

the wythall directory

may 2024

a community magazine and business directory
for residents of wythall & hollywood



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SYCAMORE DRIVE, HOLLYWOOD

A four double bed roomed executive detached house on Hollywood Grange. Briefly comprising; entrance hallway, lounge with inglenook, dining room, kitchen/diner, utility room, ground floor w.c., master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, tandem garage, front, and rear garden and driveway.

Offers Around £675,000

STATION ROAD, WYTHALL



STATION ROAD, WYTHALL

A detached four double bed roomed bungalow. Briefly comprising; porch, hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, breakfast room, guest cloaks w.c., ground floor master bedroom with en-suite and one further bedroom, with two further bedrooms on the first floor, family bathroom, side garage, superb rear garden and front driveway.

Offers Around £675,000

DARK LANE, HOLLYWOOD



DARK LANE, HOLLYWOOD

An extended five bedroomed, four bathroom traditional detached spacious family home. Briefly comprising; porch, hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, utility, study, guest cloaks w.c., master bedroom with en suite on second floor, first floor two bedrooms both with en suite, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, integral side garage, rear garden and front driveway.

Offers Around £595,000

CHANTRY CLOSE, HOLLYWOOD



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CHANTRY CLOSE, HOLLYWOOD

A four bedroomed detached dormer bungalow. Briefly comprising; entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen, dining room, ground floor master bedroom with walk in wardrobe and en suite, ground floor bathroom, three further bedrooms on first floor, side garage, rear garden and front driveway.

Offers Around £425,000



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Marvellous May!

Welcome to the May edition

May's one of the best months of the year - we're firmly in the Spring, and have all the anticipation of a lovely Summer ahead, fingers crossed!

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,



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community events

Great British Musicals

1 June 7.30pm, Knowle Village Hall

The Strolling Players invite you to join them as they present songs from great British musicals, such as "The Lion King", "Salad Days", "Chess" and "Pickwick" as well as music from Lloyd Webber, Ivor Novello and much more. Tickets £10 - please call 01564 777634.

Charity Craft Material Sale

4 June 10.30 - 1.30, Warwick Room at Shirley Institute, Shirley B90 2AX

Raising money for Alzheimer's Society. All types of crafts available.

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Girls Aloud

18 - 20 June, Resorts World Arena

The hugely anticipated shows will feature all of the band's historic pop hits including No.1 songs 'Sound Of The Underground', 'The Promise' and 'I'll Stand By You', alongside cast-iron classics such as 'Love Machine', 'Call The Shots', 'Biology', 'Something New' and 'The Show'. Tickets from www.resortsworldarena.co.uk

Pure Queen - Tribute to Queen

14 June, The Lake at Barston
Possibly one of the



greatest performers of all time is portrayed by Mark Lavell (Pure Magic) and his supporting Queen band, including hits such as Bohemian Rhapsody, Barcelona, Killer Queen and more. To book please call 01675 444890.

Northern Soul Night

13 July, Knowle British Legion
Join in for an unforgettable night of rhythm, soul, and dance. Get ready to groove the night away. Tickets £5 from ticketsource.co.uk

Summer craft fair

Contact whcountrymarket@gmail.com



Date: Sat 1st June

Time: 12 - 5pm

Venue: Park Hall



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Still a few selling-spaces left for selected categories. Contact us for more information

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Bank Holidays

Why do we have them?

Before 1834, the Bank of England and other institutions observed 33 closure days annually for festivals and saints' days. This number was significantly reduced in 1834 to just four: May Day, All Saints Day, Good Friday, and Christmas Day, reflecting the changes brought about by the industrial revolution and the need for more regulated banking operations.

The Bank Holidays Act of 1871, driven by Sir John Lubbock, a Liberal politician and banker, expanded the holidays to include Easter Monday, Whit Monday, the first Monday in

August, and Boxing Day, while May Day was omitted for its pagan connotations, and New Year's Day was added for Scotland, recognizing its distinct traditions like Hogmanay.

The Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 updated these holidays, replacing Whit Monday with the late May spring holiday, moving the August bank holiday to the last Monday of the month, and reintroducing May Day as Labour Day in 1978. Bank holidays are annually declared by royal proclamation, which also allows for adjustments if these dates



fall on weekends - a practice not common worldwide.

May is a good month for bank holidays every year... because we get two!

May Day remains a celebration of spring and renewal, with local festivities reflecting ancient traditions. But perhaps the most widely recognised custom on all bank holidays is a modern one... the chance to do some DIY!



