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Why you need a divorce financial order to cut all ties with you ex

The landmark case of *Wyatt v Vince*, where the multimillionaire windfarm tycoon's ex-wife made a successful financial claim 20 years after the divorce, should act as a cautionary tale for anyone thinking of a DIY divorce, Dipika Mistry, Legal Director at Solihull-based law firm, Shakespeare Martineau, explains...

Final Order Is Not Enough

A lot of couples who undertake DIY divorces fall into the trap of thinking that the divorce date – or final order – is the end. A divorce final order is NOT a clean break financial order. In reality, without proper protection, financial claims can be made many years later.

Consent Orders

A Consent Order is a document that records the financial agreement on divorce. Essentially, it records how couples have decided to split their financial assets, and is usually prepared by a solicitor and signed off by the court.

Obtaining an Order

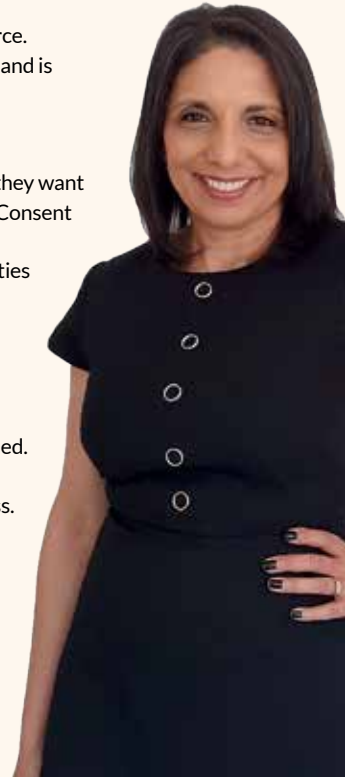
The more straightforward method involves the parting couple agreeing how they want to split their financial assets and then informing a solicitor, who will draft the Consent Order. Without agreement, divorcing couples may need to undergo financial disclosure via solicitors or attend mediation to reach a settlement that all parties are happy with. If no agreement can be reached, it is open to either party to issue a financial application at court. Whatever decision the court makes in terms of how assets are to be divided, is binding.

How long does it take?

The length of the process depends on how quickly an agreement can be reached. If both parties are in agreement, it can be relatively quick. Instigating court proceedings will obviously cause delay and can mean a much lengthier process.

Cost

The cost of having a solicitor draft a Consent Order very much depends on the complexity of the case. The most straightforward cases could cost between £500 to £2,000, depending on which firm and solicitor is chosen. If financial disclosure and specific legal advice is required, this will see the cost rise. While anyone can technically draft a Consent Order, it is highly recommended that it is done by a solicitor or barrister, to ensure it's legally sound.



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

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Summer holiday

Welcome to the August edition

For those of you that aren't jetting off overseas this Summer, there's lots of great things happening locally, including fun runs, tribute acts and beer festivals.

Check out the local event guide on page 6 to see what takes your fancy. Whether you're staying locally or exploring Europe or further afield, this Summer, have a great month and make the most of the weather and the Summer holidays, while they last!

Zoe

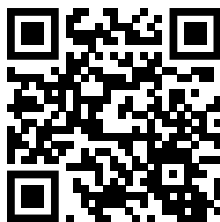
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community events

Pure Queen as a tribute to Queen

25 August, The lake at Barston

Possibly one of the greatest performers of all time is portrayed by Mark Lavell and his supporting band, including hits such as Bohemian Rhapsody, Barcelona, Killer Queen and more. Tickets from www.thelakeatbarston.co.uk

The 3 Lions Beer & Cider Festival

8th & 9th September, Shirley British Legion.

A charity Beer & Cider Festival with 20 real ales and 10 ciders organised jointly by Acocks Green, Shirley and Solihull Lions Clubs. Live music on both days provided by Ray's Open Mic Night. Entrance £10 includes a souvenir glass, £5 worth of drinks tokens and an event booklet with full tasting notes. Advance tickets from Shirley British Legion or pay on the door.

