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Have an Eggsellent Easter!

Welcome to the April edition...

Enjoy your lovely long Bank Holiday weekend – whether you're relaxing in the garden (weather permitting!), jet-setting off on a long-awaited break, or just using the time to catch up on all those jobs that never seem to get done.

And if you need help sorting out that never-ending list, why not see if some of the people and businesses who advertise in here can help you. Whether you need your roof fixed, the kitchen updated, your gutters cleaned, or a new security system, there's lots of lovely local and helpful people in here who can help.

However you spend your Easter, hope it's good one.

Zoe

Zoe Reece

Tel: 07557 220585

Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com

www.solihullindex.com



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6 May.

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7 May.

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- Telling a member of staff about unpleasant body odour
- Sorted the departure of a toxic member of staff
- How to manage pregnant staff and arrange maternity leave
- Guided a client through a disciplinary investigation
- Dismissing a poor performer
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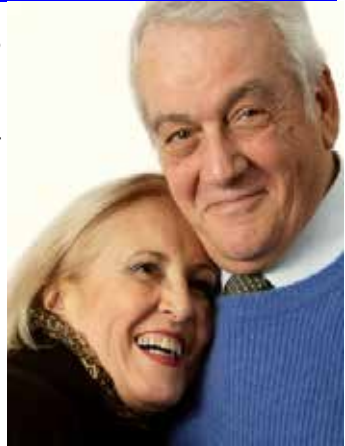
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The Easter Parade and other traditions...

The Easter weekend is the principal religious feast of the Christian year, yet most of its traditions have no basis in Christianity at all. In fact, the Jewish festival of Passover, or Pesach which is closely linked to

Easter by dates and symbolism was celebrated long before the birth of Jesus. And long before the name 'Easter' was used, early Christians celebrated 'Pascha,' a word derived from Pesach.

The word 'Easter' actually comes from an Anglo-Saxon fertility goddess called Eostre, who was associated with spring and new beginnings. Both Easter and Passover centre around re-birth, and bond neatly with the Anglo-Saxon festival of 'Eostre-monath' – Eostre's month.

Hot cross buns, traditionally eaten on Good Friday, are linked to Passover. Originally they were unleavened bread, an important Passover food. Nowadays, they are leavened (which

makes them light and delicious) and marked with a cross to serve as a reminder of the crucifixion.

The tradition of eating chocolate eggs derives from the fact that during Eostre, eggs were given as gifts to celebrate the end of winter and as a symbol of new life. Once again this ties in with Passover, where a traditional meal is Beitzah, a hardboiled egg. Eventually Christians began decorating the shells with colourful patterns, and later thanks to enterprising chocolatiers in France and Germany delicious chocolate Easter eggs began to appear.

But what about the Easter Bunny? Surely an Easter hen would be more logical. At least a hen lays eggs! But if we look back at the Goddess Eostre, her scared animal was the hare, and it's not a huge jump (see what I did there?) from a hare to a rabbit.

The Easter Bunny and egg hunts seem to originate in Germany in the 16th century. Children made

nests in the garden and, if they were good, the Easter Bunny would leave them coloured hard-boiled eggs to find the next morning. This tradition travelled to America with early German settlers and, like many old traditions, has now returned to Britain substituting chocolate eggs for a sweeter egg hunt.

Egg rolling on Easter Monday is one of the strangest traditions. Some sources say that it represents the rolling away of the stone blocking Jesus' tomb. It's also known as Pace-Egging, which derives once again from the word Pesach. It's centuries old but no-one is entirely sure of the origins, though it might have originated as a way of getting everyone

out of the house for some much-needed exercise after a long weekend of feasting!

On Palm Sunday it is said that Jesus was welcomed to Jerusalem by an adoring throng. This and the procession which followed Jesus carrying the cross are often seen as the earliest predecessors

of the modern Easter parade.

During the Dark Ages, Christians in Eastern Europe would gather in a designated spot before Easter church services, then walk solemnly to the church. Afterwards they would retrace their steps while singing songs of praise. Participants usually wore their finest attire to show respect for the occasion.

Eventually the Easter parade transformed into a large American cultural event consisting of a festive strolling procession on Easter Sunday. Participants dress up and there is a particular emphasis on ladies' hats...the Easter bonnets made famous by the song from the 1948 film *Easter Parade*.

And speaking of traditions...it's our family tradition to watch that musical while we tuck into our Easter Eggs.

Happy Easter.

By Tracey Anderson



Don't get caught out with joint property

Almost 60%* of those looking to buy a home do not realise that if they die and they are joint tenants with their partner, their partner will automatically inherit the house – regardless of what it states in their will. **Hannah Tait**, partner at Shakespeare Martineau and **Ben Sharp**, associate at the firm in Solihull explain why understanding how your joint property is held is so important when estate planning or making a will.