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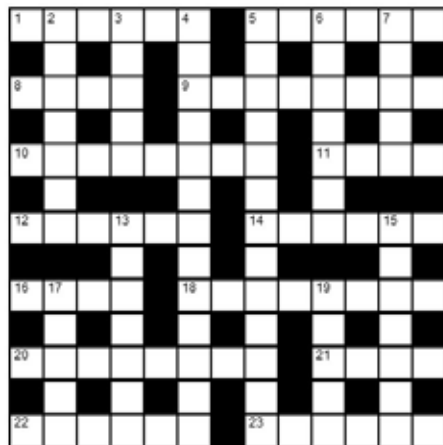


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crossword



clues

Across

- 1 Pleasantly occupied (6)
- 5 Douse, drench (6)
- 8 Wide smile (4)
- 9 Party game (8)
- 10 Not damaged (8)
- 11 Valueless (4)
- 12 Rush-hour shortcut (informal) (6)
- 14 Fall asleep (informal) (6)
- 16 Minor confrontation (4)
- 18 Ratifying, embracing (8)
- 20 Appeased (6)
- 21 Three squared (4)
- 22 Causes hay fever (6)
- 23 Win back, pay off (6)

Down

- 2 English actress _____
Hart (7)
- 3 Father Christmas (5)
- 4 Evidence, proof (13)
- 5 Automated payment (8,5)
- 6 Educated (7)
- 7 Metal alloy (5)
- 13 Hear the same legal case
again (7)
- 15 Economic affairs (7)
- 17 Keyboard instrument (5)
- 19 Fit, sleek (5)

answer on page 26



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AndyE-230 / 31 Jan 2024

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answers on page 26

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Nutritious nettles

As a novice gardener I spent a lot of time pulling out nettles from the overgrown patch I inherited when I bought my first home. Fast forward twenty years and I have learned that I was doing the humble nettle a disservice.

Contrary to their reputation for stinging and being a pervasive nuisance, nettles offer numerous (and free) benefits. These include serving as a rich nutrient source for your garden, attracting helpful insects, and even being a delightful edible option when gathered properly.

You can leverage the nutrient-rich nature of nettles by making a homemade, organic liquid fertilizer. Nettles are packed with some fabulous garden-friendly elements such as nitrogen, calcium, and magnesium, all vital for plant growth.

Any part of the plant can be used, even the older, tougher parts, and the process is straightforward. Chop the nettles and pack them into a sealable container (to mitigate any unpleasant smells) before submerging them in water. Let the mixture sit for about a month to create a potent nettle tea. Dilute this tea with water in a ratio of 1:10 for a

nutrient-rich feed, ideal for nurturing leafy greens like kale, chard, and spinach.

Nettles also double as an excellent mulch for bigger plants or fruit bushes and act as a compost accelerator by enhancing the breakdown process in your compost pile. However, avoid using the roots or seeds, to prevent unintended growth.

By allowing some nettles to grow on your patch, you support the lifecycle of butterfly species such as red admiral, small tortoiseshell, painted lady, and comma butterflies, and also offer a habitat for beneficial insects such as ladybirds, which control aphid populations and other garden pests.

In addition to their usefulness in the garden, nettles are a versatile ingredient in the kitchen. Using gloves to avoid the stings, nettles can be harvested and used just like spinach, boasting a similar high iron content. They're perfect for steaming or as the base for a soup - blend boiled potatoes and tender nettles with vegetable stock, season and enrich with a spoon of cream for a hearty dish...perfect after a day working in the garden!





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

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



Mark O'Sullivan

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a good read

By Natasha Donovan

The Memory Police

by Yoko Ogawa

This is a hauntingly beautiful and dystopian novel that delves into the fragility of memory and the essence of loss. Set on an unnamed island, the story unfolds in a world where objects and concepts are systematically disappearing, erased from existence and memory by the enigmatic Memory Police. The narrative is centred around a young novelist who struggles to preserve her memories and those of the island's inhabitants. Ogawa's writing is elegantly simple yet profoundly deep, weaving a tale that is as much a melancholic meditation on memory as it is a compelling story of resistance and survival. The island's inhabitants, resigned to the relentless loss of their surroundings, adapt to each disappearance with a troubling nonchalance. This eerie acceptance of loss is one of the novel's most chilling aspects, highlighting the insidious nature of the Memory Police's power. The novelist (who is also unnamed), with the help of an old man and a risk-taking editor who is immune to the forgetfulness, attempts to defy the Memory Police by hiding her editor in a secret room. Their struggle against the inevitable tide of forgetfulness forms the heart of the story, illustrating the human capacity for resilience in the face of oppressive forces. The atmosphere of subtle suspense and creeping dread imbues the story with a quiet intensity. The characters are sketched with a delicate touch, yet they are profoundly relatable in their quest to hold onto their memories and identities. This struggle against the erasure of memory becomes a powerful metaphor for the larger human experience of loss and the effort to preserve our own pasts. The Memory Police is not just a story about



