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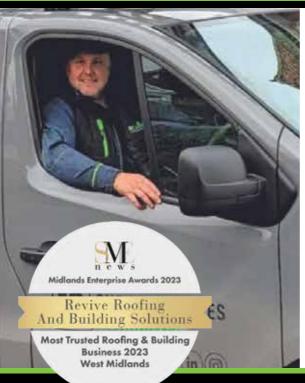
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Did you have an Eggsellent Easter?!

Welcome to the April edition

I hope you enjoyed your lovely long Bank Holiday weekend – whether you relaxed at home, jetted off on a long-awaited break, or just used he 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 washing machine repaired, the house decorated, or a new carpet, there's lots of lovely local and helpful people in here who can help.

Zoe Reece Tel: 07557 220585

Email: zoe@dorridgedirectory.com

www.solihullindex.com







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community events

Soul, Funk & Disco Night

27 April 7pm, Knowle British Legion Club, Warwick Road, Knowle

Get ready for a night of great fun, singing and dancing away to your favourite soul and disco classics. Tickets from www. ticketsource.co.uk

Boogie Bingo

4 May, Nailcote Hall

Are you ready to shake your booty and win big at Boogie Bingo? There's disco lights, a groovy DJ, and the best game of bingo you've ever played! But that's not all - fantastic prizes will have you jumping out of your seat with excitement! Tickets from www.nailcotehall.co.uk

Matilda in Concert

12 May, 11am and 3pm, NEC
Prepare to be enchanted
for this first-ever film-withorchestra experience under
the grand Big Top tent at
the North 5 Outdoor Event
Space at the NEC. You'll
also be able to enjoy an
array of food stalls, bars,
and fairground rides. Tickets
from www.thenec.co.uk

Art exhibition

21 May - 10 June, The Courtyard Gallery, The Core, Touchwood

Local artist and art lecturer, Vicky ArtsAndCraftsV, is set to captivate audiences with her solo exhibition Beautiful Open Spaces. The exhibition promises a feast



for the senses, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in the vibrant world of her acrylic paintings. For more information visit www.

ArtsAndCraftsV.com

Charity Plant Sale

25 May from 12 noon, 64
Lawnswood Avenue, Shirley
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ASA	Sat 13th ELVIS TRIBUTE SHOW with KEVIN PAUL	£42.50
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	MAY 2024	
et tes	Sat 4th Miles BOOGIE (31) at NAILCOTE HALL	£25.00
2 No	Sat 11th Milliam TAKE THAT TRIBUTE PARTY with TAKE @ THAT	£42.50
0.00	Sat 18th MOTOWN DIVAS SHOW with THE DREAMETTES	£45.00
	JUNE 2024	
10	Fri 7th A TRIBUTE TO WHITNEY HOUSTON with NYA KING	£42.50
A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	Sat 8th MAMMA MIA' BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH SOLD OUT	£60.00
PIP I	Thu 20th Marquee ASCOT LADIES DAY in THE MARQUEE	£89.50
5 A	Fri 21st CHARITY ASCOT DAY in THE MARQUEE	£89.50
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I have separated from my partner. Can I change the locks?

If you've separated from your spouse or partner can you change the locks? Dipika Mistry legal director at Shakespeare Martineau in Solihull explains your legal rights when you break up.

Are you both named on the deed?

Where a property is jointly owned, the simple answer is no. The legal position is that both parties have an equal right to access and to occupy the property. Even if only one party is paying the mortgage or the other party has made zero contribution, you cannot change the locks without the agreement of the co-owner or an order from the court.

In certain circumstances, the court may be prepared to grant an Occupation Order to one party to prevent the other party from returning to the property where there has been domestic violence or threats of harm. The threshold is fairly high and in some cases, where the evidence is insufficient, an order can be made for the parties to occupy certain parts of the property.

Is the property just in your name?

If the property is in your sole name then you are entitled to change the locks, even if your ex has contributed to the bills previously.

My ex is kicking me out - do I have any rights?

In certain circumstances, an Occupation Order can be secured through the courts for the person without legal title to the property, particularly if they would be made homeless by virtue of the locks being changed and/or have a beneficial interest in the property.

In the case of a marriage breaking down, the person without legal title can seek to register a home rights notice against the property, provided it has been occupied as the matrimonial home. This is advisable for protection as it prevents disposal of the property without notice before the financial matters have been resolved.

For unmarried couples, it may be possible to secure a unilateral notice or other restriction against the property depending on the circumstances to prevent a disposal taking place before an agreement has been reached.

If your relationship has reached a point of irretrievable breakdown, it's important to get legal advice to help protect you, your assets and your children.



For more information call 0330 024 0333 email dipika.mistry@shma.co.uk or visit www.shma.co.uk



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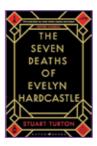


a good read By Natasha Donovan

The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle

by Stuart Turton

Our hero awakens in a mysterious, damp forest, clad in an unfamiliar tuxedo and inhabiting a body that isn't his own. With no recollection of his identity or how he came to be in this situation, he makes his way to Blackheath House, and soon discovers he is Aiden



Bishop, trapped there for a purpose. A masked figure reveals to him that a disguised murder is set to occur that day. Bishop has eight attempts to unravel it, reliving the same day in different bodies, each termed a "host," He retains memories from each host, but failure to identify the killer by the eighth cycle means a reset to day one, with all memories wiped, a cycle he has already undergone numerous times. As Bishop aradually beains to make sense of his predicament, he learns of competitors: two others at the country house party are also inhabiting foreign souls, each racing to solve the murder to escape the time loop. As if this was not enough peril, a relentless psychopath is also pursuing him, threatening each of his hosts.

