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may 2022

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HOLLYWOOD LANE, HOLLYWOOD

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GORSEY LANE, WYTHALL



GORSEY LANE, WYTHALL

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WINDRUSH ROAD, HOLLYWOOD

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Marvellous May!

Welcome to the May edition...

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It's also a great time for getting your garden looking lovely and for selling your home. We've got a great range of local, reliable businesses in here who can help you get your garden ready and update any aspect of your home, from your roof to your kitchen, your bathroom to your décor, whether you're getting it ready to sell or just want to update it for your own benefit.

Wishing you a great month ahead. Until next month,

Zoe

Zoe Reece

Tel: 07557 220585

Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com

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contents

- 21** Events
- 23** Competition
- 35** Recipe
- 37** Book reviews
- 38** Index

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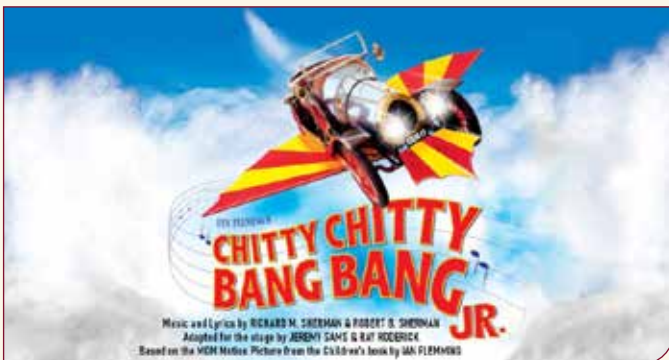
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he has it down to a tee! Listen to favourites such as A New Flame, Money's Too Tight To Mention, Stars, and Holding Back The Years. Visit seetickets.com to book

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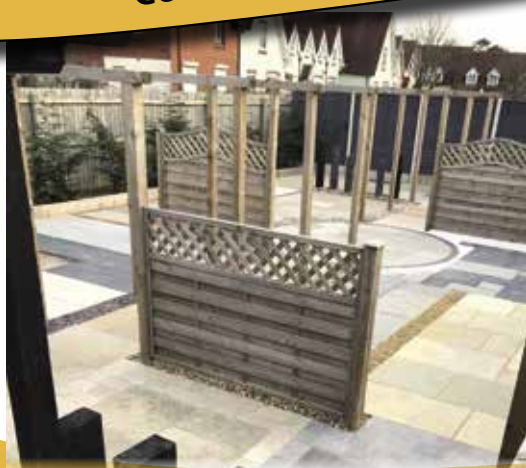
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Artwork by Sarah C Harvey, Illustrator.

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The Platinum Jubilee

It's a mug's game!

Unless you've been living as a hermit it can't have escaped your notice that a significant event takes place this month. That's right...we all have an extra day's holiday to look forward to. Oh, and Her Majesty celebrates her Platinum Jubilee

Jubilees have always been significant events in the history of our country. Even as I type the shop shelves are groaning under the weight of commemorative mugs, and TV adverts exhort us to send off for decorative coins. I'd always assumed that Royal souvenirs were a relatively modern invention, but in fact they have been a popular way of marking royal jubilees and weddings for the last three centuries.

The earliest known English commemorative items date from the Restoration of Charles II, in 1660. They must have been a hit because more followed for his Coronation in 1661 and wedding in 1662! At first such items were purchased only by the wealthy, but as new manufacturing methods developed the ordinary general public was able to buy a little piece of Royal history too. What they bought hasn't changed a great deal over the years: the most popular items are and have always been coins, stamps and ceramics, especially mugs. Oh us Brits do love a Royal mug. Maybe it's related to our love of tea!

Special issue coins were first used to mark the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887. The majority of jubilee coins are issued in 'crown' size. This has nothing to do with a royal crown but is in fact the size of an old crown coin, which was equal in value to 5 shillings. The reason for this is that the large size of the coin allows for more detail. These special coins are not intended for general use and are almost always collected in uncirculated mint condition.

The first stamps associated with a Royal



event were those issued in 1887, the year of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Interestingly they were not intended as commemorative issues and were never released as a set. Specific Jubilee sets of stamps were first issued in 1935 for George V's Jubilee.

Ceramics have always been popular Royal souvenirs. Commemorative jugs, vases, mugs, and plates survive in significant numbers from the reign of George III onwards.