an authoritarian regime's control over personal memories; it is also a reflection on the impermanence of existence. Ogawa explores the idea that what makes us human is not just our ability to remember but also our capacity for empathy and connection.

Clem and Crab

by Fiona Lumbers

This is a lovely story about cleaning up our beaches. The story is a simple one: Clem loves to search the beach for things to put in her bucket. After a fun day at the seaside, Clem finds a Crab with its claw tangled in a plastic bag. She wants to take him home and keep him safe, but reluctantly lets him go back to the sea after her sister explains it's where he belongs. On her way home on the bus, Clem finds Crab tucked away in her trouser leg, and Crab ends up going on an adventure to Clem's school and inspires Clem to want to help clear the beaches of horrible plastic junk. The story is fun and easy to follow, and the illustrations are charming. The environmental message is there but it's never preachy. It's a nice gentle introduction for children about the importance of taking care of our planet.



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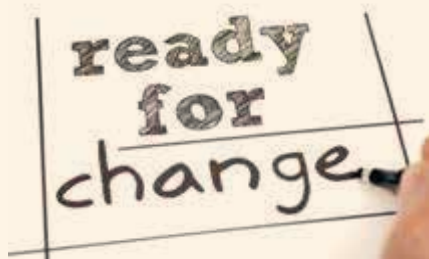
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Double cheese and Spring Vegetable Tart



Preparation time: 30 mins

Cooking time: 1 hours

Serves: 8

Ingredients

500g block shortcrust pastry
 plain flour, for dusting
 25g mature cheddar, finely grated.
 200g asparagus spears, woody ends trimmed.
 100g frozen peas
 2 eggs
 100g crème fraîche
 150g double cream
 whole nutmeg, for grating
 100g watercress
 2 x 150g logs of soft, rindless goat's cheese.

Method

Take the pastry out of the fridge ten minutes before starting. Lightly dust the work surface with flour then roll the pastry out into a rectangle.

Scatter the grated cheese over the rolled-out pastry, fold the pastry in half and roll out again into a circle that fits a 25cm tart tin. Leave the edges of the pastry slightly overhanging the edge of the tin. Pop it in the fridge for 20 mins to chill. Meanwhile, cook the asparagus in boiling water for 3 mins, then drain and refresh under cold water. Defrost the frozen peas. Preheat the oven to 200C / 180C fan / gas 6. Prick the base of the tart well with a fork, line with baking parchment and fill with baking beans or dried lentils. Bake the tart for 30 mins, remove the parchment and beans, prick again if it has puffed up,

then bake for another 10-15 mins until golden brown. Meanwhile, beat the eggs in a bowl, add the crème fraîche and cream, season and add a pinch of freshly grated nutmeg. Scatter the peas and most of the watercress over the tart and crumble over half the goat's cheese. Pour over the creamy egg mixture, then lay the asparagus spears on top. Finally, slice the remaining goat's cheese and arrange on top, then bake for 25-30 mins until the custard is just set and the cheese is golden brown. Leave to cool in the tin, trim the edges of the pastry. Remove from the tin, cut into slices, and serve with the remaining watercress.

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Travel

National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50
First Bus Worcestershire	0345 646 0707

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

Sudoku Solution

from page 20

A	M	U	S	E	D	S	P	L	A	S	H
J	A	O	T	E	T						
G	R	I	N	C	H	A	R	A	D	E	S
A	T	U	N	R	E						
U	N	H	A	R	M	E	D	N	U	L	L
D				E	I	E					
R	A	T	R	U	N	O	D	O	F	F	
	E	T	G								
S	P	A	T	A	D	O	P	T	I	N	G
T	R	I	T	R	O	A					
P	A	C	I	F	I	E	D	N	I	N	E
N	A	O	E	E	E	C					
P	O	L	L	E	N	R	E	D	E	E	M

Crossword Solution

from page 11

Solution to Mind benders

1. The fast lane
2. Man overboard
3. Pie in the sky

mindbenders

from page 15

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