Balsall Common Fun Run

17th September

This local community fundraising event, now in its ninth year, is organised by local charity The Lily Mae Foundation, to enable participants to run in support of local and national charities and good causes. There are Mini Runs for nursery and primary aged children, 5K runs for Juniors and Families, and 5K and 10K Runs for Adults. To book your place please visit: www.stuweb.co.uk/event/4258

Elvis Tribute Show with Kevin Paul

15 September, Nailcote Hall

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Nailcote Hall's party nights include a three-course dinner, live entertainment, and an after-show DJ. Tickets from www.nailcotehall.co.uk

The Very Best of Deacon Blue

20 September, Utilita Arena

Thirty-five years since their debut single, Dignity, and millions of record sales since, Deacon Blue are digging out all their old 45s - the Top 10s, the favourites, the sing-a-long rarities - and touring the UK & Ireland in September / October 2023. Tickets from www.utilitaarenabham.co.uk

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12
YEAR
EXPERIENCE



a good read

By Natasha Donovan

A Long Way from Home

by Peter Carey

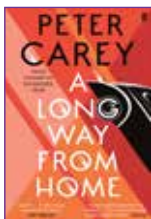
This compelling novel set in 1950s Australia, follows the lives of three central characters who embark on an eventful journey together.

Irene Bobs, a strong-willed and determined woman, dreams of winning the legendary Redex Trial, a gruelling endurance race that circumnavigates Australia. Her husband, Titch Bobs, is a car salesman with a passion for racing and an unresolved past. Willie Bachhuber is their troubled and brilliant navigator with an intimate knowledge of maps and an unconventional perspective on life.

As the trio sets off on their ambitious endeavour, they encounter all manner of challenges which brings them into direct contact with the racial tensions of the time. Australia's indigenous population faces discrimination and marginalization, and each character is forced to confront their own biases and prejudices during their voyage.

Relationships gradually become strained and alliances shift, as long-hidden secrets and insecurities bubble to the surface.

As the race progresses, the characters' personal journeys intertwine with the larger narrative of a nation struggling to find its identity. Carey uses The Redex Trial as a metaphorical representation of Australia's cultural and social landscape, mirroring the country's quest for a unified identity in the face of its diverse heritage. He weaves together themes of identity, belonging and the legacy of colonialism in a thought-provoking novel from which all three characters emerge changed forever.



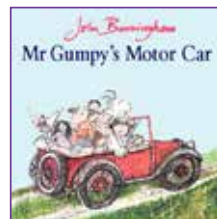
Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car

by John Burningham

Our children's book this month also centres around a car journey. Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car is an old book, though I'd never heard of it until my son was given a copy on his first birthday. It's one of those timeless,

charming works that is destined to be loved forever. Mr. Gumpy decides to take a ride in his car. As he sets out on his journey he comes across different animals who all ask to join him. They are the Rabbit, the Cat, the Dog, the Pig, the Sheep, the Chickens, the Calf, the Goat, and the Children. Mr. Gumpy greets them all patiently and cheerfully, though they prove to be quite a rowdy bunch of passengers. When they reach a tricky hill Mr. Gumpy asks for a volunteer to help push the car, but everyone has an excuse as to why they can't do it, then it starts to rain, and the car becomes stuck. The passengers eventually realise that if they don't pull together (or rather push together) they will never get home.

The story is deceptively simple and satisfying, which adds to its appeal. Burningham was known for his illustrations, and they are absolutely beautiful. The combination of earthy colours and whimsical characters make the images warm and inviting, and his use of crosshatching adds movement and life to the story. You can see the animals and children jostling for position in the car. The book's message about the importance of staying calm and working together to overcome adversity is a positive one, endearingly told.





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Ice Ice Baby

Ice cream and ice lollies have long been cherished treats, especially during the warm summer months in the United Kingdom.

The origins of ice cream can be traced back to ancient China, where it is believed that the Chinese were the first to create a frozen dessert made from milk and rice. From there, the art of making ice cream spread throughout the world. In the UK though, ice cream gained popularity during the 18th century when it became fashionable among the upper classes. Initially, it was a luxury treat reserved for the elite, as the process of making ice

cream required access to both ice and expensive ingredients.

With the advent of industrialization, ice cream became more accessible to the masses. In the mid-19th century, the development of artificial refrigeration techniques made it easier to produce and store ice cream. This led to the establishment of ice cream parlours and vendors across the UK, where people could indulge in this delightful frozen dessert. Street vendors and carts became a common sight and in 1958 Mr. Whippy ice cream vans began to appear in Birmingham, founded by Dominic Facchino. Vendors

A brief history of ice cream

found that by playing a catchy jingle, they could attract more customers. Jingles were often folk songs and to this day Greensleeves is the most-used jingle for ice cream vans.

Whether you prefer a scoop or a tub, there's no denying the charm of cold ice cream on a hot summer's day. Enjoy!