But it seems the imaginations of the souvenir producers know no limits. Everything from wallpaper to underwear has been given some sort of a Royal twist in times past.

Because most souvenirs are now mass produced they have little commercial value long term, but they're fun and colourful, and a nice little piece of history. I still have the Silver Jubilee coin I was given at primary school.

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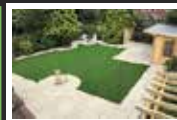
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Carrot Sweet Potato and Feta Fritters

A tasty snack or a light vegetarian meal



Serves: 4

Preparation time: 30 minutes, plus draining time

Ingredients

800g carrots
2 large potatoes
1 large onion
600g sweet potatoes
5 medium free-range eggs
200g feta, crumbled
6 tbsp wholemeal flour
25g fresh coriander, chopped
2 tbsp cumin seeds
300ml vegetable oil
Green salad, lime wedges
and yogurt to serve

Method

Peel and grate the carrots, potatoes, onion, and sweet potatoes. Place them into a colander or a large sieve over the sink with a big pinch of salt, and leave to drain for 30 minutes. Take a large bowl and in it combine the eggs, feta cheese, flour, coriander, and cumin seeds. Beat with a fork until well mixed. Squeeze as much liquid from the grated veg as you can, pressing down hard into

the colander or sieve for 1-2 minutes, then add the grated veg to the egg mixture. Stir to combine well and season generously. Heat the oven to 150C/fan130C/gas 2. Heat the oil in a wok or deep saucepan to 180°C, or until a cube of bread sizzles. Put dollops of the mix into a slotted spoon and lower into the hot oil. Cook 2-3 at a time: fry for 1-2 minutes, then turn the fritters over and repeat until golden. Put on a plate and keep warm in an oven set to low.



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a good read

reviews By Willow Coby

The Last Thing He Told Me

by Laura Dave

Before Owen Michaels disappears, he manages to smuggle a note to Hannah, his wife of one year: Protect her. Hannah while understandably scared and confused knows exactly who the note refers to. It's Owen's sixteen-year-old daughter Bailey, who lost her mother when she was very young and wants absolutely nothing to do with her new stepmother. As the FBI arrest Owen's boss and US Marshals arrive her home, Hannah realizes her husband may not be who he said he was. If you love a mystery but crave a reprieve from the usual bloody murder and maverick detective scenario, Laura Dave's novel about a man living a lie and his wife and daughter desperately trying to find out who he really is, might be the perfect solution. The mystery of Owen's past is certainly intriguing, but the strength of this book really lies in the characters. This is not a book about Hannah's relationship with Owen, but about her evolving relationship with Bailey. The mother and stepdaughter are forced to set out to discover what it is Owen was hiding, and quickly realise that it goes way beyond the financial fraud his company is accused of. As the tension builds, they don't know who to believe or who they can trust, so they're forced to depend on each other. In the end, the story deals with what it means to be a mother, protecting a child, and the child coming to terms with her world being turned upside down for the second time in her young life. Anyone who has taken on the role of stepmother will probably identify with Hannah and Bailey's relationship on many levels. This isn't a fast-paced novel, but it moves along nicely. It's told in the present using flashbacks to Hannah's marriage to Owen. Hannah is a strong



character, resilient and compassionate with authentic emotions. She's also immensely practical and is not afraid to take matters into her own hands. There are numerous twists and turns, that take them from their home in California to Austin Texas, and the truth when it comes is shockingly unexpected.

The Suitcase Kid

by Jacqueline Wilson with Nick Sharratt (Illustrations)

Ten-year-old Andrea, known as Andy, is an only child who has always lived at Mulberry Cottage with her mum and dad. But when they split up, Andy has to say goodbye to her childhood home. She's pushed from pillar to post by her mum and dad as they struggle to work out a suitable visitation arrangement. She spends one week at her mum's and one week at her dad's. Suddenly she's coping with the divorce, two new homes, and two new mis-matched families with stepbrothers and stepsisters, not all of whom are nice! She now has five siblings and nowhere to call home. No wonder Andy struggles to feel part of either family and craves her old home and life. Jacqueline Wilson is a consummate storyteller, with a real understanding of a child's inner world. She tells the story poignantly, using Andy as the narrator, confiding her inner most thoughts and fears to the reader in language they can relate to. Can Andy overcome her feelings of not belonging, find new friends, family allies and a sense of belonging?



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mindbenders
from page 15

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