If you own your home with someone else, there are two ways in which the property can be held: joint tenants and tenants in common.

Joint tenants

Where property is held as joint tenants, on the death of one owner, the property passes automatically to the other, regardless of the provisions of that person's will. While this can benefit the parties if it is their intention for their partner to inherit their house, sometimes, particularly in second marriages, this may not be the case and it means your partner may inherit the property rather than your share passing to children from a previous marriage, for example. The best option is to sever the joint tenancy to create a tenancy in common and then make a will to leave your share to a named beneficiary.

Tenants in Common

Where property is held as tenants in common and one person dies, the share belonging to them passes in accordance with the terms of their will, or if they don't have a will – will pass via the intestacy rules to potentially unwanted beneficiaries. So, if you're an unmarried couple and neither of you has a will, if one person dies, it may be that their share in the house is passed to their family and not the living partner.

How it affects estate planning

Many people wish to benefit people other than those with whom they co-own property in their wills. Subject to the other assets in the estate, this will only work practically if the property is held as tenants in common and not where property is held as joint tenants.

The best option is strictly dependant on individual circumstances and it isn't always easy to identify with the untrained eye which way a property is held, particularly with unregistered titles. Our experts can help with this so obtain specialist legal advice before committing to one option over another.

*Survey conducted by Shakespeare Martineau in 2022



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answer on page 26




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What did Elaine Paige say about this show?

Email your answer to:

thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk – and please put **'SIMON & GARFUNKEL'** as the subject line.

Closing date for entries is **1st May 2022**.

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:

Using huge projection photos and original film footage, this 50th Anniversary Celebration also features a full live band performing all the hits including 'Mrs Robinson', 'Cecilia', 'Bridge Over Troubled Water', 'Homeward Bound' and many more.

Potato Rosti with Poached Egg and Bacon

For an egg-cellent Easter treat try this brilliant sweet 'n' salty brunch.



Ingredients

500g Maris Piper potatoes
(King Edward also work well)
250g parsnips
50g butter
3tbsp sunflower oil
12 rashers smoked bacon
2tbsp maple syrup
6 free range eggs

Serves: 6

Preparation time: 15 minutes

Cooking time: 25-30 minutes

Method

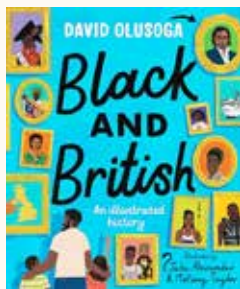
Peel the potatoes, then coarsely grate them along with the parsnips, and squeeze out all the liquid (really important or you'll get soggy mush rather than crispy rosti!)

Season well and separate into six portions, then shape each portion into flat pancake shape. These are the rosti. Heat the butter and oil in a pan and cook the rosti for 6-7 mins on each side until deep golden brown and crispy. Meanwhile, grill or oven cook the bacon for 20-25 minutes, until crisp and golden. Smoked bacon is sublime but unsmoked is good too. A few minutes before the bacon and rosti are ready, bring a pan of water to a gentle simmer and poach the eggs. Top each rosti with 2 rashers of bacon and 1 poached egg. Serve with maple syrup.

book reviews

Black and British: An Illustrated History, by David Olusoga

David Olusoga is a British-Nigerian historian. His book *Black and British, A Short Essential History* is an excellent introduction to how Black culture has both enriched and forms an integral part of British culture. While not aimed at children it's accessible enough for fluent readers, and personally I feel it should be a core text for the National Curriculum.



This book though is an illustrated and abridged version aimed specifically at children aged 8-11. Like the adult text, it charts the often-overlooked histories

a good read

reviews By Tash Donovan

of Black people in Britain from Roman times (yes there were Roman Africans!) right through to the present day, encompassing the black soldiers who fought for Britain in World War 1 and Windrush, which has once again been in the news.

The full colour illustrations are beautiful and include maps and portraits. This is an informative book for all children (and their parents), no matter what their heritage might be.

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Sudoku Solution

from page 18

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Health

NHS non-emergency 111
Grove Surgery 0121 705 1105
Northbrook Group Practice 0121 746 5000
Hobs Moat Medical Centre 0121 742 5211
Solihull Hospital 0121 424 2000
Spire Parkway Hospital 0121 704 1451
Daleswood Health, Solihull 01675 489489

Council

Solihull Council 0121 704 6000

Utilities

Electricity power cut 0800 6783 105
Gas leak 0800 111 9999
Severn Trent Water 024 7771 5000
Severn Trent Water (emergencies) 0800 783 4444

Travel

National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50
Network West Midlands (buses) 0345 303 6760

Councillor surgeries these are face-to-face meetings held by councillors for local people to raise issues in their area. Held at The Core Library, Solihull on the first and last Saturday of the month, 10am – 12 noon.

26 Mention the **Solihull Index** when responding to advertisements



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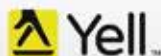
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