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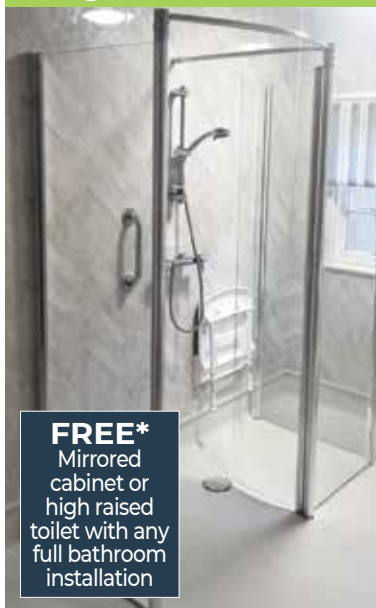
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Smooth Transition

Easing kids back into school

Returning to school routine after the long summer break can be a challenge for kids.

After weeks of relaxation and freedom, there may be some resistance or anxiety about returning to normal routines. Try these tips to make for a smoother start to term.

Gradual Transition - Start preparing for the school routine a week or two before term begins. Gradually adjust bedtimes and wake-up times to align with the school schedule. This will help children readjust their internal clocks and establish a consistent sleep routine.

Implement structure - Establish a daily routine that includes dedicated time for homework, extracurricular activities, relaxation, and socialization. A predictable routine helps children feel a sense of security and control, making the transition smoother.

Open Communication - Create an open and supportive environment for your child to express any concerns about returning to school. Encourage them to share their feelings and listen attentively without judgment. Validate their emotions and offer reassurance to alleviate their anxiety and build confidence.

Visit the School - Arrange a visit to the school before the term starts, especially if your child is transitioning to a new school. The school doesn't have to be open. Familiarize them with the journey and the surroundings. This can help alleviate anxiety by creating a sense of familiarity. If you can find a floorplan of the school look for key areas, like the reception, dinner hall and playground.



Connect with Friends - Encourage your child to reconnect with school friends before the term begins. Arrange a playdate or an outing to help them reestablish connection as well as boost their excitement about returning to school.

Positive Reinforcement - Talk about the positive aspects of school, such as reuniting with friends, engaging in favourite subjects, school trips and extracurricular activities. Remind your child of past enjoyable experiences.

Address Anxiety - If your child is very anxious, it's essential to provide additional support.

Teach them relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing or mindfulness exercises, to manage anxiety symptoms. Consider seeking professional help from your GP or a therapist who specializes in working with children.

Problem-Solving - If your child refuses to return to school, try to identify the underlying reasons. It could be related to academic struggles, social difficulties, or bullying. Address the specific concerns by working collaboratively with the school, teachers, or other professionals to find appropriate solutions and support.

Stay Positive - As a parent, maintaining a positive attitude and expressing confidence in your child's ability to navigate the school routine is crucial. Show excitement for the new school year, emphasize the learning opportunities, and highlight their strengths and abilities.

Remember, each child's needs are unique, and the transition process may take time. Be patient, flexible, and supportive throughout the adjustment period. By implementing these strategies and offering unwavering support, you can help ease your child back into the school routine and set the stage for a successful academic year.

Courgette Frittata



Preparation time: 15 mins

Cooking time: 25 mins

Serves: 8

Courgettes are plentiful now so use some in this super easy brunch recipe.

Ingredients

2 courgettes, sliced.
1 red onion, diced.
1 garlic clove, finely chopped.
6 medium or large eggs
3 ripe tomatoes
1tbsp olive oil
salt and black pepper to season
50g crumbled feta (or your favourite cheese)

Method

Preheat the oven to 180C / Fan 160C Gas mark 4.

Heat the olive oil in an ovenproof pan if you have one or an ordinary frying pan if not, over medium heat, and add the onion, garlic,

and courgettes. Sauté for 4-5 minutes until lightly brown.

Add the chopped tomatoes and cook for another 2 minutes. In a separate bowl beat the eggs and season well with salt and pepper. This dish does benefit from being well seasoned.

If your pan is ovenproof pour the egg mixture over the cooked vegetables then crumble the cheese over the top. If you don't have a pan that can be placed directly in the oven, transfer the veg to a casserole dish then pour the eggs and crumbled cheese over.

Bake for about 25 minutes until the frittata is set in the middle and slightly golden on top. Take care not to overcook it, or it will become rubbery in texture. It should look puffy, golden, and have a slight wobble when you move the pan.

Let it cool for 5 minutes then slice into 8 pieces. The cooled frittata will keep in an airtight container for a couple of days. Eat it cold or reheat in the microwave on a low setting for 30 seconds.

