juliet by Ballet Theatre UK

Join Ballet Theatre UK with their passionate portrayal of one of the world's greatest love stories. Returning by popular demand, this theatrical production tells the tragic tale of star-crossed lovers with astonishing grace and heart-breaking intimacy. These tickets are for Saturday 15th April at 7.30pm at The Core Theatre Solihull.



Win 2 Tickets to Around the World in 80's Sounds

This is a night out with a difference! It's a disco where you get to spin the wheel to discover the next genre of music. There's also a 'play your cards right' quiz. Fun and laughter are guaranteed so make sure you enter today to experience Dadbelly's unique take on a pub disco. This event will take place on 24 March at the Solihull RBL Club. More details on the Club and its facilities and events can be found at www.solihullrbclub.com



How to enter

For your chance to win, email zoe@dorridgedirectory.com with the subject line Facial or Romeo & Juliet or 80 Sounds (or all!) and you will be added to our database to receive our monthly e-newsletter about offers and events in Solihull. The winners will be notified by email after the closing date of 1 March 2023. There is no cash value nor exchange for these prizes. *This complimentary facial will be valid for use until 30th June 2023.

CROSSROADS SERVICE STATION LTD

A friendly, family-run business since 1969

- MOT Testing – Cars & Motorbikes
- Servicing & Repairs
- Air Conditioning Service & Repair
- Diagnostic Service & Repair
- Laser Wheel Alignment
- Tyres – Supplied & Fitted
- Qualified & Experienced Staff
- Courtesy Car or Collection/Delivery available

**OPEN 6 DAYS
A WEEK**

MON – FRI 8.00am – 6.00pm

SAT 8.00am – 1.00pm



599-601 Tanworth Lane, Shirley, Solihull B90 4JE

Tel: 01564 703225

www.crossroadservicestation.co.uk

VAT No.: 113213041



**LOVE TO SPEAK GERMAN, FRENCH OR SPANISH?
NEW TO SOLIHULL AND NEED BETTER ENGLISH?**

Expert 1:1 tuition from just £30 per hour

Expert tuition for exams, travel and business
Local, qualified and experienced language tutors

Contact us now for your free, no-obligation consultation

Call 01564 739621 or 0784 031 5982

E-mail info@beech-languages.co.uk

www.beech-languages.co.uk

LANGUAGE LESSONS LOCALLY AND ONLINE

Accountants

- 8 AJS Accounting 0845 139 0043
- 20 Athos Business Solutions 0333 400 7876

Building Services

- 10 Miller Hughes Construction 01789 400500
- 19 Kenmoore Design 01789 52 00 13

Car Services

- 17 AP Alloys 07972 852758
- 33 Crossroads service station 01564 703225

Care services

- 29 Lady Katherine Housing & Care 01564 772850

Carpets & Flooring

- 12 Number 1 Flooring 0121 745 9352
- 35 D.A. Mander & Son 01564 700200

Cleaning Services

- 16 Dorridge & Knowle Domestic Cleaning Services 07809 567264

Doors & Windows

- 9 Dorridge Doors 01564 335513
- 11 Garolla 01564 340 013
- 14 ACS Doors 07592 303104

Electricians

- 15 Midland Electrical Group 0121 238 5949

Fires & Fireplaces

- 30 Fusion 0121 743 8540

Gardens and drives

- 1 GreenThumb Solihull 0121 705 6395
- 16 Packwood Tree Surgery 07850 043159
- 16 Central Drives Landscapes 0121 702 1456
- 25 Projects Paving & Landscaping 0121 652 0145

Graphic & Website Design

- 22 Hot Lobster Design Ltd 0121 369 1977

Health & Wellbeing

- 11 Dorridge Chiropractic Clinic 01564 400121
- 26 Physio & Health Matters 01564 660557

Heating

- 9 Stephen Smith Plumbing & Heating 01564 200119
- 16 Kirbco 07530 818228

Kitchens & Bathrooms

- 2 Cullen Plumbing & Tiling 07896 862916
- 5 No. Thirty One Kitchens 01564 770587
- 18 AHM Installations 01564 336918

Language Tuition

- 33 Beech Languages 01564 739 621

Local MP

- 24 Saqib Bhatti 0121 711 7029

Locksmiths

- 13 Lockfit 01564 627020

Lofts

- 18 Stu's Loft Ladders 07712 327889

Painter & Decorator

- 24 Bill Boyce 0121 744 0040

Plumbing

- 2 Cullen Plumbing & Tiling 07896 862916
- 3 Knowle Domestic Appliance Repairs 01564 730183
- 9 Stephen Smith Plumbing & Heating 01564 200119
- 16 Kirbco 07530 818228

Roofing

- 5 Revive 07854623592
- 7 Michael Kavanagh Building & Roofing 024 7671 7737
- 13 Deluxe Roofing 0800 747 1461
- 27 C Stevens Roofing 0121 733 1276
- 36 N. Bird & Son 0121 743 6324

Schools

- 27 Kingswood School 0121 744 7883

Solicitors

- 21 Shakespeare Martineau 0121 705 8151

Tiling

- 2 Cullen Plumbing & Tiling 07896 862916

local police contact
for knowle & dorridge

Sergeant Mike Lloyd

Telephone: 101 ext 892 6037

Email: rural@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

LOCAL COUNCILLORS
DORRIDGE & HOCKLEY
HEATH

Ian Courts

Tel: 01676 535490
courts@solihull.gov.uk

Andrew Mackiewicz

Tel: 01564 230294
amackiewicz@solihull.gov.uk

Ken Meeson

Tel: 01564 777772
kmeeson@solihull.gov.uk

KNOWLE

Diana Hall-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

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

Sudoku Solution
from page 26

D.A. MANDER & SON Ltd

PROFESSIONAL FITTER AND SUPPLIER OF QUALITY CARPETS

*Don Mander does not have retail premises. If you need him
please call him direct– the only way to buy carpets*



EASIER

*Than walking round
lots of shops*

ACCURATE

*See colours in their
true light*

CONVENIENT

*View in the comfort of
your own home*

*Really pleased with job done by Don and family to
install our hall, stairs and landing carpet, quick,
knowledgeable and professional, wish we had found
them sooner! Would highly recommend.*

Claire Price, Solihull

*For the best carpet fitters in the UK look no further
than Don, Davina and Luke Mander. Experts in
their field, trustworthy and extremely knowledgeable.
No job is too big or too small. They carried out a
repair job on our stair carpet which had been
ruined by the cat. It is now as good as new.*

Carol Tromans, Solihull

01564 700200

We can uplift and remove existing carpets and move furniture

Mobile: 07976 778694

FREE ESTIMATES

91 Longdon Road, Knowle B93 9HT

**See our Review's at
Freeindex.co.uk**

N.BIRD & SON

ROOFING SERVICES



FREE QUOTES

EST 1987 SOLIHULL BASED

0121 743 6324

LOCAL FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

- Small Repairs
- Flat Roofs
- New Roofs
- Ridge Tiles
- Chimney Work
- Lead Work
- UPVC Facia, Soffit & Gutters
- GRP Flat Roofs
- Small brickwork jobs



NO PAYMENT UNTIL YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED



249 Lyndon Road, Solihull B92 7QP