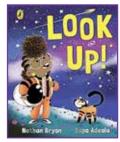
Author Turton masterfully orchestrates a narrative replete with diverse, enigmatic characters, while scattering random clues throughout. The 'rules' of the story rules evolve as Bishop navigates his way through each day. I'm doubting that many readers will solve the mystery before the final plot twist.

It's Agatha Christie, Cluedo, and Groundhog Day, with a twist of time loop chaos. It takes a while to orientate yourself within the story but it's well worth the effort. Turton's debut novel is inventive, chaotic, and brilliantly bonkers. Buckle up and hold on tight.

Look Up!

by Nathan Bryon and illustrated by Dapo Adeola

Rocket dreams of becoming the most brilliant star-catcher, and space explorer in the world, like her idol Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space. Fizzing with excitement about an imminent meteor shower, Rocket



makes an announcement about it over the supermarket loudspeaker while the cashier is distracted. She makes and distributes flyers to all the shoppers, despite her older brother Jamal's disapproval and embarrassment. Jamal is usually engrossed in his phone and video games and finds Rocket annoying. When he's too absorbed in gaming to take Rocket to the park to see the meteor shower, Rocket faces a dilemma. But an unexpected visitor at their door turns out to be a delightful could save the day in the most delightful manner.

Bryon and Adeola's captivating picture book introduces us to chatty, Rocket, a character whose passion for space is all-consuming. Adeola's characterful illustrations capture Jamal's angsty teenage moodiness and Rocket's excitement about stargazing. Packed with space facts and insights into meteors, this book also beautifully depicts family dynamics, sibling bonds, and a young girl's contagious zeal for the cosmos.



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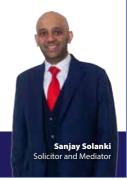
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Banana and Walnut Loaf



Ingredients

225g plain flour
2 level tsp baking powder
80g softened or
spreadable butter
1 large egg (beaten)
110g caster sugar
4 medium bananas
(peeled)
50g walnuts (chopped)
Zest 1 lemon
Demerara sugar
for sprinkling

Method

Preheat oven to 180C / gas 4. Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Mash three bananas to a pulp and chop the fourth.

Sift the flour and baking powder together into a separate bowl. Add the butter, egg and caster sugar.

Using a mixer mix everything together for a minute or two. Add the mashed and chopped bananas and briefly whisk them into the mixture. Fold in the chopped walnuts and lemon zest.

Spoon the cake mixture into

the prepared tin. Sprinkle with Demerara sugar. Place in the pre-heated oven so that the top of the tin is in the centre.

Bake for 60-70 minutes until a skewer inserted into the cake comes out clean.

Let the cake cool for 10-15 minutes then turn out on to a cooling rack.

This cake is good served warm with crème fraiche, cold, or even toasted.



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AndyE-230 / 31 Jan 2024



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An annual pleasure

very year since I began to garden, come spring, I grabbed my spade and in a fit of enthusiasm I dug over the soil. Then I filled any empty spaces with annuals. These might be carefully nurtured in my greenhouse, sprinkled direct from the packet, or purchased in packs at my local garden centre.

Several years ago, due to an injury, I was unable to get out and begin this frenzy of activity. I resigned myself to the fact than my garden simply wouldn't be as colourful that year. Nature however had other plans.

As I waited for my perennials to surface something wonderful happened. Hundreds of selfsown annuals from the previous year also began to surface. They'd been there all along,

just waiting for the warm spring sun to bring them to life.

It occurred to me that my habit of stopping deadheading towards the end of the season (to leave some interesting seed heads which feed the birds and look so pretty covered in frost) had benefitted me in more ways than the one I'd intended.

Calendula, Candytuft, Cosmos, Larkspur, Nicotiana, Poppies, Sweet Alyssum and Love-in-a-Mist were popping up everywhere I looked. I've never been so delighted.

I waited until they were a couple of inches tall then on a slightly drizzly day I eased some out and transferred them to barer soil.

My reward was a display of annuals every bit as lovely as if I'd spent hours with my spade and trowel.

So last year I experimented.

Throughout the flowering season I noted where I might need an extra patch or two of colour and then, when I stopped deadheading, I simply grabbed a few seed heads and dropped them in the appropriate spot.

That spring and summer I had another beautiful display of annuals. Why hadn't I discovered this lazy way to garden before?

Of course, there are some teeny disadvantages. The main one is that annuals grown from seed flower later than those bought as plugs or plants from garden centres. Don't let this put you off though. If you have a good range of perennials the annuals can take their time. taking over when the others begin to fade. Also, no-one says it has to be all or nothing. I have a passion for cosmos, so I bring in a few plants early on every year. That way I can savour their pretty blooms right through the season.

So, if you're planting annuals this spring, plan ahead a little. Look at your garden as an evolving piece of work and let at least some of them self-seed. Then next year don't be so quick to brandish a spade... you'll gain two commodities gardeners always need more of...time and money.





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local police contact for solihull

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Councillor surgeries

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mindbenders

from page 15



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