Note: This is a very adaptable recipe. You can use any cooked vegetables and cheese combination.



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Mouthwatering Marinades

It's BBQ season. Whether you prefer steak, chicken, haloumi or tofu, marinating infuses them with incredible flavours and enhances their tenderness. Here are our five faves.

Classic Teriyaki Marinade

To create the rich sweet and savoury flavours of this marinade, mix together soy sauce, honey, minced garlic, grated ginger, and a splash of sesame oil. Marinate your meat or veggie alternative for at least 30 minutes, or preferably overnight. The resulting caramelized glaze adds an irresistible sweetness to your grilled fare.

Spicy Chipotle Marinade

A spicy chipotle marinade will tantalize your taste buds. Blend together chipotle paste, lime juice, minced



garlic, cumin, paprika, salt, and a touch of brown sugar for balance. Allow your meat or tofu to soak for a minimum of two hours before grilling. The smoky, spicy kick will add depth and complexity to your barbecued dishes.

Tangy Balsamic Soy Marinade

Mix balsamic vinegar, soy sauce, Dijon mustard, minced garlic, honey, and a drizzle of olive oil. Marinate for at least one hour, allowing the flavours to meld. The combination of balsamic and soy adds a delightful umami taste to your grilled creations.

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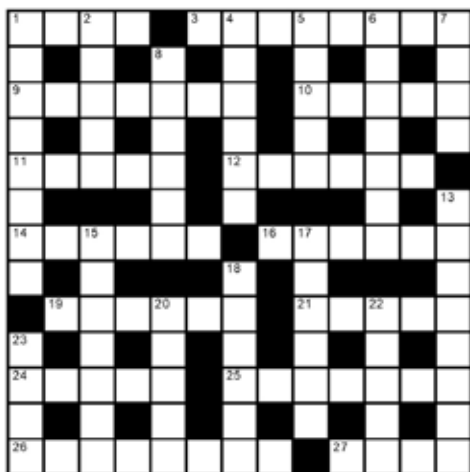
Wednesday 13th September, 7pm

Young Sammy Fabelman falls in love with movies after his parents take him to see "The Greatest Show on Earth." Armed with a camera, Sammy starts to make his own films at home, much to the delight of his supportive mother. However, his footage soon unveils a shocking secret, and Sammy must learn how the power of films can help him see the truth.

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crossword



clues

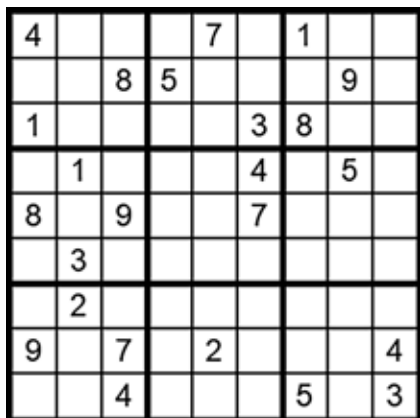
Across

- 1 Longing, dream (4)
- 3 Cavernous (8)
- 9 Impartial (7)
- 10 Choose to participate (3,2)
- 11 Laziness (5)
- 12 Gambling establishment (6)
- 14 Hold in the mind (6)
- 16 Dried grape (6)
- 19 Fleet of warships (6)
- 21 Divine water (5)
- 24 Emblem, symbol (5)
- 25 Exclusive group (2,5)
- 26 Alone (8)
- 27 Enthralled (4)

Down

- 1 Attractive, clean-cut (8)
- 2 Dwarf planet (5)
- 4 Lawman (6)
- 5 Peeved (5)
- 6 Short excursions (7)
- 7 Balanced, rational (4)
- 8 Bowman (6)
- 13 Unlikely winner (8)
- 15 Relationship between man and wife (7)
- 17 Someone dependent on drugs (6)
- 18 Less difficult (6)
- 20 Concede (5)
- 22 Erroneous (5)
- 23 _____ Redding, soul singer (4)

answer on page 22



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 22

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LOCAL COUNCILLORS

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local police contact for solihull

Solihull Police Station: 0845 113 5000 or 101

Shirley Lions Club

0345 833 9547

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

(supply & emergencies)

0800 783 4444

Travel

National Rail Enquiries

03457 48 49 50

Network West Midlands (buses)

0345 303 6760



Sudoku Solution

from page 20



crossword Solution

from page 20

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.

WMG
Academy for Young 
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Solihull

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